

I am ashamed when I see her coming every day for only a little wage and walking one hour to work and one hour back home daily. I consider in Germany nobody would go to his neighbour therefore.

In Dodoma we have a short service / message time every morning at 8 o'clock in the hangar and divers MAF-people take turns with the message. Some weeks ago I started to compare technical systems and religious truths in my messages (e.g. radio, compass, EGDWS...). Amazing which connections are becoming clear.

Yet I have still a little quiz for children and adults: this time there is a difficult word in Kiswahili – "aiskrimu". Do you know what it means? In Germany it is not very popular and you can find it outside more and more...

However, I want to recommend something to you: everybody who longs for Africa but has not the chance to come around should be informed about the talks of Michael Martin (you can see the dates on www.michael-martin.de).

Now, at the end of my first year in Africa, I do not want to forget to say "Thank you" from the bottom of my heart - "Thank you" for all your support, contacts, encouragement, prayers and donations. Without you I would not be able to do this work and I am filled with enthusiasm again and again when I see your identification with my work and the whole MAF! Thank you! May the LORD give it back to you rich plentiful!

In conclusion I wish you a good end of this year and a likewise good and blessed start into 2007! If you want to have a picture of this place here – "Karibu!" In 2008 we can meet in Germany again.

GOD be with you till we meet again,

Tutaonana, Dein

(Aero)gero

"...and there was something hopeful in the new day – and in the sunrise" (R. Mey, German songwriter)

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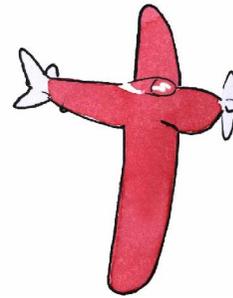
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Jeremiah 33, 3: "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

Greetings from my new home...



In front of the Mchungaji's (pastor's) house

... I send to you with the picture on the left, dear friend.

Not because of bad conduct but because as a part of my speech- and culture training I lived for two days in October at this friendly woman's house who also has a husband and three children. However, it was very impressive: Already at the first evening I was allowed to slaughter our dinner (chicken) by myself. Besides, the toilet is a pit surrounded by a little wall

in front of the house. Moreover we had to get all the water (which had to be cooked afterwards because of safety) from a three miles left place with water – fortunately we used the bike.

These "Baiskalis" are needed or everything which is to big or heavy to carry – e.g. two sacks of coals or maize (100 kilos) , six canisters of water (120 litres), ten or more chickens... Usually the natives carry everything on their heads (which is very good for the posture by the way!): Purchases, clothes, bottles, books, buckets ... just put a scarf on your head, roll it and try a bit, won't you?

Our verse at the top is "crass" and I do not write it down here just for fun and I do not think God is somebody who only has a short look at us and at the things going on down here on earth. No I believe God's wish is to have a real and authentic relationship full of love with everybody of us. Furthermore, it is

not only about fulfilments of commandments in the Christian faith (otherwise Paul would not have written “everything is permissible for me” 1. Corinthians 6, 12) but also God will care for us like a good husband cares for his wife. God wants the best for you, whether you believe it or not. However, this is such a challenging chance!

Are you ready for such an intimate relationship with God? Besides, these words are written to my Christian readers, too. It is a “strong Tobak” for everybody. If you have questions about this, you can ask and contact one of the churches named on my homepage or you can write me – trusting.

3 Months in a crash – course

First, I was so busy and there was so much going on here – I could have written a new letter every day but exactly because of this reason I never had the chance to do it...

At one day in September my colleague Eivind and I took a team of doctors and two tons of maize to Chidudu (you’ll remember, the tour with the cows on the runway again, won’t you?). On September, 19th I went to the language school which was very helpful to me and after my return into the flight service on October, 16th I was allowed to admire a family of elephants on a low-level flight. Moreover I had to do an unintentional stop over cause the weather was partly bad: the rainy season is near and we are looking forward to it, especially the villages are in a great need of rain. However, the flying got more challenging: On one flight (I had to take a team of four persons) I was able to get only two passengers out of the plane at one time because of the muddy runway with standing puddles, moreover I also had to do a “slalom-start”!

Meanwhile I had to fly so much that I almost achieved my limit of flying for one week. In November I passed my base-check which is a test I have to do every six months (it is regulated by MAF).

However, there happened something out of the plane: Something I did not manage during the five years in Hamburg became reality now: A friendly, helpful and not very young lady in our team is prepared to sew some curtains for me! You cannot imagine what for an upgrading these curtains mean for my home. Even it is more joy to come home.

After four weeks of work in Dodoma (as pilot, as the supervisor of the radio and childminding J) my boss took over the control of the South African MAF – Team until the end of 2006 because they are only very few people at the moment. Yet he is not able to leave Dodoma and so he asked Eivind and me to go in the South for three weeks as his representatives. For the MAF the

singles are a real blessing because they are able to be moved much uncomplicated! We are not sad about the change but I have to confess that I miss the flying and the “real” Africa (sorry, dear South Africans, nevertheless I love you!).

Yet it is extreme: there I buy my things in a hut of corrugated iron around the corner; here I go to a shopping centre which would make the Americans jealous.

So do not think you know whole Africa just because you know one country in Africa...

Besides, when you read these lines, I am still in the “South of the South” – my boss allowed me to have two weeks of holiday after I did my job.

Now, and now it becomes Christmas! My first in the heat and I am looking forward to it! The only disadvantage is not being able to snowboard this year...

Our plan is to leave the families – who care for the singles every Christmas so deeply moving – in peace. We want to have a single-Christmas-camping, full of hope that the candles won’t melt away.



Hey Kids,

It seems like Nutella is kind of far away for you, anyhow no one has written me – but it does not matter!

This time I have a technical question for you: Can you imagine why Gero does not like puddles on the runway? You can try out the effects by yourself, if you want – just drive through a big puddle with your bike. What happens – apart from the great splashes?

I am looking forward to your experiences! Different answers can be right.

I wish you dry trousers, Your flying-tiger!

By the way, in the last letter I wrote about our blackouts; in some areas the power was turned off 12 hours every day. However, we on the MAF-compound are luckier than many people here; we own a generator and so we are able to cook and use the computers all the day.

Still I am very grateful for our housemaid who helps Eivind and me. It is her advantage being not unemployed even if one of us is not at home. Somewhat