

HOME IN DARFUR



"If we can tell people about the conditions in which children are being forced to live - and show the way to a solution - to everyone, from the highest in Government to the smallest child at school - then we will be able to transform people's lives"

Life in Darfur

Where these children live there are no roads, no electricity, no telephones and little access to health care or education. When the rains fail so does this fragile economy, forcing children to walk miles for water. KIDS FOR KIDS is working with the community to prevent this. Our aims are to support projects which are long lasting, self sustaining and community led. **Houses (tulkuls) are small round huts made out of wood and the stalks of millet.** Journalists describe them as made of "wood and



sticks". Millet is the staple diet which grows to 6 ft in good years, but can fail completely when the rains fail. The huts have a millet fence around them to provide some protection from the winds that race across the desert. When an haboob blows you cannot see in front of you. It is like walking into a solid wall of sand. When the crops fail you have no way to mend your hut. Many are at risk of collapse.

A village is a small group of tulkuls with even smaller satellite villages – one community is approximately 5,000 people in all. **A family, often with six children (the mortality rate is high), live in each little tukul.** Fatima, the "richest women" in Um Shireiga, and her family of 8 own the following:

2 beds	3 mattresses	4 pillows	4 blankets
3 cups	5 dishes	1 knife	3 spoons
1 tea pot	2 metal pots	1 small water pot	1 mat

Countless families are so poor they have no bedding at all, nor mat on the sand floor. It is cold in the desert at night, and in January, can be very cold indeed.

KIDS FOR KIDS is virtually the only organization to have brought help to children still living in villages in Darfur during the last five years. Aid from the international community has been concentrated on the IDP (Internally Displaced People) camps, and yet there are over 3½ million people still clinging to their homes as the violence has continued - but for how much longer?

KIDS FOR KIDS

We don't believe in charity, we believe in helping people to help themselves

KIDS FOR KIDS - helping children the world has forgotten

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