

93 Children homeless as fire sweeps through Kids for Kids Village



Recently fire swept through Azargarfa, Darfur, destroying over half the village. There was a strong wind, and within minutes all the animals in the area were killed. People lost everything they owned. Thankfully, no human was hurt, but 375 goats, 36 donkeys and 120 sheep died. People lost all they owned. The goats were kept close to the huts because many of them had kids. They are kept under straw shelters to protect them from the sun. It has been exceptionally hot in Sudan this year so that everything was tinder dry.

It is particularly tragic, as these families were starting to really thrive. Azargarfa became a Kids for Kids' village in 2006. It runs one of our most successful Goat Loan Programmes, passing on 6 goats from each family every two years. 30% of the families in the village have already benefitted from our original goats. It is also the village where founder Patricia Parker and her son were captured by rebels. Everything the families owned was burnt in their huts. People's possessions are pathetically few - but they are deeply treasured. Now these families have to start again.



The photo top left was taken during Patricia's last visit to the village, the one above shows the damage caused by the fire. "I can hardly bear to look at this poor little creature on the left who was trapped, unable to run fast enough." Patricia

THREE WEEKS LATER



Alone of all the aid agencies in Darfur, Kids for Kids promised immediate help - and gave it. Basic essentials for starting again were sent in under 15 days. Once again families have a roof to sleep under and blankets for the children. We have replaced the poor burnt goats with a healthy new flock so that the children have milk, and the mothers can start the slow process of building up a small income again so they can buy their children shoes and clothes and replace more of the things they have lost.



"We were able to act so quickly because of your help. I believe we need a contingency fund for just this sort of disaster. If you would like to help Kids for Kids start saving so we can help quickly with what people say really matters - it would make such a difference"



Patricia Parker MBE Founder Kids for Kids

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