



March 2007

Dear friends,

here it is: Our first Newsletter from Germany! As you may noticed, we changed the name of the letter to *Roots and Beyond*. You probably have already heard the phrase from us, since it reflects somewhat our vision we chose for our life. You can read more about it on our homepage, but in short it says: The deeper we are rooted in God and His love, the more steadfast and effective we will be.

Since we are back from the States in the middle of December 2006, we are living with our relatives (Irene's sister) in the basement apartment. We are very thankful, that we don't have to worry about where to stay, since there are many other things we have to think about. We also have a good-size car thanks to the parents of Irene. Daniel hasn't found a job yet, so please continue to pray for it.

We adjusted well here in Germany, and Jocelin feels here at home. She is getting used to all her „new“ relatives, who are not few. Tooth # 6 made it already through and since the end of February she is taking her first own steps. If you haven't heard: We are expecting and the baby is due by the end of July this year! We don't want to keep you in the dark, so we make it official that it will be mostlikely ..... a boy! We are thankful for a good pregnancy so far.

A couple days ago we came back from our trip to Sri Lanka. We want to say thank you for all the prayers and encouragements we received from you. We had the chance to explore somewhat of the country with a group from Norway and an American couple.

We used the 10 day trip to Sri Lanka, to get a better idea of the country, the culture, and as well the printshop „New Life Literature“ (NLL), where we will be involved with. To be honest, the first impression was a little bit of a shock. It seems like,

that the world in Sri Lanka is somehow turning different than we are used to. It starts with the cars driving on the left side, and you can easily get dizzy by just watching the traffic. Life



happens on the street: Selling, buying, playing, talking, or just watching all of that. As a foreigner you always stick out and will be addressed frequently. In many aspects of life, where we don't think to deeply about in the West, we will have to start learning from the beginning. For example, where do I get my shopping done and what transportation do I use, how do I bargain rightly, and how do I determine quality? Where do all the smells come from and is there any food without curry?

We are aware, that it will take time to get to know the culture and to adjust to it. Just because things are different, it doesn't mean it is of less value and importance. The total population of Sri Lanka is about 20 Mio., where the majority are Buddhists (70%). The most Christians (7-8%) in the country are Catholics, even though evangelical churches are growing. Christians are officially allowed to have fellowship, but the attacks from Buddhists are rising, especially when there are evangelistics efforts.

As for now, Daniel will be involved in managing the workflow in the production area of the printshop. He will oversee the workflow of the different departments, but also put hands on wherever needed. Irene will first be at home with the children and do the house set up and when time permits will help out in the office area in New Life Literature. The goal of the printshop is to print Bibles and Christian literature at a low price as possible for Asia. There are still too many people in Asia, who don't own a Bible or can't afford one.

We are in the process of building a supporter group. If you are interested in supporting our ministry in Sri Lanka, feel free to contact us.

Blessings and with much love from us.

Your friends

Daniel & Irene Kort  
with Jocelin

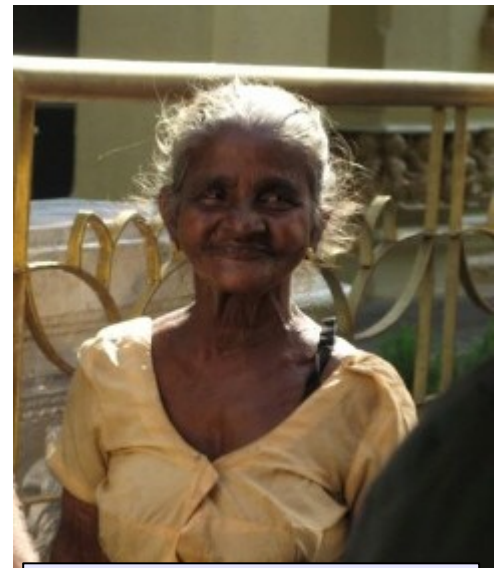
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Entrance of the printshop NLL



Friendly Lady



Lots of monkeys in the countryside



A tour at the printshop NLL



Elephantastic ... Landmark of Sri Lanka



Worker at NLL



First meeting after the 10-day-trip



The entire Touring-Group