



KIDS FOR KIDS CELEBRATES!

**The Pope, a Prince, Archbishops and Film Stars
help children in Darfur!**

**"Despite inflation of over 900%, Darfur need not
be a disaster" says Founder of UK Charity.**



Whilst the world watches Sudan as South Sudan becomes a separate country, Darfur is forgotten. Violence is unreported, and aid workers are at risk of kidnap. 83,000 more people have fled their homes since January. Inflation is a creeping nightmare where many families in remote villages earn less than £100 a year. "When I was first in Darfur, I could buy a goat for £5" says Patricia Parker MBE, Founder of Kids for Kids." Now, I am paying £50 for a billy goat. That's inflation of over 900% in ten years. Goat's milk is a life saver in years of drought like last year. No wonder Kids for Kids and our goat loans are seen as a gift from Heaven."

The children of Darfur are the most deprived in the world. They need our help. The region is struggling with insecurity and unimaginable - and inexcusable - poverty. For 10 years Kids for Kids has been showing that there is a way to bring lasting change by helping people to help themselves. Patricia started the charity in 2001 because of a chance meeting with a little 9 year old who was struggling across the desert with a heavy jerry can of water for his family, a walk for water that took over 14 hours. "People are not asking for charity. They are asking for help to give their children a start in life. We are showing how to make a real life changing difference. One mother to whom we lent 6 goats in 2004 told me that she is managing to send her eldest son to University - because of us" says Patricia. "It is humbling to realise how so little can change lives so much."

And now, The Pope, a Prince, Archbishops and Film Stars have joined Drawn...to Darfur, a Celebrity led campaign to say "We care". Celebrities are donating pictures which they have drawn themselves, to say that the world must not be allowed to turn a blind eye to the deprived children of Darfur. You can see (and buy) these works of art on our website. Some are touching, some funny, some are masterpieces by Royal Academicians, and some a simple heart and an autograph. Works of art will be auctioned this summer on the Internet and live at a Celebrity Charity Auction in London. Please see the website for details.

"If you would like to own one of the unique celebrity pictures please send an auction bid to Kids for Kids, by post or email. You can see them at www.kidsforkids.org.uk or join us at our Live Celebrity Auction in London! Please let me know if you would like details." Patricia



*Water is the greatest gift in Darfur. One of
our midwives helps a thirsty little one.*



Latest News from Darfur:

Did you know that families from the camps are applying to settle permanently in our villages? They come with nothing, having fled their homes leaving everything behind. We are asking for help to give each family the basics - 6 goats, a donkey, blankets, jumpers, a mosquito net, farm tools, and 2 jerry cans for the water. "The cost is just £280 - a shockingly small amount to transform children's lives" says Patricia. "By including these families in our goat loan scheme in each village, we are also helping them to be assimilated into the close knit local communities. This is what conflict resolution should be about!"

The Foreign Office continues to advise against all travel to Darfur. There are therefore virtually no reports of current conditions. We are able to keep in touch with the villages because we are working directly with them through our Programme Manager who is Darfurian. In the villages beyond the camps, children sleep on the sand, in a bare hut made from the stalks of the staple crop, millet. When the crops fail you cannot repair your hut. Many children have nothing to sleep under and succumb to chest infections, a major risk when they are malnourished. Blankets are a status symbol which few can afford. During daylight hours toddlers are tied to the hut to stop them wandering into the scorching sun, whilst their mothers walk many hours to reach water. There are few kindergartens. Illiteracy is high. People toil in the stony ground to grow crops which fail through lack of water or pest infestation. The largest aquifer in Africa lies under Darfur, but villagers cannot afford to dig for water. Since the violence started, even basic health care is beyond reach. The simplest wound, untreated, can maim for life. There are no roads. Transport is a donkey. Animals are crucial for survival, but there is no veterinary care in the villages, and few can afford to buy a goat. Children have no shoes now. No one reports these conditions because no one goes to the villages to see for themselves.

Key to the Kids for Kids' projects is the Goat Loan which helps not just successive families, but whole communities. We lend 6 goats to a family for 2 years, then 6 are passed to another family. We teach people to look after their animals, and we provide veterinary care. We give mothers donkeys to collect water, to pull ploughs and carts. Stronger donkeys pull our donkey ambulances and watercarts. Our midwives and first aid workers are saving lives every single day. There are already 68 Kids for Kids' midwives, trained in a school we funded in El Fasher. People travel miles to seek their help. There are latrines, so fewer children suffer diarrhoea and vomiting. The health of the animals is inextricably linked to the health of the children. Our paravets run a revolving veterinary drug scheme in each village. Children sleep under a mosquito net and a blanket each night. They will not die of malaria (still the biggest killer in Africa) or suffer so many chest infections. They will not be malnourished, like every other child in the villages of Darfur - and they will wake each morning with the chance of a better future. Our programme to help families from the camps who want to settle in our villages, is designed to help them integrate with the community. By increasing the numbers of goats which we provide, their presence is enabling more beneficiaries from the village to benefit through the goat loan programme. Green belts of young healthy drought-resistant trees make a lasting difference to the environment. Most important of all, there is a Kids for Kids' handpump nearby. Water that used to take hours to reach, and to carry back home on the back of a donkey, or on your head.



WE DON'T BELIEVE IN CHARITY WE BELIEVE IN HELPING PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES

Donate on line or please send cheques made out to Kids for Kids

www.kidsforkids.org.uk

contact@kidsforkids.org.uk

+ 44 (0)7957206440

Please send your Celebrity Artwork Auction Bid: Kids for Kids P.O. Box 456 Dorking RH4 2WS

Registered Charity 1100045 a company limited by guarantee 4607292

Recognised in Sudan as a Charitable Foundation

Registered in the United States as Friends of Kids for Kids via CAF America 501(c)3

