

## Carina Saarloos in Mali



### NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2007

*Dear family, colleagues, friends and supporting churches,*

**“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Ephesians 6: 11-12.**

In this time of attacks and temptations, not only in my home church, but also in my own work here in Mali, I was forced to face facts once again. When a congregation starts to grow, the devil starts to take action. Also, the devil will not sit still and lay back when people are won for Jesus Christ. He will do anything, meaning really ANYTHING, to attack us. And when his attacks are not successful on the spiritual level, he will attack us physically. That is why, my dear supporters, we have to put on the whole armour of God, every day. We have to join in prayer, surround our leaders and elders and ask God to protect them and their families as well. Pray without ceasing!

### *Rahab ministries*



It has been over a year now that the first women were welcomed in our Rahab centre. A good reason to look back and see what this year has brought us.

Over 150 different women have visited the Rahab centre. More than half of these women are entangled in prostitution. 24 Women have visited the centre more than 10 times, and 12 women have made the decision to follow Jesus. A total of 37 women took training in

our training centre. After having completed these trainings, they are able to make soap independently, dye clothes, do crochet, embroider and make various different handicrafts.



Above you see a small photo-impression of the current group that has been dying a lot of clothes during the month of September. Of the 37 women that have followed the training programme, 6 have made a choice for the Lord Jesus.

At the moment there are 10 women in the training centre of which 6 know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

The difference is evidently noticeable.

***Thank the Lord for Fatim M, Coura, Fatim S, Lea, Niagali and Vinema. Pray that they will grow in their faith, and that in their conduct they will be an example for the other 4 women.***

Half September we said goodbye to my African friend and colleague Aya. She left for an indefinite period to go to Ivory Coast. Aya's mother, who is 81 years old, has written her several letters telling her that she longed to be with Aya.



With respect to her duties it was good that Aya was leaving for a while. The picture on the right shows Aya and me on Aya's last day at work.



The past months Aya was very irritable and not as gentle and vigorously in the contact with our women as is needed. I trust that this indefinite leave will do her and her mother a lot of good. God loves Aya very much and does have a plan with her. You can tell this from her testimony of how God has protected her last week. Aya left on a Tuesday morning to go to Ivory Coast. She could not find a spot in the first bus that was leaving that morning, even as she was one of the first passengers that day. She also could not persuade the bus driver to take her in. So she waited for the second bus to come. It was Gods plan! Later that day the second bus with Aya in it passed the first bus which was lying upside down along the side of the road. It had

been involved in a severe accident. A lot of people were very badly wounded and some of them did not survive. Aya was very impressed that we have a God that takes care of her and cares for her dearly. We do have a great God who has answered the prayers that have been said for Aya on that day. We serve a Living God who would not allow that Aya would be in the bus that crashed that day.

***Thank with me that the Lord has protected Aya during her trip to Ivory Coast.***

***Pray for frankness for Aya so she will be able to explain the gospel to her old Muslim mother. Pray that she will understand and that nothing is in her way to become a Christian!***

## ***Catching up on different issues!***



The half-way house for male convicts, "Centre Philémon", has been closed since early August. But it looks that we found a temporary solution. Pastor Ibrahima Coulibaly, pastor in a village nearby is helping out and comes from Monday till Friday to be with the men at the centre. Since October 17<sup>th</sup> the men are back and the centre is open again.

***Pray that we will find a long term suitable leader for "Centre Philémon" on a short notice who can come and receive training in our centre with pastor Ibrahima. Pray for wisdom and endurance for pastor Ibrahima.***

Precious is doing well and is very grateful for the time we spend together. I visit her every two weeks so we have one hour to study the bible and pray. Precious put on 15 kilos in weight this past year, which is mainly due to the fact that her liver has swollen.

**Pray for physical and spiritual health for Precious. That she will walk with the Lord day after day.**

In August we had our annual conference with all CMA Mali-missionaries together. CAMA-mission director Ab Goldberg was our speaker and he brought a deep and thoroughly thought through message. It was very nice to have Ab and his daughter Judith with us in Mali. During our conference I have been re-elected in the leadership team, which means I will have some hours of meetings to look forward to this coming year.

**Pray for wisdom and clear insight for my part in the leadership team**

**Thank you all for your support and prayers for me.**

**Dearest regards, Carina!**



## ***Homefrontline!***



As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the Struik family has handed over their tasks to the Vogel family. We are grateful for the support of the Struik family from the earliest beginning. As the new members of the Home Commitee, we (Nicoline and Henri Vogel) will be in charge of the distribution of the newsletter. We know Carina from the CAMA congregation in Middelharnis.

As a family - Gerard (21), Dorien (15) and Jochem (7) - we are part of this congregation. Originally we come from the Randstad, but for the last 18 years we are living in Bruinisse.

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