



## NEWSLETTER - December 2008



**CHRISTMAS!** That wonderful time of the year when God spared not His own son, but gave Him up for us all, and gave us ALL things together with Jesus! (Rom 8:32) Who, more than all of us in North America, have more ‘things’ than the “The Bottom Billion” people in the world? That is the title of a book by Paul Collier who explores **why** the poorest countries in the world are failing. It is both insightful and challenging – and is for me an affirmation that **Cal Bombay Ministries is doing something RIGHT!** We are addressing the situation in Sudan in a practical manner.

Can it get any better, or more challenging? **YES!** On both counts!

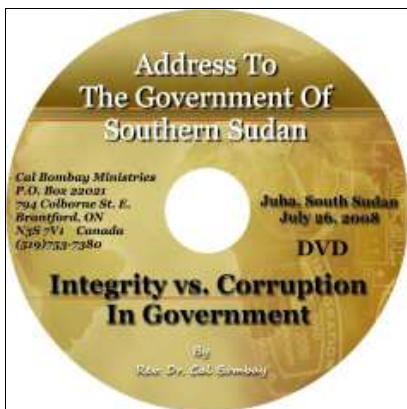
### So much good news:

Some great things are happening related to the farms. Here, in the words of our Managing Director, The Rt. Hon. Zamba Duku, are just a few:



SFC Managing Director Zamba Duku

Rev. Gary Giles from BC has arrived in Sudan, and as a farmer/preacher will be working on our new BORI farm until about March 2009. Pray for him. He has had experience overseas before, but Sudan is perhaps a bit more of a challenge. Zamba wrote: ***“I am sure Mr. Giles will strike an excellent relationship with the farm managers. I hope Emmanuel will introduce him to the church at Bori so that he may be able to share the word of God with the Christians there. I travel to Kajokeji next week to continue the preparations for the president's visit.”*** By now the President of the Government of Southern Sudan, His Excellency, Salva Kiir Maryardit, will have visited our farms. He supports very strongly what we are doing for agriculture in Sudan. He is there also to celebrate the beginning of the construction of the main highway from the farm area to the capital in Juba. He too is a Christian. ***(Late breaking news – nine land mines were discovered near one of our bulldozers – and successfully removed – Thus the President's visit is delayed for a few days)***



DVD provided to Southern Sudan Government leaders

You will recall the opportunity I had to speak to the Legislative assembly, and that I was asked to produce 300 DVD copies of that speech to be distributed to Legislative Members as well as heads of Civil Service, Army, Police etc. The reaction within a week was that the Legislative Assembly was, in Zamba's words, ***“Unusually active ..(several positions mentioned and which).. have been called in for questioning.”*** The DVDs have now been distributed to the top Southern Sudan leadership, including civil service, etc.

The newest news on that front: within a few weeks two very dedicated Christians were appointed to VERY important positions. Zamba wrote: ***“Cal, Some really Great News: Hon. Muki Batali is the new Commissioner of Kajokeji County and Manase Lomole is the new Deputy Governor and Minister of Agriculture for Central Equatoria State. Both appointments were made in a reshuffle carried out by GOSS President Salva Kiir today.”*** I have known these men for a long time now. Mr. Batali was one of the “Landlords” who gave of his own land as part of the larger total of 100,000 acres. Manase Lomole has also been a close friend for many years.

Zamba also wrote, ***“We have received 2,000,000/- (Shillings) for the sale of the three acres of ground nuts grown at Mogiri farm.”*** I saw that crop being bagged while I was there in July. The farms are beginning to cover their own costs! In fact, Zamba wrote the following: ***“I really believe that this year is the turning point for the SFC as far as generating revenue is concerned. The maize crop you saw is coming very well except that monkeys are a new, hitherto unforeseen problem. We instructed Emmanuel (the farm manager) to hire two watchmen to frighten away the intruders, and the watchmen are doing a good job.”*** . . . . Even monkeys are hungry...



Cal with ground nuts (peanuts) from Mogiri

Meanwhile, more land is being cleared at our Morobo farm and production will increase dramatically. Our newest challenge is to

buy a corn harvester to handle the size of the crops we are now producing. It will be impossible to “hand-harvest” when we produce many thousands of acres of various crops. We need your help and prayer. CAN YOU HELP MAKE THIS A HAPPY CHRISTMAS FOR SUDAN?

While on my fund-raising trip throughout Alberta and south-eastern BC, God provided an All Terrain Vehicle which will be used by our new General Manager, as well as more than a dozen chain saws which will be most useful in the land-clearing and charcoal making we do with the trees. In Lethbridge a farmer gave us a big (big for Sudan) tractor which we will sell here in Canada and use the money for buying a tractor a little more suited to Sudan and the needs on our farms. Also a gift of \$7,000 was given for building a church for the farm area.



Maize growing just outside the Bori farm compound

We are building a large storage facility for harvested corn and other grains while it goes through the process of harvesting and shipping to the places of need. That will cost about \$42,000.00 (USA). Again let’s listen to Zamba: *“the work on the warehouse is progressing well. It is quite a large store which should hold up to 200 metric tons. Of course this will prove too small when we have one thousand acres under crop, but we shall leave that problem for that time. The early maize crop at the Bori compound came to nearly three and a half tons from that three acres planted just beside the compound.”*

We are seeing increasing interest in what we are doing in Sudan by organisations which have seen more failure than success in agriculture in Africa. Take the World Bank Micro Loan Program for instance! Zamba wrote to me just a week ago about it: *“I had a meeting with the GOSS Minister of Commerce about the World Bank money this morning (the Minister oversees the program on behalf of the GOSS). After I complained to the minister about the World Bank attempting to treat the money as a commercial loan, he told me that actually they are now considering giving us a good chunk of the money as a grant to help us build our capacity. The GOSS seriously wants to see real food production in Southern Sudan and the Savannah Farmers Cooperative is the only viable organisation to do this which they see right now. I shall keep you posted.”* **Please pray for that!**

Right now, we need to pull out all the stops and give it all we have to bring this project to that place of total fulfilment. Will there be problems? Of course! Who doesn’t face problems when they face a massive challenge? But when we know that God is in this, we are assured of the fulfilment of what He has called us to do.

Please make this a Christmas that Sudan will never forget. Make your giving a worthwhile investment that will last for years to come.

I am including a special attachment for *those of you who receive this by email*. Please read it, prayerfully consider it, and do what the Lord leads you to do. You who receive this by Canada Post will have already received it. It has to do with the great tax advantages of giving stocks or securities as gifts to Cal Bombay Ministries.

May God give you **the best Christmas of your life**. Ponder God’s great Gift. Let yourself be awed by the love that prompted such a sacrificial Gift: He Who changed the course of history and changed our individual lives, not to mention our eternal destination.

And please – don’t worry about the economy. God works on an entirely different basis. Our trust is in Him, and Him alone.

Yours very sincerely in Christ, for Sudan

Cal R. Bombay

Ps: please use the enclosed envelope to send us your special Christmas donation to help this work in Sudan.  
crb

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**Please do your best to beat back the hunger in Sudan.**

**1-888-577-8326 (1-888-57SUDAN)**

Or use the enclosed envelope.