

Rafiki mpendwa,

Nitumaini letu kwamba jarida hili litakukuta ukiwa mwenye afya njema wewe pamoja na familia yako. Tunajua ni jinsi gani maisha yalivyo magumu kwa wengi wenu, na ni kwa jinsi gani kwa wengi wenu mnavyoweza kuziweka familia zenu katika afya njema, hivyo mataakwa yetu yanatoka moyoni mwetu kabisa. Katika kipindi hiki cha Ramadhani, tuna toa salamu za pekee kwa marafiki zetu Waisilamu.

Asante kwa wale waliotupa baadhi ya habari kuhusiana na shughuri zao pamoja na maandalizi ya kusherehekea tarehe 17/10. Tunawataka radhi kwamba majibu yetu wakati mwingine yanachelewa kidogo.

Kama kawaida tunaanza jarida hili kwa ushuhuda wa rafiki mwenye kujifunga katika mapambano dhidi ya umaskini, Padre Nchimbi.

Dear friends,

We hope this Newsletter finds you in good health and your family, too. We know that life is tough for many of you and of the difficulties faced to maintain and keep one's family in good health, so our wishes come really from our heart. In this time of Ramadan, we extend a special greeting to all our Muslim friends.

Thank you to those of you who gave us news about your activities for the preparation of October 17th celebrations. We apologise that our answers are sometimes a little late.

As usual, we begin this Newsletter with the testimony of a friend, Father Nchimbi, committed to the fight against poverty.

Je ni jinsi gani unaweza kufanya jambo hata kama nyezo ni ndogo sana?

"Kwa ujumla nimejawa na uchungu mkali sana kuona jamii inayooneana kwa sababu mbalimbali moja wapo ikiwa hii ya utajiri wa mali au akili.

Nimetumia mali yangu kidogo kusomesha watoto yatima waishio katika mazingira magumu, na kuunda NGO's, kuwashughulikia watu waathirika na wenye afya mbaya. Kuwajegea watoto wadogo maadili mema na uundaji wa vikundi mabalimbali vya vijana na kufanya semina mbalimbali na kuwanunulia vifaa vya michezo nk.

Nilicho nacho ni kwa ajili ya kumtengeneza maskini walao wawili watu mazingira mazuri.

Oktoba 17 inakuja kwa kasi na lazima nifanye kitu fulani na maskini wenzangu pale Parokiani pangu, Jimbo kuu-Songea."

How to act, even with very little resources ?

"I have always felt very sad to see that in a community people despise each other for different reasons such as a difference in material wealth or intelligence.

I have spent of my own property to enable orphans or other children living a hard life to go to school, built houses for prayer like churches or bell towers, helped in the creation of different NGOs. I tried to serve those who are affected by a disease or were in bad health, to help the children to grow up in a good way, creating different groups of young people and organising seminars, buying sport equipment, etc.

What I have is not much, but enough to help at least 2 or 3 people to better their circumstances.

October 17th is coming soon and I will organise, in my parish in the Songea region, something with the poor people."





October 17th, 2004 in Benin, Africa
Oktoba 17 mwaka 2004 katika nchi ya Benin, Afrika

Oktoba 17 inakuja kwa kasi!

Katika jarida la mwisho la mwezi wa Sita, tulizungumzia kuhusu adhimisho la Siku ya kimataifa ya kuutokomeza umaskini, Oktoba 17 ijayo. Leo tunataka tuwe thabiti zaidi labda kuwasaidia wale wenye hofu kidogo ya kuandaa tukio.

Tukio kubwa au dogo!

Awali ya yote, ni muhimu kukukumbusha kwamba tunapaswa kuandaa sherehe kulingana na nyenzo zetu tulizo nazo. Wengi wetu, tuna nyenzo kidogo sana, (vifaa, fedha na nk). Kwa hiyo tunaweza kujadili tukio dogo tu au tunaweza kushirikiana na wengine wenye nyenzo nyingi.

Oktoba 17 ijayo, kama ilivyo kila mwaka, kutakuwa na matukio makubwa na madogo. Kila tukio lina umuhimu sawa. Iwapo tupo watu wachache tu, tunatakiwa kufahamu kwamba maelfu ya watu ulimwenguni wanasherehekea siku hii kwa roho moja na kutangaza kama sisi kwamba tunaweza kuutokomeza umaskini uliokithiri.

Mahala popote inawezekana,

Ni rahisi mno kuchagua mahala penye asili yako. Kwa mfano mwalimu anaweza kusherehekea na wanafunzi wake siku hii. Tunaweza kuweka alama siku hii katika maeneo yetu ya kazi, katika vitongoji vyetu. Bila shaka inawezekana pia kukusanya baadhi ya watu katika eneo la watu wote mathalani, kama maktaba.

Sababu za mkusanyiko,

Oktoba 17 husababisha mkusanyiko, mahali watu walio na uzoefu moja kwa moja na umaskini wanakuwa ndiyo kiini cha siku hii, kuwapa moyo kwa kushiri kwao na kusaidiana wenyewe kwa wenyewe katika mapambano yetu, ni muhimu kuwa pamoja.

October 17th is coming quickly !

In the Newsletter of last June, we spoke about the celebration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, next October 17th. Today, we want to be more concrete and maybe help those who are a little afraid of the idea of organising such an event.

A big or a small event !

First of all, it's important to remind ourselves that we have to organise a celebration according to our own means. Most of us have very little means (material, financial, etc.). Consequently, we can only organise simple events or we can associate with others who have more resources available.

Next October 17th, like every year, there'll be large and smaller events. Every event is equally important. Even if we're only a few people, we'll know that hundreds of thousands of people throughout the world are celebrating this Day in the same spirit and are declaring, like us, that we can overcome extreme poverty.

Any place is possible !

It's easiest to choose the place where you are naturally. For example, a teacher can celebrate this Day with his pupils in his classroom or in the school. An imam, a priest, a minister... can organise something in his place of worship. We can mark this Day in our work place, in our neighbourhood... Of course, it's also possible to gather people in a public space like a library, for example.

An occasion to gather.

October 17th is an occasion to gather, to place the people with direct experience of poverty at the heart of the Day by encouraging their active participation, and to support each other in our fight. If we are 500, it's great, but if we are 50 or 10 it's wonderful, too ! What is of importance is the unity created by this day.

Two important readings !

If you are without ideas or do not have the time to prepare a special event, you can simply read those two texts :

➤ the text engraved on the Commemorative Stone on the Plaza of Human Rights and Liberties, in Paris :

Viambatanisho viwili muhimu sana (ambavyo vinaweza kuwa vya pekee)!

Iwapo hauna mawazo au hauna muda wa kuandaa tukio maalum, unaweza kusoma haya maandiko mawili tu.

➤ Maandiko haya yamechongwa kwenye jiwe la Uwanja huu wa Fadhila, wa Haki za binadamu na Raia jijini Paris :

"Popote pale wanaume na wanawake wanapohukumiwa kuishi katika umaskini uliokithiri, haki za binadamu zimevurugwa.

Kuungana pamoja ili kuhakikisha kwamba hizi haki zinaheshimiwa ni jukumu letu sote."

Joseph Wresinski
Muasisi wa ATD Dunia ya Nne

➤ Maandiko ya "Nawashuhudia Ninyi" (angalia katika ukurasa wa mwisho), ambayo yaliandikwa na Joseph Wresinski katika sherehe ya kwanza ya Oktoba 17, mwaka 1987.

Baadhi ya mifano

Njombe, wafanyakazi wanaoshughulika na uhunzi watasherehekea siku hii katika eneo lao la kazi na marafiki zao. Wanawaalika kama watu arubaini, lakini hata wawe kumi tu au kumi na tano, itakuwa vizuri. Watasoma maandiko mawili yaliyoonyeshwa hapo juu, watakumbushana historia ya Siku hii na watajadili kuhusiana na maana ya kupambana na umaskini.

Dodoma, mwanachama wa ATD atawakusanya marafiki zake wapate muda wa kusoma na kutafakari.

Dar es Salaam, tutasherehekea siku hii kwa kushirikiana na marafiki wengine. Kwa wakati huu, kila Jumamosi asubuhi, tunaandaa bendera ikiwa na maandiko ya kwenye jiwe la kumbukumbu kwa Kiswahili.



painting of the banner in Dar es Salaam
kuchora bendera jijini Dar es Salaam

"Wherever men and women are condemned to live in extreme poverty, human rights are violated.

To come together to ensure that these rights be respected is our solemn duty."

Joseph Wresinski,
Founder of ATD Fourth World

➤ the text "I bear witness to you" (see the last page), that was written by Joseph Wresinski for the first celebration of October 17th, in 1987.

Some examples :

At Njombe, the workers at a blacksmith workshop will celebrate this Day in their work place with their friends. They'll invite about 40 people, but maybe there will only be ten or fifteen and this will be fine. They'll read the two texts indicated above, and they'll remind themselves of the history of this Day and will discuss what the fight against poverty means for every participant.

In Dodoma, an ATD member will gather with his friends to have a time of reading and reflecting.

In Dar es Salaam, we'll celebrate this Day with other associations. At the moment, every Saturday morning, we prepare a big banner with the text of the commemorative stone in Swahili.

Tunakutakia maandalizi mazuri ya Oktoba 17 ifuatayo!

Asante kwa kutumia barua pepe, simu, au sanduku la barua kutufahamisha nini utafanya katika Oktoba 17.

Timu ya ATD Dunia ya Nne Dar es Salaam

We wish you a happy and peaceful October 17th !

Thanks for using e-mail, phone or letter to tell us what you will do on October 17th.

Your ATD Fourth World Team in Dar es Salaam

Ninatoa ushuhuda kwenu,

Ninyi mamilioni kwa mamilioni ya watoto,
akina mama kwa akina baba
waliofariki kwa ufukara na njaa,
tuliowarithi.

Ninyi mliokuwa hai,
Siyo kifo chenu ninachokitambulisha leo
Kwenye Uwanja huu wa Fadhila,
Wa Haki za binadamu na Raia
Bali ni maisha yenu ninayoyashuhudia.

Nawashuhudia ninyi, akina mama
Mnaoona watoto wenu wanahukumiwa
Kuishi katika ufukara,
Wakawa kama mali ya ziada duniani humu.

Nashuhudia watoto wenu
Wenye mwili ulionyog'onyea kwa mateso ya njaa
Waliopoteza tabasamu
Bado wangalitaka kupenda.

Nashuhudia mamilioni ya Vijana
Waliopoteza sababu zao za kusadiki wala za
kuwepo duniani,
Wakitarajia bure siku za usoni
Duniani humu kusiko na maana.

Nawashuhudia maskini wa nyakati zote
na tena wa leo
Wanaovutwa na safari
Wakakimbia huku na kuko kati ya dharau na chuki.

Wafanyakazi, wasio na fani,
Wanaotingwa muda wote na kibarua,
Wafanyakazi ambao mikono yao sasa,
Haina faida tena.

Mamilioni ya wanaume wanawake na watoto
Ambao miyoyo yao bado hupiga
Mapigo makubwa ya kujitahidi,
Akili zinaasi dhidi ya majaliwa yasiyo na haki
Waliokandamizwa
Wenye ushupavu unaodai haki
ya kuthaminika zadi.

Nawashuhudia
Ninyi watoto; wanawake kwa wanaume
Mnaokataa kulaani,
bali kupenda kusali, kufanya kazi na kushirikiana
ili izaliwe ardhi yenye ushirikiano,
ardhi moja, ardhi yetu,
ambapo kila mtu angaliweka ndani yake wema
wake uliobora kabla ajafa.

Nawashuhudia
Wanaume, wanawake na watoto
Ambao sifa yenu imeisha chongwa
Kwa moyo, mkono na chombo
Katika jiwe la Uwanja huu wa Fadhila.

Nawashuhudia ili watu, mwisho
Wajiongoze katika busara
Wakakatalia kwa daima kule kuwa fukara
hakuwezi kuepukwa.

Joseph Wresinski

I Bear Witness to You...

You, the millions and millions
of children, women and fathers
who have died from misery and hunger
and whose legacy we hold.

It is not your death that I evoke,
today on this Plaza of Human Rights
and Liberties.

I bear witness to your lives.

I bear witness to you, the mothers,
whose children are cast aside in this world,
condemned as they are to sheer misery.

I bear witness to your children,
twisted by the pains of hunger,
no longer able to smile,
yet still yearning to love.

I bear witness to the millions of young people
who have no reason to believe or even to
exist,
and who vainly search for a future
in this senseless world.

I bear witness to you, the poor of all times,
still poor today, forever on the road,
fleeing from place to place,
despised and disgraced.

Labourers without a trade,
ever crushed by their toil.
Labourers whose hands, today,
are no longer useful.

Millions of men, women, and children
whose hearts are still pounding strong
to the beat of the struggle,
whose minds rise in revolt
against the unjust fate imposed upon them,
whose courage demands the right
to priceless dignity.

I bear witness to you,
children, women and men,
who do not want to condemn,
but to love, to pray, to work, and to unite,
so that a world of solidarity may be born.
A world, our world, in which all people
would have given the best of themselves
before dying.

I bear witness to you,
men, women and children.
Your renown is henceforth engraved
by heart, hand and tool,
in the marble of this Plaza of Human Rights
and Liberties.

I bear witness to you, so that humanity
may at last fulfil its true destiny,
refusing forever that misery prevail.

Joseph Wresinski