

TUKUTANE Newsletter Nr. 1

Tagebuch von Wycliffe

- Agrarberater im ‚Oyugis Integrated Project‘ -
über seinen Aufenthalt in Deutschland
zusammen mit der Gruppe Chalayana
- interessant wie Deutschland und die Deutschen
mit den Augen eines intelligenten Kenianers gesehen werden

VISIT TO GERMANY

Introduction

On 29th July 2004, an idea was born, the possibility of a few members of Triple' (Anti Aids Action) A to visit Germany on an exchange programme. Andrea and Moni Kinzner had just completed their volunteer work in Kenya in Oyugis (Western Kenya) and Nairobi perceptively, they had seen how their culture is and the only way this was possible was to organise an exchange programme. Up to the time the five of us from Kenya landed in Munich none of us including our host (Kinzner family), knew what the trip would turn out to be, and believe me after 33 days in Germany, our visit was the most successful ever leaving a very big impact on the people of Schnaitsee (Southern-Bavaria), with our group hitting headlines in the local dailies in Bavaria. This report highlights our activities in Bavaria on daily basis. We thank all the people who made it possible with special thanks to Andrea and Moni and the people of Schnaitsee for their support all through, the Bishop of Homabay, his lordship Bishop Philip Anyolo for his humbleness that helped us get a pass to the World Youth Day, Br. Balthasar Musyoki and Sr. Rose Wairimu Ngacha for their local support from the Oyugis Integrated Project (OIP) and all those who prayed for us during our journey, may God bless you all.

DAILY REPORTS

On Wednesday 20th July 2005

We left Nairobi Jomo Kenyatta International Airport for Munich; we left a few minutes after midnight.

On Thursday 21st July 2005

In the morning, we landed in Dubai and took a connecting flight to Munich. At 12.30 p.m. the same day we landed in Munich Airport, our hosts Andrea, Moni and Johanes met us, and in two cars we were driven to Harpfing which was our host parish. We arrived at Andrea's home (Schauersbreiten) we were very tired and so we slept very heavily after a warm welcome by the people of Schnaitsee.

On Friday 22nd July 2005

We started our first awareness campaigns on HIV and poverty in Bad Reichenhall which is a nursing college. Here Andrea and Moni showed pictures of the Home Based Care programme and agriculture activities in OIP, then Wycliffe (that's me) gave a talk on agriculture in the project and the social centres. Chalayana (vocal group) gave heartbreaking songs. The people were so moved and some could not help but shed tears. It is important to note that in this town only old people live here, there are very few

children seen in the streets. The Chalayana singers sang in the hospital corridors and all the patients opened their doors to listen to the music, the doctors and the nurses left their work to also listen. We were later taken around the hospital. We cannot compare it to anything we have back at home. Everything is mechanised. We later joined the student nurses and the teachers for a very nice lunch. In the afternoon, we climbed a small mountain and viewed the beautiful buildings of the town from there. On our way home we went to Saaldorf where we met a Kenyan priest, Michael Kamau who knows Br. Karungai very well and he was so happy to meet us.

Saturday 23rd July 2005

We joined the official opening of a sports facility in Volksschule Schnaitsee. In the afternoon all of us had a mountain bike and we rode to lake Weitsee to swim. It was very nice in such a clean beautiful lake. In the evening we visited Andrea's grandmother. We met so many people and had a drink and ate together. The Chalayanas entertained the guests here with their nice music and everyone was extremely happy. Nobody wanted us to leave the part.

Sunday 24th July 2005

In the morning we attended a mass at Magdalene feast, and Chalayana sang in the church and for the first time in the history of this church, people clapped and shook their heads to the tune of the music. After the mass there was a short feast in the church compound. In the evening Wycliffe joined in the farm to learn how to milk cows with a milking machine. I was also taken round the farm to the different types of machines used in the farm. This farm belongs to Andrea's family and it's run only by her father and mother. They work in the farm throughout the day only the two of them because it's very expensive to hire labour. It costs 10 Euro per hour which is around Ksh. 1000 (Kenianische Shillinge) per hour. After the experience in the farm, we joined a young man, called Axte, for supper and barbecue outside. We enjoyed drinks and food and so many people joined us in this small party. All wanted to talk to us but language barrier became a problem since most people here in Bavaria cannot speak English but nonetheless we enjoyed.

Monday 25th July 2005

We went for an awareness campaign in a school known as Gymnasium in Trostberg. We gave talks on HIV and poverty specifically in OIP and Chalayana gave songs on the same. We talked to three different classes and most teachers could not believe that the young people would be so interested and touched by our performances. It was a big and successful moment and we left the pupils so touched and moved. We joined the teachers for a very nice lunch. Here Chalayana entertained them and they marvelled at the music. Back at home in the evening, Axte's parents invited us for supper. We later joined the church choir for practice, prepared for our journey to Munich the following day.

Tuesday 27th July 2005

We left for Munich in the morning. Here we visited Moni's former school and gave talks and songs, the impact was the same as the previous schools visited. We walked around Munich city centre enjoying the beautiful sites. We later sat in a beautiful park to enjoy our lunch.

Wednesday 27th July 2005

We visited a high school, Sozialpflegeschule, gave similar talks and music. Its just amazing how we touched these young people. We talked tot three classes and its amazing to also see the challenges faced by these young people, elements of stigma on HIV still lingering, adverts on the presence of ARVs makes the youths a little carefree of their lives. This poses serious concern to some of the young people we talked to here. We walked around Munich city, stopped by a musical school known as Hochschule für Musik.

NB:

In Munich we stayed at KHG Catholic Community for students of the Technical University (Katholische Hochschulgemeinde, Karlstraße 32; Munich)

Thursday 28th July 2005

We went for awareness campaign on HIV/Aids and poverty in a one school. Here we expected serious challenge. Even the teachers feared that the students might not be interested. it was amazing that after an introductory song by Chalayana, the students remained calm and attentive to our programme. We had another short programme to avoid boring the young people but they remained yearning for more music from Chalayana. We were shown round the school to see the great works of modern art and how it facilitates learning. We joined the students for a short lunch that they had prepared for us. Some teachers were so interested in our project.

We drove back to Harpfig and helped build a stage in the church in Schnaitsee for a concert. We joined the choir practice after which we went to swim at night in the lake. It was interesting and fun.

Friday 29th July 2005

In the morning we went to swim in the lake and in the afternoon prepared for the big concert in Schnaitsee. We attended the concert which was very big, Chalayana sang together with the choir and I gave a talk on our experience in Germany. This was covered in a newspaper. In the evening we celebrated Moni's birthday party. It was fun almost the whole night.

Saturday 30th July 2005

We did cleaning in the house in the morning. We later visited an open air market called Flohmarkt. Things are very cheap in such place which takes place once a year. In this market second hand goods are sold by individual owners.

Sunday 31st July 2005

We joined Moni's band for a concert in a town 20 km from Austria border. Chalayana did their entertaining with songs in this concert driving the crowd crazy. We joined Moni and Andrea at Ruhpolding where there was a Biathlon (an event in which people compete in running and shooting). In the evening we joined in a village party in which a big band was playing. We danced and had a lot of fun. Everybody the young and old wanted to show us how to dance their music.

Monday 1st August 2005

Three of us, Johnson, Kodiko and I (Wycliffe) joined Andrea's family in their forest. We all had the first opportunity to use a power saw. We rod in a tractor driven by Andrea's father. After this experience, we visited the longest castle in Europe near the boarder to Austria.

In the evening I joined Moni's brother in harvesting wheat using a combined grass-harvester. I realised it was not an easy job; two tractors ran alongside the combined harvester as they collected the harvest. It is not an easy job, it requires expertise and experience.

We later visited Andrea's aunt. She is quite wealthy. She has 70 dairy cows, a very modern calf rearing facility. She also keeps chicken, goats, rabbits and horses and has a very small nice green house. We enjoyed supper together and she offered us a very special home-made drink. Chalayana sang for the family and they really enjoyed.

Tuesday 2nd August 2005

We went on a serious mountain climbing from morning to evening. We parked our van at the foot of the mountain. One of us, Johnson could not manage the height so we left him in a restaurant to rest. We feared the height too but we managed it so well. It was the most significant challenge of height/depth for me. It was very foggy and cold but we felt warm because of the walking.

Wednesday 3rd August 2005

Visited the biggest 'German Museum' in Munich together with Andrea's father. We saw the following:-

- (i) A submarine used in the first world war (U1).
- (ii) Different types of planes; passenger planes, war planes even a plane used by German soldiers to flee from Russia, this plane was also used by Hitler.
- (iii) We saw the first rocket ever built.
- (iv) Ancient to modern musical instruments etc
- (v) We also saw a stone from the moon donated to the 'German Museum' by the United States.

Thursday 4th August 2005

We had an opportunity to be taken around the town council of Schnaitsee by the Mayor and the Financial Manager. We were taken around the following places;

- The accounts clerk office
- The mayor's office
- The registration office
- Sewage cleaning system
- Fire department
- Water department

NB:

- ❖ The water that supplies Schnaitsee comes from an underground well. It is pumped into tanks up the hill then it flows by gravity. There is water reserved for emergencies for the fire department.
- ❖ The fire department has volunteers from across the village, 3 vehicles are on standby with batteries charging from electricity, everything is packed in the vehicles with 800m, water pipes that can be unrolled within 5 minutes, all volunteers have radio calls for emergencies. There is also a siren. There are water points strategically placed across the town and village to facilitate emergencies.

We had lunch together with the mayor. In our company was a Kenyan lady married to an Austrian called Margaret.

In the evening we attended a live band in Otting (Remix band) playing rock music. It's amazing to see that almost all the young people here have their own cars. So many young girls were hanging out alone and there was maximum peace despite the large crowd of drinking young people. It was an interesting experience and full of fun.

Friday 5th August 2005

We visited Salzburg in Austria which is famous tourist attraction town. We saw the building in which Mozart a famous musician was born. We also listened to interesting music played with wine glasses. We also visited the biggest Catholic Church in Salzburg (Dome).

Saturday 6th August 2005

We had a rather relaxed day doing some cleaning in the morning. In the afternoon we went to Vietelfons studio where Chalayana recorded some songs. I came back home and cooked chapatis together with Moni and Andrea. This was the first Kenyan meal since we went to Germany.

In the evening we went for a Dorffest. There we met a Kenyan young man working in one of the farms and earns 5 Euros per hour (Ksh. 500 per hour) he says that life in Germany is very challenging.

The music played here was Rock again, we did not like it but for the sake of experience we still enjoyed the experience.

Sunday 7th August 2005

We attended a mass in ALTLÖTTING a pilgrim town in southern Germany. We were told that Ndingi Mwana Nzeki had been to this town. Chalayana sang throughout the mass and people loved the music so much. In this town there are very many catholic churches and every Sunday they conduct 28 masses in all the churches. It's a very busy town full of religious things and activities.

We visited the biggest cathedral in this town. We also met a Ugandan priest who has been here for 30 years. The songs by Chalayana dominated the mass. The priest was very nice to us and for the first time people shook their heads and clapped in the church. We also visited the building which the Pope was born.

In the evening we joined Rita and Margaret for supper. I got the contact of the Rescue Programme Kajiado from Margaret who is fundraising for this programme in Germany. On this day we also visited Moni's eldest brother on his farm. He has 70 acres of land and keeps 1500 pigs. He sells 80 pigs every week for 150 Euros each. It is amazing that he has very big machines and stores and computerised feeding system for the pigs. He works on this farm with his wife only. It was very challenging.

Monday 8th August 2005

Visited a friend by the name Sebastian in a place called Kienberg. The mother was very warm hearted. We took some Italian coffee. Later in the day the Chalayana's went to record more music in Viertelfons studios. I joined Moni and Andrea to see the bio-gas plant owned by Andrea's uncle. The plant produces 900 kW of electricity. This is produced from plant residues i.e. grass, maize etc. He also produces generator sets here. He sells 100 turbines in a year. He owns the potency to produce this. Other countries that have interest in this technology consult him. They have 14 employees and they

manage the firm with his wife. In fact it was his wife who took me through the plant in the evening. We went for dinner at the home of a young lady called Pilli in Emertsham.

Tuesday 9th August 2005

We visited lake Chiemsee, crossed to an island in a boat. It was an old religious island for religious women. We visited the oldest church in the island. An old convent is also in this island. It was good experience.

Wednesday 10th August 2005

I joined Andrea and Moni in the tractor. I drove the tractor spreading grass to dry for making silage. It was a very good experience. I also had an opportunity to drive Andrea's father's car. We also rode different kinds of motorbikes for fun.

In the evening we joined a friend called Tony for a tea party in which we tasted different herbal tea and chewed different herbs on bread. It was a nice experience.

Thursday 11th August 2005

We visited another lake in which we rowed in a boat. It was fun. We came back home late and relaxed the whole evening.

Friday 12th August 2005

We visited a home of the mentally ill and physically disabled persons. We had a nice experience and were really touched by what we saw in this institution. We also had an opportunity to visit a small scale (hobby) bee keeper and had the opportunity to observe the dorsile (?) bees. It was amazing to see how they value the queen in the bee keeping here. It was so clearly marked and easy to find in the colony. They also do queen rearing at the farm level. They have special tools and good possibilities for this activity. I learnt how to catch the queen and also how to mark it annually to know its age. It must not stay for more than a year. They buy comb which are already made for the langstroth hive. I placed a request for a simple mould which I later got from Moni's neighbour. We got a bottle of honey each and had lunch together with this family.

In the afternoon we visited a rehabilitation centre for the alcoholics and drug addicts. Here we were shown the activities that they do to keep them busy. Every Wednesday they share their experiences together. Clients stay in this centre for a maximum period of one year and a minimum of three months. It's a programme that helps those that have been through with physical medical treatment; they are helped to adjust to the society and later on fit in a normal daily life.

We played games with the old people of Schnaitsee. We threw a shove horse on a target. It was interesting to see old people with big cars parked, play such a simple game. This event was covered in a local daily newspaper.

We took lunch together joined in an evening mass. The Chalayana's as usual sang three songs and it was amazing to see everybody shake their heads and clap their hands to the tune of the music. We were given a carving as a present as a symbol of friendship.

Saturday 13th August 2005

We attended the World Youth Day forum in Munich. We went to Munich by train. We were together with the parish priest. 20,000 people attended the event. We visited Schloss Nymphenburg which is a very big castle and has a beautiful compound. We also had an opportunity to climb a tower that is 100m tall and enjoyed the view of Munich city from here. We also travelled a lot of short distances on the underground tunnels in trains and other interesting types of buses.

The day was so interesting and we easily attracted a big crowd by singing a very simple Kiswahili chorus. It was fun. At the train station, everybody joined us in the singing including the parish priest. We went back home and slept at around 1.00a.m.

Sunday 14th August 2005

As the Chalayana's went for recording I joined the local veterinary doctor, Dr. Alexander Taschke on his emergency field work on Sundays he had a full Agroveter clinic behind his station wagon car. Every case especially common disease has their own box containing everything and particularly drugs that is required to manage it. He also took me to their office and showed me the drug stores and laboratory. I helped him pack some drugs that he needed for the day. We visited the following cases this day which was a great day of experience on dairy farming for me.

- The first case he had removed a retained placenta and the uterus was also coming out so he placed it back and gave antibiotic drugs/tablets and also injected calcium.
- On the second farm, the uterus of the cow had turned three times at five minutes of pregnancy so he had to do an operation to put the uterus back to position.
- On the third farm it was a following treatment of a retained placenta. He gave antibiotics.

NB:

This was an extremely modern farm.

- On the fourth farm he treated mastitis in one quarter of a cow's udder.
- On the fifth farm he removed a retained placenta and gave antibiotic tablets.
- On the sixth farm it was a follow-up on an operation in which he had chopped off the hove of a cow completely because it had an infection that was growing deep inside. It had to be cut; he cleaned it and bandaged the wound.
- On the seventh farm he dewormed three calves and one calf had serious diarrhoea that it had to be injected with 15 litres of fluid with medicine. It was interesting for me to see how a calf was being treated like a little baby in a nursery. He consulted with the farmer if the treatment was worth trying to avoid any blame if the calf died.

NB:

- ❖ He said that in Germany, a cow produces at least 7000 kg of milk per year.
- ❖ A farmer needs up to at least 50 dairy cows to afford life comfortably.
- ❖ The traditional Bavarian breed is a dual purpose breed giving both meat and milk.
- ❖ Bulls sold for meat give more returns.
- ❖ All the farms we visited were highly modern and highly mechanised too.
- ❖ Labour is very expensive, 10 Euros per hour (Ksh.1000 per hour) so farmers ran their farms alone without any help. Mostly an average of two people usually the husband and the wife.
- ❖ All the farms here look like big milk plants that would employ so many people in Kenya.
- ❖ Milk prices here are not very good according to the local standard.

In the evening we attended a concert for the World Youth Day in which five choirs performed including Chalayana. The performance of Chalayana was far much beyond the rest of the choirs. Later in the evening we attended a welcoming party for Moni's brother he had gone with the national team in the running and shooting competition. It was an

international event and he was in the 12th position and this was his first attempt. We slept very late at around 3.00 a.m.

Monday 15th August 2005

We attended a celebration in Schnaitsee church which included a farewell mass for us in the church. We were all given flowers and special candles as a symbol of friendship. We joined a farewell party for us after the mass. It was a farewell party for us as we left for Köln for the World Youth Day. Moni's band played Bavarian music and we joined in the Bavarian dance. It was a very emotional moment for most of the friends we had made. In the evening we packed everything that we needed in Köln. We had a meeting to discuss what we needed for the Köln journey. We helped Moni's mother to look for a lost calf in the maize plantation. It was very cold and wet. I joined Moni's neighbour who is a bee keeper. I had an opportunity to see the following:-

- (i) A fumigant and a chemical used to control the wax moth.
- (ii) two other types of hives that I have never heard and seen.
- (iii) a modern centrifugal machine for honey extraction in langstroth hive.
- (iv) An improved solar wax melter.
- (v) I was also shown how to make a comb foundation.
- (vi) He has produced 700 kg of honey up to the time of the visit.
- (vii) A kg of honey goes for 6 Euros which is approximately Ksh. 600 per kg, a very good price.

Tuesday 16th August 2005

We woke up at 3.00 a.m. and left to take a bus. We drove for 30 minutes to Chieming town. We left for Köln at 4.45 a.m. The first stop we made was near Nürnberg. The second stop was at Spessart. We passed through Frankfurt, had another stop between Frankfurt and Köln.

We arrived at BERGHEIM and the rest of the crew alighted here for their accommodation. We remained in the bus and were driven for about 20 minutes to WORRINGEN and went to the information office from which we were to our accommodation in school.

Wednesday 17th August 2005

We went to the information office in the morning and took a bus to Dormagen (Bayerhalle) but the service here was in German language, so we walked for about one kilometre to take a bus to Knechtsteden where the service was in English. Most of the people here were Indians. I was feeling very sick, so I took a short rest in the company of Moni and joined the rest of the team in Köln later in the evening. Köln was so full of young people shouting and singing. We met in front of the Kölner Dom. We later took a train to Bonn to the catholic student community. Chalayana performed here and we met Kenyans from Western Kenya. We took a train back to Köln at around 10.00 p.m. On reaching Köln, the station was so full of people and a lot of people fainted. Everybody was asked to clear the station. The police were so many but very gentle and friendly. We had to wait for more than two hours for a train home, but we decided to move to another train station 30 minutes to WORRINGEN. We arrived in the school at around 3.00 a.m. because we had to walk since there were no buses working late in the night. So many people reached home late this day because of transport problems caused by overcrowding.

Thursday 18th August 2005

We woke up late, took our breakfast and boarded a train to Düsseldorf. We decided to move to this town to avoid the congestion in Köln and transport problem. We walked

around the town enjoying the sites and did some window shopping. We took lunch in Hofgarten and rested well on the nice grass in the afternoon. We later separated and agreed to meet later in the day at 6.00 p.m. at Woolworth shop. We did a lot of window shopping and later did some little shopping at Woolworth which is one of the cheapest shops in this town. We took a train back to Worringen, took supper and slept early.

Friday 19th August 2005

We went through Köln to Bonn still to avoid congestion in Köln. We attended different activities; we went for a talk on the third thought for marriage. It was interesting. We had an opportunity to perform and talk in a television station. We were the best for the days talk. We visited the global village stand and saw different technologies especially on solar energy. We met some girls who volunteered in Nigeria. They spoke an interesting Nigerian accent. We took lunch next to the Rhein and got a train early enough to be back home on time. We joined a farewell party organised for all the youths who stayed in this parish. Chalayana again gave heart throbbing songs. We enjoyed our meals and drinks and went to sleep earl.

Saturday 20th August 2005

We parked everything and put in the bus that would take us back home to Schnaitsee. We took our sleeping bags and what we needed in Köln for the vigil night. We took a train and alighted in a less congested town completely trying to avoid the main railway station in Koln. We moved around the town rested very well after lunch and then took a train to the Marienfeld. We walked for about one hour to the Marienfeld. People were so many more than expected. Our field for the night was already over crowded and we had to look for space elsewhere.

Marienfeld was so full of people. There was adequate sound system and big screen television allocated in all corners. Sanitation was taken care of; mobile toilets were placed all over. We listed to the mass by the Holy Father later in the evening we spent the night in our sleeping bags. It was very cold and it looked like it would rain any moment, luckily it did not rain.

Sunday 21st August 2005

We woke up the following day and so many people started leaving the field and thousands also came in after the mass by the Holy Father. We tried to leave the soonest possible to avoid congestion, but we did not make it. The transport system in Köln was already jammed. We had to wait for eight hours in complete congestion to get a bus to where our bus to Schnaitsee was waiting. Buses parked making a line of up to 17 km waiting to transport people. Finally we waited for 14 hours before leaving for Schnaitsee. We reached Schnaitsee at noon.

Monday 22nd August 2005

Rested for a while and organised our farewell party. By seven a lot of guests had come for the party. It was a fine party, very emotional. The time to depart from some of our friends had come, addressees exchanged hand, people hugged and some shed tears. We gave the last songs and I passed a vote of thanks. We ate and took drinks saying our last words to the friends. We went home quite late and slept late.

Tuesday 23rd August 2005

We had this day to pack and say goodbye to friends. I went to Vietelfons studios to finalise the cover designed for Triple A CD. I came back home and we had a meeting to evaluate

our stay in Germany. We had made it. It was a success and all of us were happy though we appreciate the challenges that also came our way.

At six in the evening, friends came to say their final good bye and just like we were welcomed when we arrived, trumpets were played to say good bye. We took last hand shake and hugs from our dear friends in Schnaitsee.

We finally boarded our van to Munich. Some friends followed us to the Munich Airport. It was very emotional when we finally checked in and parted ways with Moni, Andrea, Sebastian, Ricky and Pilli all very lovely and dear friends that escorted us to the airport. At 10.50 p.m. we had boarded the plane to Dubai.

We arrived Nairobi Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on 24th August 2005 at 12.10 p.m. It was sweet to be home, friends and loved ones met us at the airport. The same evening Shipton, Johnson and I took a bus home to Oyugis. Vincent went to college the same day and started his lessons. Job travelled to Maseno to see his brother.

Just maybe we proved guys wrong. We were all back home to Kenya. None of us had ill intentions to get lost in Germany.

Redaktionelle Bearbeitung

Werner Schäfer