

Kenya Journey

Vienna, Austria, 4. – 25. November 2014



Left to right: Daniela and Gaby Zöhrer

Already from the time I, Gaby, was a teenager I dreamt of going to Africa. But when the foreign missionaries were sent out in 1975 I was involved in a business mission (ginseng sales). For this reason I had to stay in Germany.



Interestingly my daughter Daniela inherited this African dream. Finally in November 2014 our wish became reality.

Our goals were:

- Connection between Europe and Africa (historical reasons after Africa has been colonized by various European countries)
- Networking between different charity organizations founded in Austria and operating in Africa
- Cooperation of older and younger generations (mother and daughter)
- Combination of three stages: individual – family – world (guided tour at the UN Nairobi)



Simon Kingori, a member of the Family Federation in Kenya invited us to help as volunteers with his project “Kenya Kids” for orphans and street kids in Kawangware, a slum area in the west of Nairobi.

Simon was a victim of the bomb attack on the US embassy in Nairobi in 1998. Heavily injured that the doctors said he probably would never be able to walk again, his wife Helen took care of him until he could finally walk again even though on crutches. Simon and Helen together started the project to help orphans and street kids. After Helen’s death due to a violent robbery during a visit at her family in Cameroon in 2002, Simon still continued to invest himself for children who don’t have parents.

Our Activities: Caring for the Kids



We gave lectures on character education – including HIV/ AIDS prevention - to the children, played with them, did sports and brought them gifts such as clothing, stationaries and games.

We were allowed to use the church of a Christian pastor. He was a bit skeptical at first, since he knew that Simon was a member of the Unification Movement. But when the children gave very good

reports about us he allowed us to use his place each time. Later we even had the opportunity to talk about our beliefs with this pastor and we could also find some points we have in common.

Caring for the Elderly



Elijah Mwega founded Karika Ageing & HIV & AIDS Program. He initiated a day center for the elderly who had nobody who took care of them. We visited four of the oldest ladies of that institution in their homes and brought them some food.

Networking



Dr. Maria Hengstberger, an Austrian medical doctor, is the founder of "Action Reign" (Aktion Regen) to educate girls and women about the female cycle and family planning with simple tools that can be used in rural areas even by illiterate persons.

We shared the link of this organization with several persons that we met during our stay in Kenya.



Another important link we could provide was about a water filter machine one Austrian brother – Ernst Hauseder - had invented and which has been in use in Uganda already.

Meeting Brothers and Sisters



Every Sunday we attended Sunday service at the headquarter church in Nairobi. It was really great to meet our African brothers and sisters. They were so grateful that we had come to their country. We shared a lot especially about parents matching by giving our testimonies.



Our brothers and sisters were very interested in topics such as education and matching of the 2nd generation. The African blessed children we met have an excellent standard – internally as well as externally and they would like to have more give and take with Europeans or other international members to learn from their experiences.

UN Nairobi



Since Nairobi is also one of the four UN cities after New York, Geneva and Vienna, we went to the UNON for a guided tour.

Africa's Nature



Last not least Daniela and I enjoyed God's beautiful nature in Kenya's national park Maasai Mara and on Simon Kingori's parent's farm.

We are very grateful that it was possible together as mother and daughter to travel to Africa. At all times we felt God's special guidance and His protection. We thank our brothers and sisters in Europe who helped us with their financial support that made this journey possible.

We are truly one Family under one Heavenly Parent!

Ahsante sana = Thank you so much

