

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY (CLC-CVX) SOUTH SUDAN

Ref. CLC South Sudan
Juba
DATE: 17th March 2014



P.O Box,
c/o St. Joseph Catholic Diocese,
Central Equatoria State, Juba

Report of anatomy of civil war in south Sudan

This is an update on the result of civil war that brought to be new nation that is disintegrating as a result of attempted coup. The report will highlight on CLC response to the new emerging challenge and unity in the Catholic Church in discouraging vicious cartels of injustices.

Since 2011 North Africa seemed a burning crucible of youth strikes. Sudan and South Sudan narrowly escaped the epidemic but little flickers here and there. There was little violence that preceded division of Sudan into two countries namely Sudan and South Sudan as two independent nations. However, watching three year of the continuation of strike somehow make us from Sudan and South Sudan hesitant to cry of our ordeals having in mind the worse situation our neighboring countries are experiencing.

However, it has reached a point to call a spade, a spade. Therefore, wish to take this opportunity to inform World CLC member what had been happening in south Sudan and to provide you information that you can respond to with informed opinion when asked about mission in south Sudan.

(1). South Sudan became independent solvent state on 9th July 2011. Independence comes after 50yrs of civil war in Sudan. In 50yrs citizen fought gorilla and government forces. There were many peace agreements that were signed but none of the agreements was fully honoured. Most of the times after signing agreements, all were dishonored. However, through Kenyan Host Government, who was chief mediators, African union, IGAD and the international community facilitated the peace talk after which the CPA was signed.

(2). Good will. Citizens have shade Good will to the elected government of south Sudan but in vain it has proved otherwise. There is still war around the builders. The challenge keep on hunting us.

From 15th December Sunday violence broke once more and hard

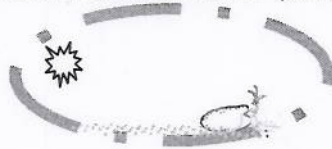
- a) Between 1, 000 or more people were reported to have been killed in Juba alone.
- b) Mass graves were discovered and authority seemed to thrush the issue off.
- c) Ethnically fueled prejudices are real and way of live but worst is no change seem to come by.
- d) Looting of civilians properties by the governmental security agent / and rebels has become the order of the day, hence fueling hunger among the small skill farmers.
- e) Kidnapping of children and coercing them to work as child soldiers or as rebels in name of "white soldiers)
- f) Whelm of war seem to pick now and uncertainty seem to bacon in the country.
- g) As a result of insecurity, many civilians including the CLC members have left the country to the neighboring countries. It is only mid February some people have returned back to work.

More than 10,000 have been reported to have been killed in a period of one month. With regards to the crisis many recorded deaths. More than 40,000 South Sudan have freed to Northern Uganda for refugee, more than 20,000 have crossed the border to Kenya through Kapoeta. More than 60% of the

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South Sudanese has been displaced either as internally displaced person or as refugee. Others like foreigners have been evacuated by their mother countries. War continues at the border between Sudan and South Sudan along all reach zones. Satellite photos seem to tell the story of the atrocities committed to humanity. However, reconciliation seems a favorable option but advocated to skeptical politicians of the day.

(3). Reconciliation efforts by the neighbouring countries and Catholic Church mediation:

- (I) (i). IGAD has intensified the quest for reconciliation; they have succeeded in bringing the two antagonistic groups together. The Government and rebels sign agreement of cease fire.
- (II) (ii). The Catholic Church leadership, consist of bishops and the Nuncio went to South Sudan met last week in Juba capital to find a possible lasting solution since most affected are the people under their care.
- (III) (iii). Signing of cease fire and release of political prisoner has brought some tranquility in common ground for bargaining grievances.

(4) CLC response

- a) Most of the CLC were affected having some families losing some family and/or community members in the war. Response to this was to sympathies and consolation of the deceased families.
- b) CLC introduced family visit out of the common CLC community meetings.
- c) Schedule reconciliation mass to be done during working days as to bring many other individuals.

(5) Life testimony Of CLCers during the crisis in the claimed aborted coup attempt.

- I. (i). Five (5) family members shot dead at once: Mrs. Ereminia, one of our CLCers lost her four children and her husband at the same time during the violence. In her family she was left with one child who was sickly and admitted to hospital from time to time. The greatest pain came when Mrs. Ereminia lost her job due to prolonged war and shooting. She has been left as the bread winner but with no job and agony of the loss of 5 family members.
- II. (ii). Most families are affected with either two or more members dead as a result of violence.
- III. Chain burials have become the order of the day.
- IV. (iii) Great challenge is lack of basic needs categorized by loss of properties and basic domestic appliances made by the national armed forces.

(6). CLC prior-the attempted coup and after CLC world Assembly

After CLC World Assembly in Lebanon, a brief session was organized and presentation was made of what took place with them from the roots to the frontiers.

Having heard of the report the national members were moved and began thinking of many small projects. A membership registration process was agreed by consensus and amount for registration and monthly contribution both were fixed, see table below:

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Contribution matrix				
State	Description	Frequency	Rate (SSP)	Remarks
Juba	Membership	once	50.00	The number of active members decreased due to ongoing crisis in the country
	Subscription	monthly	25.00	
Wau	Membership	Once	25.00	
	Subscription	Monthly	15.00	
Juba/Wau	Students/non-employed		10.00	

However, many of the challenges are the finances and the like. Some members suggested organizing for a one day retreat to strengthen the CLC members, voting was conducted and it was agreed by consensus.

On 5th October 2013 the retreat was made lead by Fr. Peter Lado on the following topics:

The Attendance: 9 members and the topics were as follows:

1. The LOVE of God

- God created us out of his own likeness to Love and Serve him.
- God loves us so dearly (Gods love is unlimited or unconditional).
- We should also love, respect, serve, honour God in all circumstances.
- God has honored human beings by putting them to be responsible for all other creatures to make their life meaningful.

READINGS

(Gen 1:31, Hos 3:1-3-end, 1 Jn 4:7-21, Eph 2:4, Jn 13:34, Lk 15:21-24, Lk 15:18, 11-32)

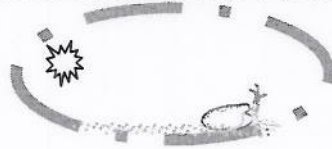
2. THE FALL OF MAN

It is realized that because of our human dignity, it is sometimes not easy to observe God's Love 100% in our day to day life. This is due to our human weaknesses because on many occasions we prefer to live or do things the way we chose. It is because we want to satisfy our own aspirations.

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- When Adam and Eve differed with God, God chased them away from Eden. But through the Love he has on humans, God sacrificed his Only Son as a means of bringing Man closer to him.
- Sin is anything we do that is contrary to the will of God. While Forgiveness is to understand the truth and accepting the wrong we have done with sorrow and get committed to do things the right way as required by God.
- And whenever we have go astray, Jesus insists on sincerity of Heart.
- One of God's commandments is the requirement to Love one another.

READINGS

(2 Cor 5:18-20, LK 5:29-32, 6:27-28, RM 12:14-15, Eph 1:11-17, Psalm 51)

3. MISSION

Sending of the 12 and 72

LK 9:1-9, 10-17 and LK 10:01-12

In our annual plan, an advent talk workshop is planned to take place between August and October 2014. We have budgeted for 50 participants @ SSP100, a total of which is SSP5,500. A quarter of this has already been secured. We have to ensure that by beginning of August; the amount would have been fully contributed.

Currently a retreat is ongoing every Saturday starting from 15th March 2014, this was suggested by one member, voting was made and was agreed by consensus. This retreat will continue until the 2nd last week of the fasting period and will be concluded after Easter.

- (I) There was addition initiative in visiting families as to give accompaniment to CLC families in an effort to strengthen CLC families and in turn strengthen national CLC small communities.
- (II) Visit and consoled the family who lost their loved ones
 - a) Consoled family of Angelina Bartholomew
 - b) Consoled family of John Paul Ajak after sudden death
 - c) Consoled families of relatives and friends
 - d) Consoled Erminia after killing of her five family members.
 - e) Consoled family of Alma Akongo after road accident in Juba.
- (III) During this tragic event, CLC took opportunity to preach peace and reconciliation thus why they were able to articulate the events.
- (IV) There are still great areas of intervention in the communities thus CLC have developed new apostolate of care.
 - a) Distributing cloths to the need internally displaced refuge and needy street girls who have been left by parent who died in war.

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- b) Revived bread making as mean to earn to help the need community around the CLC community in Wau, County.
- (V) The CLC are continuing with their work of mercy and helping community they live with to cope up with the life challenges.

(VI) Areas that need interventions

- Formation of CLC members

There is great need of consolors therefore need to have holistic spiritual formation.

- Need to have an EA for Juba CLC, only we have EA in Wau.

It is important to have an EA to support our group however we could find one.

hewa