Tanzania Visit Report November 2015

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Background

The purpose of my visit to Tanzania between October 22nd and November 10th 2015 was to (1) settle daughter Elli into Tanzanian life, (2) review progress at Tuishime School, (3) provide oversight to the work of Deo Rugaba in Singida, (4) establish whether a project with Pastor Stephen Osinde in Dar es Salaam is feasible, and (5) meet some of the sponsored students.

Tuishime School

My last visit to the School was in February 2015 when I gave a copy of my recommendations for improvements at the School to Naomi Massenge, the Director. The principal recommendations at that time are summarised below together with their current status.

(1) Recruit new head teacher: A new head teacher, Elisa Nassari, was recruited at end September. He has previously been a head teacher at a secondary school for 12 years and a primary school inspector for 3 years as well as being a graduate. He retired from being head teacher in 2014



but is keen to work for a further 3-5 years. His personality is warm and kind but commands respect by his strength of character. I am sure he will be an asset to the school. He was uncertain about his freedom to act as head teacher compared with the roles of Naomi and John Bosco so I clarified his responsibilities after which he felt more empowered and aware of what he will be allowed to do and what is expected of him. I spoke with Naomi and she is in complete agreement with her role and that of the head teacher and assured me that she will give Elisa independence to develop his

role. His probation period has been extended to end March to allow him sufficient time to influence the other teachers and change the ethos in the school.

- (2) Appoint John Bosco as deputy director: John Bosco was appointed in September and is very comfortable with his responsibilities, some of which he was already carrying out. He knows that he has dual reporting into Naomi for external matters and to Elisa in school and academic areas. He is showing great enthusiasm in building external contacts with other schools, deepening relations with parents, developing school resources and providing oversight to maintenance of buildings.
- (3) Reduce total number of teachers (by 2-3): Two teachers have been lost since early 2015 but Alex has not been asked to retire so will likely remain until end 2016. There is still the opportunity to reduce the number of teachers by increasing teaching loads and this remains a key target for the head teacher.
- (4) Interview new teachers in an objective way and evaluate their Christian commitment. Review teacher performance during short probationary period to decide whether to retain them: No teacher recruitment has taken place since February so this objective cannot be evaluated.
- (5) <u>Send teachers to other schools to learn new teaching methods and practice:</u> Bosco, Pancras and Peter have attended St Jude and Braeburn schools. I encouraged Bosco to visit HOPAC in Dar with a pre-primary teacher to observe the Christian ethos and the use of resources.

- (6) Reduce use of blackboards during lessons by using computer and photocopier: The School did not function normally during my visit, due to the presidential elections, so I could not determine whether any progress had been made.
- (7) <u>Increase use of textbooks in all classes and subjects:</u> Hope for Tanzania has bought additional textbooks which are in the library. Most textbooks are, however, in classrooms or with pupils who are allowed to take them home.
- (8) <u>Increase use of reading books:</u> Reading books are placed in each classroom but I could not assess whether they are being widely used. However, the teachers committed to encourage reading in all classes.
- (9) Review number of lessons taught per subject each week, split sports lessons into classes 1-3 and 4-7, and allow children to take daily exercise: The number of lessons taught per day is unchanged with a single sports afternoon being run for all classes each week. However, children exercise each day in the school grounds. I spoke to the head teacher about the value in splitting the sports lessons.
- (10) <u>Improve lesson time keeping:</u> This objective could not be evaluated due to the school not functioning normally (closed for 6 days and 3 days of monthly tests).
- (11) Introduce a Christian focus to the School: It was difficult to evaluate this objective as no lessons were held whilst I was at school. However, two catholic sisters conduct weekly lessons with Renalda and Isaac teaching other classes. A prayer of thanks is made to God before lunch. The morning assembly for children is a little more thoughtful than before. What was most encouraging was the meeting of teachers that is held each morning when different people lead a song, Bible thought and prayer. Teachers were encouraged to share any prayer needs they had with other teachers which is not an easy thing for them to do.
- (12) Critically review books in the library to dispose of those that are culturally and educationally irrelevant: Elli and I separated a substantial number of books to be given to other schools or disposed of from those that should be retained. Those remaining can either be given to children, until their numbers become reasonable, or used in the school rather than continuing to sit on shelves. There is now sufficient room in the library to accommodate new books and it will be very valuable to the school for reading books to be sent from UK on a regular basis.
- (13) <u>Initiate use of registers to record children at school in each class:</u> It was not possible for me to evaluate this objective.
- (14) Ask engineers to provide an indicative cost estimation for a first floor to the central section of the school: This has not yet been done although an engineer again visited the school and promised to send an estimate. I am not chasing this action as we are unlikely to have the funds for such a project in the next few years.
- (15) Ask Pancras to investigate the cost of connecting computers to the internet & networking of computers to a central server: I again chased this action up with Pancras as it has not been completed and asked the head teacher to emphasise its importance to him. I wrote a letter to TTCL, a potential internet provider, asking them to provide an estimate.
- (16) Improve the standard of spoken English of teachers by enrolling them in conversational classes: Naomi knows those teachers that would benefit from English lessons. I asked the head teacher to assess teachers and encourage them to enrol on such a course.
- (17) Inspect decorative state of classrooms and establish a building maintenance and improvement plan: Bosco has embraced this action, which is in his area of responsibility. He proposed upgrading the toilets, building an administration area (for offices so that the library can be used for its true purpose), and purchasing outdoor play equipment for younger children. Bosco will provide me with an estimated cost to decorate the classrooms which could be carried out by volunteers during Visit 2016.

I was greatly encouraged by the increased professionalism at School which was evidenced by teachers in their attitudes to each other and to the head teacher and their desire for change and

improvement. It will take time for Elisa to gain their confidence and to shape the school in a positive direction as it has never previously experienced a strong head. I spoke to Elisa about the heavy reliance on monthly/end of year exams and the amount of teaching time lost over a year due to the exams. He promised to review this with Naomi and Bosco.

The School is very keen for Visit 2016 to proceed and we agreed that the first two weeks of August would be the ideal time for this since the last week of July is given over to exams. The focus would be teacher training. We need to decide whether pupils are needed at the school to aid the training and practice of new teaching methods and, if so, then Naomi will call pupils back to school for the middle two weeks of August. Whether this is needed or not, pupils from classes 4 and 7 will be in school to prepare for their national examinations.

I emphasised the desire of Hope for Tanzania to focus on improving the quality of education rather than quantity of pupils and this point was understood by Naomi, Elisa and Bosco. However, HFT would support increasing pupil numbers if it helped the school to become financially independent. HFT needs to make financial projections, based on increased pupil numbers, to see whether this is a worthwhile way to proceed. Whether or not it seems clear that it is difficult for any private school to become financially profitable and most now rely on other business ventures to increase income. One business that Naomi has started recently is to sell maize to local schools and people after buying it at a low price and she now has a small grain silo in the yard. If a further 5 silos are bought, capacity and profits can be increased and other staple foods sourced. I asked Naomi to forecast whether these additional silos will provide sufficient income to raise teacher salaries to more reasonable levels since their pay remains low and is a constant irritation for staff.

In the short term, administration offices need to be built to house the head teacher, deputy director and administrator which will allow the library to be used for its primary purpose. The toilets need to be refurbished and extended as they are of a very basic design and have been the source of many complaints from parents. This project was viewed by Bosco as being top priority for building. It is unlikely that HFT will have substantial funds in the next five years to allow a first floor building, incorporating additional classrooms and an art, craft and music centre, to be constructed. The school needs an additional bus to alleviate the crowding of children during the daily school runs and to reduce safety risks. The estimated cost of a mid-sized bus is TSh18M (£5500).

I spoke about transferring ownership of the school to a trust which is independent of the Massenges although this did not meet with their agreement as they plan to pass the school on to their children as a legacy. It is most likely that Felicia will become a non-resident Director with Teddy providing financial and accounting expertise once she has completed her degree. This intention demonstrates that the future management of the school will inevitably become more independent than at present as no Massenge family member will be involved in its day-to-day running. It will be worth re-visiting this area of ownership in order to secure strategic advice from other people who have business, educational and spiritual expertise as this advice may not be forthcoming if the school remains family owned.

Additional needs of the school, in addition to those described above, are 5 basic music keyboards (e.g. Casio ToneBank MA120, 4 octaves) for Bosco to teach pupils, Christian songbooks with music, an external hard drive for the repaired school computer, more reading books and teaching resources. I have the following concerns about the school: lack of tangible evidence that the head teacher is making a difference (review in March), weak financial position with the school needing to rely on sponsorship fees and non-school income sources, low teacher salaries, high dependency on exams which reduces teaching time and lack of progress for internet connection.

I discussed starting an enterprise group at the school and Bosco was keen for this to happen so that he can develop what he has already started. Bosco has already taught one girl in class 6 to make batiks which has allowed her to buy a school uniform with the profits. Bosco has also taught 6 parents how to make batiks and they are now running small businesses. I expect a small group of 5 pupils to be set up soon to implement this proposal.

Pastor Deo

Felix and I visited Deo Rugaba (Pastor Deo) in Kiomboi, Singida over a three day period. We were most impressed by his fervour for the work of the Lord in this semi-desert, rural and spiritually needy area. He lives a simple lifestyle in a rented unfinished house which is furnished in a very



basic way. He has two plastic chairs and a bed although he prefers to sit and sleep on the floor. We were amazed by how little sleep he needed as he went to bed after us and woke in the early hours of the morning. He spends much time praying and meditating which show his dedicated and focussed evangelist heart. He is exceedingly humble and took great delight in serving us and others throughout our stay. He embodies the missionary spirit in a way I have rarely seen and is keen that there are no barriers between him and the people he is seeking to reach. His missionary calling allows him to combine an adventurous spirit, a wide range of practical skills,

a resourceful nature, a pastor's heart and the zeal of an evangelist. He gives glory to the Lord for all

that he has experienced and seen in Singida. Deo is loved by so many people who don't want him to leave the area. He is willing to adapt and become all things to all people so as to win them for Christ. His Muslim neighbours freely use his house for cooking, eating, watching TV and drawing water from the well and clearly see the hope and peace that his faith gives him.

We went with him on numerous trips to villages and into people's homes, always taking a lot of Christian literature with us which we gave out freely. One of the church elders (Ema) came with us on most of the trips and Pastor Benjamin, the leader of the TAG church in Kiomboi, was



also a frequent help. This was the mission team. We visited some girls who were prostitutes and Deo spoke to them about the Lord, which resulted in one girl becoming a Christian. Another of the group had become a Christian a few weeks ago which was giving her the strength to turn away from her previous life. In the same village, we visited another home where the husband had recently become a Christian but continued to struggle with cigarettes and a sense of hopelessness. Deo and Pastor Benjamin spoke to him and we all prayed for him to know freedom and purpose. He came to church on Sunday and I had the opportunity to speak further with him.

We visited a family where the son had been cursed by a witch doctor which had resulted in him being given a severe mental illness. He had also lost sight in one eye due to an accident suffered whilst he was being "treated" by another witch doctor. The father was distraught as the family had become desperately poor and hopeless as a result of the significant money he had spent on a cure which had never occurred. We sought to encourage them by saying that only Jesus could answer their needs and give hope. We prayed for deliverance for the son, hope to arise in the family and for the faith of another backslidden son to be restored.

We visited another village where a girl, Yobwe, who is married to the community chairman, had become a Christian 3 months earlier and, through her witness, had brought 4 others to Christ. One of these conversions had been remarkable and the story spread through the village awakening interest and producing more fruit. Whilst the chairman has become sympathetic to the gospel, as he sees its power, he is not yet willing to become a believer as he does not want to get rid of his charms. Due to the number of recent conversions through the work of the Holy Spirit, the village really needs a church planted and a building constructed.

Deo has planned four half day training sessions for pastors from 10 churches together with 10 of their members on November 25th to train Christians in evangelism. His aim afterwards is to set up mission teams in each of the churches. "The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few." Pastor Benjamin believes that 50 people would become Christians each month if more people were visited and preached to since the Holy Spirit continues to work powerfully in the area. His church, where we preached on the Sunday, was completely full and he has plans for a 300 seater one to be built whose cost is estimated at £28,000.

We visited many more homes during our visit; the pattern being Deo talking to people about God's good news and often leading them to Christ. We would then pray for them and leave literature for them to read. Most people were already known to Deo so follow up will be done by phone or further visitation. For some people the main barrier to progress into the new life is a sense of unworthiness about going to church meetings particularly if they think they need to sort out a specific sin in their life before so doing. One example of this was the lady who brewed beer from maize but feared her income drying up if she gave it up. Her daughter made a decision to become a Christian during our visit but the mother didn't think she would be accepted in church because of her lifestyle. She knew she needed to find an alternative source of income to support her family and this was keeping her from becoming a Christian.

In another home visit, Deo witnessed to a lady and both she and her father, who was very ill due to HIV/AIDS, made commitments to receive Christ into their lives. It was clear to me that the journey for a person to become a Christian in Tanzania can be very short, due to their keen spiritual awareness. However, their journey through discipleship is often a long one as they have many areas which need to be sorted out due to the activity of evil spirits or a chaotic lifestyle.

I talked with Deo about him starting a business in the less risky areas of agriculture and animal husbandry. Whilst the financial return from these businesses may not be so great it may be sufficient for him and suitable for other people. Deo has tried much higher risk ventures (e.g. tendering for a construction project) but unfortunately these have not been successful. The challenge for him is to maintain his focus on evangelism, as this is the work God has called him to, whilst not becoming financially dependent on HFT.

The TAG church of Pastor Benjamin is full of materially needy people who scrape a living but only just. Starting a microfinance loan scheme would be of great benefit to the members so I asked Deo to draft a constitution for the group for HFT to review prior to making a funding decision. The church had no song books or musical instruments. Most people did not have a Bible. But the Christians were vibrant and full of love to



each other. Five newly born Christians were in church on the Sunday when we preached and were



given the opportunity to speak about their faith. Pastor Benjamin, who is a godly man with a great appetite to learn and serve God, has few study resources and requested a laptop, Bible dictionary and concordance as well as Christian books.

We met Zaraighi, a young Christian who is looking after her younger sister, who is ill due to excessive drinking of home brewed alcohol. Both parents have gone off and don't help their daughters so it is entirely down to Zaraighi to work and support her sister and pay for her medical expenses. Late on the Sunday afternoon we travelled to a village where a football match was due to be played. Deo preached to the

crowd of young men, Felix prayed and we gave out literature. About 10 young men gave their lives to Christ and will be followed up by Deo and another pastor. During our visit to Kiomboi we saw about 20 people become Christians which was truly wonderful to witness.

My final reflections are that Deo has been truly called by God to be a missionary in Singida and is devoting himself to the task of evangelism. He is living in a very humble way and working with great fervour to extend the kingdom of God in a dark place. Ideally Deo should continue to work full time as an evangelist but as HFT does not have the funds to support him long term, and we believe that it is wrong for him to become financially dependent on us, he needs to set up a lower risk business than the ventures he tried before. I believe that God intends us to use the great wealth we have received to help people like Deo rather than spending it excessively on ourselves or in any way that does not extend the kingdom of God on earth.

Pastor Stephen Osinde



After my early 2015 visit to Tanzania I reached the following conclusion, which is printed in the visit report: "From the two times I have met Enast [Prof Enast Chaggu] and Stephen [Rev Stephen Osinde], the view of Felix [Massenge] and the strong recommendation of a friend in the UK who has known the couple for many years, and is herself well known by the Dar church, I believe that they are honourable and trustworthy people. I recommend that we

keep in touch to determine the way to work together in this challenging work." Felix and I visited Enast and Stephen to better understand how we should work together. We enjoyed rich fellowship with them and other pastors over a 4 day period. Stephen is the founding pastor of a number of churches in in Dar and other African countries and has initiated a network of pastors. Through his and Enast's support, an exciting work amongst unreached people has been started which is already showing great potential. With additional funding it can be a significant blessing to many more people.

A group of independent pastors in Dar have formed a network under the guidance of Stephen whose purpose is to encourage each other in their work, to pray and to share experience and spiritual giftings. About 25 pastors meet monthly on a Saturday morning with the number growing each month. We were privileged to attend one of the meetings and have the opportunity to share a message from the Lord and to pray for them. The needs we heard were for spiritual breakthrough

in the lives of church members and the communities they serve, for financial help to start small businesses to reduce their own poverty and that of the church members, to start helping each other in spiritual areas where one pastor is gifted but the other is not. There is also an urgent need to evangelise and disciple the youth of Tanzania. Most of these pastors are very poor and relatively uneducated with a low level of Bible training. As their churches are not part of one of the large denominations they do not have access to Bible training schools and other support. Nonetheless they are fully committed to building up God's kingdom in Dar and are slowly seeing their churches grow. At present the churches are generally small with some being based in largely Muslim areas.

We travelled to Mlandizi, which is 60km west of central Dar, where Stephen and Enast have purchased a 9 acre plot which has been cleared of trees and scrub by Pastor David Omondi, one of

the pastors in the network, who lives on site in a house which he built. The plot is situated in a Muslim area which is also populated with Maasai. The vision is first to build a small church for the community as already there is a small gathering of Christians who meet in Pastor David's house. There have been physical healings and an increasing interest in the gospel from the pastor's Muslim neighbours. The major part of the vision is to build a small Bible school with basic accommodation that pastors from Dar can



attend to receive Bible training and mentoring. The approach to be used is for pastors to attend the school for 3 days each week for a year (certificate) or two years (diploma). They will return home and to their churches over weekends to put into practice what they have learnt and to develop their microbusinesses. At school they will receive training in the Bible, evangelism and church planting, in basic literacy and numeracy (as required) and in vocational skills and entrepreneurship. It seems a well thought out plan which stems from an ambitious and yet realistic vision. The syllabus for Bible training has already been written and there are enough pastors in the network, who are already trained at college, to be able to deliver the lectures and practical teaching. The immediate needs are for finances to buy an additional adjacent plot for future development (TSh6-9M) and to build the Bible school and hostel (cost unknown). There is no water on site so there is also a need to buy a large 10,000 litre tank which can be filled from a tanker. Pastor David also wants children books for pre-6 year olds to make school lessons more interesting. Funds have already been received to build the modest church which will also be used to house the small pre-primary school for 15 children which the pastor runs.

One challenge in evangelism is that as new Christians are born, they need to be discipled by trained pastors and established in churches which requires new buildings to be constructed. There is no point funding evangelism without being prepared to fund the establishment of new churches whether in Kiomboi or in Dar or in any other unreached place.

On the way to Mlandizi we stopped for lunch at a restaurant where a girl was sitting whilst reading the Bible. She was the waitress. We invited her over to sit with us and Pastor Peter asked whether she understood what she was reading. He then proceeded to explain the passage and talked with her about Jesus and invited her to commit her life to him. She prayed an acceptance prayer. Praise God! The owner of the restaurant was a Christian so we told her what had just happened. Esnat took the girl's phone number for follow up.



At Pastor Stephen's and Peter's church (Oasis of Victory Faith Church) we met Asnath who had recently become a Christian from a Muslim background. She was a prostitute, as is her sister, with both of her mother and grandmother being witch doctors. After a miraculous conversion experience she had repented of her previous life, started going to church and on Sunday was full of joy as she worshipped God with dancing and singing. She is currently living at the pastor's house so that she can be protected from family influences. Although the family has rejected her father is pleased that she has turned away from prostitution as this brought shame on the

family. She left school before completing Form 4 but now wants to return to school to complete Forms 4-6 and learn English which will give her better prospects in life. The pastor wants to set up a beauty and cosmetics shop for Asnath and another girl to work in to prevent them slipping back into despair and their old lifestyle and has asked us to fund this venture.

It was a privilege to preach in Pastor Peter's church and to experience the joy of Christians, many of whom are young in the faith. My recommendation is that we give a gift to Pastor Peter's church to alleviate the poverty of its members by improving their education and allowing them to start businesses. Also that we fund the start of a microfinance loan scheme for pastors in Stephen's network in Dar and we assist Stephen and Peter in their vision to build a Bible school at Mlandizi to provide training of pastors.



Njiro Secondary School

HFT decided not to start a Christian Secondary School at its trustee meeting in April 2015. However, there remains a desire to continue assisting Tuishime School pupils once they have graduated although this will not be easy to achieve as ex-pupils attend a wide range of secondary schools. I was told that Njiro Secondary School was the school that the majority of pupils go to but I found out that this is not the case as only 4 pupils have ever gone there. Most appear to go to private schools. Njiro School is the school that the education department assigns Tuishime School pupils to, as it is geographically the closest, although pupils can choose to go to a private school. However, unless there are exceptional circumstances, they cannot choose a different government school. So the big questions are "Would more pupils go to Njiro School if its academic standard improved?" and "Is it worth HFT investing in the school to continue influencing ex-Tuishime pupils in both academic and spiritual ways?" HFT trustees need to discuss this opportunity.

The recently appointed head teacher is a young, dynamic, Christian man who I met earlier in the year. My high opinion of him was further enhanced when I visited the school during this visit and discussed his ideas to improve it. He gave me a 5 year vision plan for the school which is ambitious and well thought through. He recognises that his future career depends on delivering the objectives in the plan which has made him highly committed to improving the school. Already there are some positive signs and the pupils and teachers are more motivated to improve discipline and educational standards.



The school has 3 impressive science laboratories, which were built under the recent government science initiative. Any new buildings required due to expansion in numbers above the current 450

roll will be paid for by the government. The main opportunities for HFT to assist the school are in the areas of computers, projectors, scientific equipment and library books.

Sponsored Students

Arnold SosPeter has just completed standard 7 at Tuishime School. He has consistently been the top student in each year and is exceptionally gifted in all subjects. However, his family is in a sorry



state as his father left his mother for another women, lost all his money and then sold the family house so that the mother was made homeless. Arnold has a brother, Brown, who lives at home and a sister, who lives with her uncle. The mother and 2 boys rely on financial help from the AOG church and a few casual jobs that she manages to find. They only have three rooms in the house - bedroom, lounge and kitchen. Sometimes they can only afford one meal each day. Naomi assisted Arnold at Tuishime School during the last few years as his mother could not afford the fees.

Once Arnold receives his exam results in December a decision can be made as to whether he should go to a private school or a government secondary school. I agreed that HFT would sponsor him on the grounds of exceptional talent and significant family poverty.

Brown SosPeter is brother to Arnold and has been accepted by St Jospeh's College in Arusha to study a BSci with Biology. Ultimately he wants to train as a doctor. Interestingly, Brown was a pupil at Tuishime School between 2001 and 2003 when Anne was his teacher. He is waiting to hear whether he has been given a student loan from the government to start the degree in January. Fees are TSh2M, the loan is TSh1.5M so he needs a top up of TSh 0.5M. We should consider paying £200 per year to assist him.



Thomas Godfrey was in the middle of Form 4 exams and by now will have completed his education at Arusha Secondary School. He is now 17 years old and has developed into a confident and



thoughtful young man. He will know his results in February and will then be assigned to a secondary school, ideally in Arusha, as he does not want to leave the area. He is keen to study science subjects at A'level and has a passion for physics. HFT, either directly or through sponsorship will support him during the next phase of his education. It will be interesting to compare his performance in the Form 4 exams with the stellar results he obtained in standard 7, particularly in mathematics as he was the top student in Tanzania.

Ibrahim Mwakagenda was first sponsored by HFT in 2010 after I met him in 2009. It was a one-off payment to help him pay for his school fees whilst at the Lutheran School in Morogoro. After 2010, I lost contact with him as he moved to a different school, completed A'levels and started a degree course in 2014. He contacted me via the HFT website, after a google search of my name, as he was both in financial need and wanted to renew contact. We have been speaking together through WhatsApp for a number of months so it was a real joy to meet him in Dar. Most of his relatives are Muslim although his mother, who is divorced, is a Christian currently living on Zanzibar. However,

she wants to move to the mainland as it is tough for a Christian on the island. Ibrahim is studying for a degree in Risk Management at the Institute of Finance and Management and has successfully passed his exams apart from mathematics which he will have to retake next September. This means that he cannot yet progress into the second year. Previously he has had many responsibilities in school and at University which has helped him develop leadership skills. He is a member of a Pentecostal church in Dar. Ibrahim has developed into a wonderful young man who is thoughtful, loves the Lord and is committed to his studies and to starting a business. Due



to the poverty of his mother, Ibrahim needs financial support as well as prayer and encouragement to find his way through the complexities of his family and other life challenges.

Shamsa Chande attended the same school as Ibrahim where she was in the same year as him. HFT has sponsored her on two occasions since 2010 although I have had no direct contact with her, as



all gifts were passed to her through Caroline Shao. I renewed contact with her just before my visit to TZ and it was a real joy to see her again and for her to meet Ibrahim who she had not seen since 2010. Shamsa has an inner joy, developed from her deep love for Jesus which radiates outwards. She is involved with Winners Church in Dar, singing in one of the choirs as well as solo, and being part of some study groups in church. She has a beautiful singing voice although I have yet to hear her sing. She has just started a BA in accountancy at TIA after having completed a diploma over the last two years. Shamsa's family is Muslim although she became a Christian in 2005. The family have applied a lot of pressure on her since then, which has caused her to become disadvantaged, as a result of her decision to follow Jesus. Her parents have both died so

she does not have any supportive family members to help her. At the present time she is hoping to reach settlement with her brother on selling the father's house so that she can benefit from its sale after which she will be financially independent.