

# DJEMBE

Reporting the rhythms of YWAM Africa

## From the Director's Desk

For this issue of Djembe we have taken the subject of women as our theme. Statistics show us that the experience of many women in Africa and around the globe is far from just. Our God, who made men and women in His image and declared His handiwork 'very good', is not pleased with this injustice. As His ambassadors we are called to live by a different drumbeat and in this issue we introduce you to several women who are doing just that.



- In some African nations only 1/4 of pupils enrolled in secondary education are girls.
- On average women's wages are 75% of their male colleagues'.
- Often fewer than 10% of government decision-makers in Africa are women.
- Up to 45% of women report suffering abuse at the hands of men.
- Women often make up only 10% of managerial workers in African nations.

### statistics.....

Source: www.un.org

As a female leader working in Africa I have experienced my fair share of challenges. This is understandable when we live and work in societies where, at best, women are believed to be of less value than men or, at worst, they are seen as evil. In some places little boys are valued more highly than their mothers. Frequently this worldview affects even how Christians think and behave. As female leaders we are going against the tide of cultural beliefs. Even in YWAM, although there is a marked difference in attitude, there remains much work if we are to fully include and champion women leaders. Without this both YWAM and the people we work amongst will miss out on the fullness of God's plans for us.

To the women among us, I say: Don't quit! Continue to extend forgiveness and to move in the opposite spirit when you feel sidelined. Surround yourself with faithful prayer partners and remind yourself of God's word to you. You have a unique role that no one else can play. Press on! Do not be deflected from pursuing God's call on your life.

All of us must learn to work more effectively as teams, putting our best foot forward. We must boldly but gently work out our differences if we are to see a new anointing and power. Deliberate and intentional training, as well as spiritual warfare, will result in the release of many more women. May they rise up to take their places alongside our men in order that "all the world may know".

Habona Kisamwa - Base Leader, Athi River (Kenya). Wife of John Kisamwa, Field Director for YWAM Africa

*J. Kisamwa*

# 50 DAY PRAYER SEASON

YWAM's Global Leadership Team urges all YWAM staff and students to join together to fast and pray from Easter Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> to Pentecost Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> 2005.

Lynn Green, Executive Chairman of YWAM, says "During the 2004 GLT meetings it became clear that the Holy Spirit was calling YWAM to re-align with His Word and renew our commitment to reach the world. There was a sense that

repentance was needed for a gradual drift away from God's word to YWAM (summarized in our foundational values) and that we have to build and protect the unity He has given us. We are trusting that out of this will come a new surge of apostolic initiatives touching the world."

After the success of last year's time of prayer for YWAM Africa, we now have the opportunity to join with the rest of the YWAM family worldwide in this 50-Day season of corporate prayer and fasting. Each base will soon receive prayer brochures to help guide prayer. A website will use the 4K framework to help us pray for the world. There will also be opportunities to share feedback from our prayer times.

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## NORTH AFRICA "I knew I had a unique role"



Photo: Andy Schmalfuss

Female missionaries working in Muslim nations often have to adapt to cultures where women have a lower status than in their home nation. In making this personal sacrifice they encounter many opportunities to demonstrate to Muslim women that there is someone who loves and values them and to affirm their dignity. Grace is such a missionary.

"My name means Grace in Arabic. When I became a Christian I realized the significance of my name. My husband and I work in a North African country which is 99% Muslim. One must have a strong sense of identity to work here but I knew I had a unique role when I heard that Muslim women comprise the 'hidden half of Islam' and that it takes women to reach them. How do you embrace Muslim women in a way that will lead them to be sisters in Christ? Many times we do not see them as truth-seekers, hungry to know the grace offered them through Jesus. Demands of daily life; broken relationships; and coping through quasi-Islamic magical practices steal this desire away from them. Opening our homes for hospitality; listening to their concerns; praying for them as we visit are ways we hope to demonstrate a love that will draw them to Jesus." *For more info: www.gosahara.org*

## Noticeboard

**14 March SOFM, Egypt**  
Contact: [100334.2747@compuserve.com](mailto:100334.2747@compuserve.com)

**27 March: Start 50 Days of Prayer**  
For more information see also page 1 and to order your prayer brochure: [info@ywam-africom.org](mailto:info@ywam-africom.org)

**27 March - 2 April: International HIV/AIDS Conference in Jinja, Uganda**  
Details will be on the new YWAM Mercy Ministry website at [www.ywam-mercy.org](http://www.ywam-mercy.org)  
For conference enquiries, email: [hivconference@utonline.co.ug](mailto:hivconference@utonline.co.ug)  
Also: <http://www.ywamsca.com/eafrica/index.htm>

**April: UofN African Training Event, Koutiala, Mali**  
Fore more info: [uofnevents@jemburtigny.ch](mailto:uofnevents@jemburtigny.ch)  
(Colleen Milstein)

**4 April: SVP, Media Village Nigeria**  
Contact: [nigeria@mediavillage.info](mailto:nigeria@mediavillage.info)

**3 April - 10 June: Making Disciple Makers**  
A 10-week course training DTS staff and leaders, with 4 weeks lectures, 4 weeks outreach and two weeks wrap-up.  
For more info: International DTS Centre, Cape Town, [pmtthomp@mbwe.co.za](mailto:pmtthomp@mbwe.co.za)

**6 - 10 June: ALT, Lusaka, Zambia**  
Contact: [ywamafricaoffice@swiftkenya.com](mailto:ywamafricaoffice@swiftkenya.com)

**21 September - 10 December: Nations to Nations Leadership Training School Muizenberg, Cape Town, South Africa**  
For more info: [lts@ywammuizenberg.org](mailto:lts@ywammuizenberg.org)

For schools and dates: see [www.ywamafrica.org/calender](http://www.ywamafrica.org/calender)

For advertising your DTSs on the web, contact: [eschassberger@gmx.net](mailto:eschassberger@gmx.net)

For submission of events: [info@ywam-africom.org](mailto:info@ywam-africom.org)

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'Djembe' is produced and sent to you for free. Contributions, however, are welcome and can be remitted to: First National Bank, South Africa, Tokai Branch, Branch Code: 200409, Acc. Nr: 62046186236, Acc. name: AfriCom, Swift Code: FIRNZAJJ

## Snippets

### Media Village starts in Nigeria

In April YWAM Nigeria will see its first School of Video Production (SVP) starting, led by Anne Sampson. She will not only be multiplying the SVP but also starting a new facility of Media Village.

Anne did several schools at Media Village in Kalk Bay, South Africa and then became an editor. Last year she was



Graham Vermooten, CEO of Media Village, prays for Anne.

commissioned by the ALT to pioneer a new Media Village in Nigeria. "This nation of strong leaders and decisive thinkers is a powerful force, not only for the region of west Africa but also the continent and Anne Sampson has both the creative giftings and the strength of character to make her voice heard above those around her", says Diane Vermooten, director of Media Village South Africa. Anne has established good communication between the local leaders and the industry and has begun to develop the ministry.

For more info: [www.mediavillage.info](http://www.mediavillage.info)  
Contact: [nigeria@mediavillage.info](mailto:nigeria@mediavillage.info)

### Thanks

Thanks to Susi Childers for her great Hamar photo used in our last edition of Djembe. For more of her work see: [www.mission-unlimited.net](http://www.mission-unlimited.net)

### YWAM's first international AIDS conference in Uganda

From 27<sup>th</sup> of March until the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April YWAM Jinja, Uganda, will be hosting the first YWAM international AIDS conference.

"We believe that God is going to meet with us as we listen to each other, hear from those among us who are living with HIV and as we strategize how we can partner together to more effectively respond to this global pandemic", says Kate Muammar.

The conference will be hosting a range of local, regional and international speakers and Kate emphasizes that people with all kinds of backgrounds are invited to come: "We will have practitioners, pastors and professionals who will attend this conference. We will have those who have been involved in a compassionate response to HIV/AIDS for many years and those who are not yet involved but want to be. There are churches and missions, networks and partnerships that we want to hear from and to encourage in their efforts."

For more info: [www.ywam-mercy.org](http://www.ywam-mercy.org)  
Contact: [hivconference@utonline.co.ug](mailto:hivconference@utonline.co.ug)

### New care centre for Beautiful Gate

On 8<sup>th</sup> of December Beautiful Gate opened the doors of the new Beautiful Gate HIV/AIDS care facility in Crossroads, Cape Town. For Toby and Aukje Brouwer, the founders of the ministry, it was a milestone in the realization of their vision to help children in need. Beautiful Gate now has five centres around Southern Africa and there are plans to extend the ministry further into the continent.

