

Asian Foundation

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Psalm 127:1 *Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain*

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NEWSLETTER

Dear people,

We celebrated Christmas with a little less than a hundred persons. Thanks to the many gifts from Holland, we could give everybody warm clothes for which they were very grateful.



At the end of February, it was Zagaan Sar, the Mongolian New Year. It always is a great festival, which goes on for seven days.



The cold winter is over and spring is in the air. This season usually is very dry and windy. Unfortunately, this causes enormous dust clouds. Outside you can get very dirty and inside everything is covered with a layer of black dust.



June, July and August is summer holiday. We are looking forward to our summer camp, which will be in June. Afterwards the younger children will go into the countryside for another 6 weeks. It is a lovely time for them and they learn how to milk, make cheese, help to shear sheep etc.

The children are doing well. Several children will leave primary school and go to secondary school in September. Three of our children will go to a vocational training and eight children will start at the university. Tuition has been increased enormously. Most universities charge \$ 1000 a year. A vocational training will cost \$ 500 a year. So this means that we do need an extra \$ 10.000 for tuition only. Maybe it is a good idea to sponsor a child's tuition or part of it? It is essential to offer our children good education because this enhances their chances for a job later in life.



Our boys and girls try to earn some pocket money by making felt slippers. We just now received an order of 200 pair of slippers, so that will keep them busy for a while! In summer, they also try to find a summer job so that they can buy their own schoolbooks.



We have looked after Zolzaja for several years now. She had to leave the state orphanage because she turned 16 and then she had nowhere to go. Her mother was in prison because of theft and there was no one else. She then came to live with our girls. Last summer her mother was released out of prison and she neither had a place to go to. In prison, she had become a Christian and she wanted to make a new start. We gave mother and daughter a ger to live in on our haschaa and they were delighted that they could now live together. Mother found a job; however, she turned ill quite seriously: heart disease and cancer, which was metastasised. We helped her financially so that she could be treated in hospital. At the moment she is very weak.

As you know, we have been saving money for quite some time now to purchase a house so we can offer more children a home. This house in the picture is an example of the kind of house we are looking for. We are looking for quite a big house in order to comply with the conditions of the government. We have to continue saving money for a while but in the near future, we hope to be able to buy a house.



As you could have read in our latest newsletter, we received several new children in our foster homes this last year. They are doing very well! It is such a privilege to see how they turn from scared, suspicious children into happy and carefree children.



This is Zaja. With big, anxious eyes, she looked at us when we took her out of the state orphanage. She used to live in the street with her mother, an alcoholic, who passed away. Then she lived with her grandmother for a while, but she did not want her grandchild to live with her anymore and put her into the state orphanage. After that, she was adopted. Again, she was abandoned and brought back to the orphanage. Consequently, she was very suspicious towards adults. Also in the orphanage, she had to put up with a lot of misuse from the staff. In the picture, you see the girl she has turned into now: a happy and sweet girl. We all love her very much and our children get along very well with her.



In the picture here below, you can see some of our new children who still are without sponsors. In addition, if you decide to sponsor a fixed amount (any amount) each month for general purposes than this also will benefit a child without a sponsor. Also many children in our "poor" families are without sponsors.



We are very happy to introduce to you a newlywed couple: Sylvia and Aphresso are coming to Mongolia in the summer to reinforce our team. Sylvia is a Dutch woman, who went to a language school in Mongolia. Here she met Aphresso who is from India. A few months ago, they got married and now they are very enthusiastic to start working with us.

Of course, we do experience happy events but we also have moments of concern. Yet we do know that God will take care of us!

We are very grateful for your support, whether it is financially or through prayer!

On behalf of Asian Foundation,
Corry Vreugdenhil.

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