

Rainbow House of Hope Uganda

Children's Voice

Geoffrey Tumusiime a founder member hands over the certificate to the participants in a badminton tournament during the Social Gathering

A Trip to Rwanda

Geoffrey, 24.05.2010

It was around 6.30 pm when we, the RHU members of the Brass Band, the two filmers Mathias and Andreas, Rachel and Philipp started walking to the bus park. At 11.23 pm the bus (Nyange transporters) started its way to Kigali. At exactly 4 am we reached Katuna boarder. Even though it was so cold and a little bit dark everyone was supposed to move out to the immigration office to clear the documents. The only thing we saw of Rwanda were its huge hills covered with fog, it was really beautiful. From the border we continued and reached Kigali bus park (Nyabugongo) at exactly 8 am. Everyone moved out of the bus as we were waiting for a van to bring us to Kimishagala center where we stayed for two nights. On our arrival everyone was hungry and very tired. We were given breakfast and everyone went to rest. After some hours of resting we woke up and took a walk around. What surprised us was that everyone welcomed us, but in a different language which we couldn't understand. "Amakulu jawe?", "Omezute?" (How are you?) - we were just smiling as well

as laughing since we didn't know the meaning. Finally we called Suzan to come and interpret for us and she told us they were greeting us and taught us some greetings too. Late in the evening, at around 7.30 Rwandan time, we went to a restaurant to have supper. After that we went back to Kimishagala center and prepared ourselves for the next day which was the day of the function. Early in the next morning we had breakfast and then moved to a place where a bus picked us up and took us to the place where the function started from, Nyarutarama. We moved quite a long distance while playing music and as we were about to reach our final destination it started raining but this couldn't stop us from marching. As we were moving we enjoyed the beautiful scenarios of Kigali which are very different from those of Kampala since the area is hilly. When we reached the Brass Band continued playing and RHU comedians (Kamyia, Richard and Geoffrey) also per-

formed. The two film makers covered every activity taking place. After performing we went for lunch and afterwards everyone was free to explore the city, others went back to perform on the stage. When time reached for supper we went and ate and after we all went back to the centre to prepare for the next day which was our day of returning to Kampala. Very early in the morning we went to the bus park and booked space in "Akamba Bus" which transported us back to Uganda. This time everyone was tired and nearly slept up to Kampala. We reached home at around 5.45 pm.



The Rainbow Brass Band in Kigali

The Bicycle Tour to Jinja

Moses, 24.05.2010

What a tour it was - the bicycle tour from Rainbow House of Hope to Jinja. The journey begun at 7 am in the morning but our first experience was bad when we arrived in Kabalagala and Okellos bicycle got spoilt. We had to leave him behind and proceed our journey up to Lugazi. It was raining heavily and we had to stop and wait at shops until Okello arrived. Then we had to get a place to spend the night. I thought I was going to sleep on a bed and a mattress and so did everyone but to our surprise it was a class room with benches for us to sleep on. We had nothing to do but to proceed with the sleeping up to the next morning. Early in the morning we packed, had breakfast and

set off to Jinja. Leaving Lugazi we split into three groups because of different interests. Philipp and Joram wanted to use the new road they discovered on the internet, me, Martin, Friday, Joseph, Charles, Okello and Sadati wanted to use the main road. As we set off Sadati, Friday and Charles remained behind because one of the bicycles had to be repaired. We all met in Njeru in Jinja and set off to Jorams place. The place was so comfortable and Jorams parents took good care of us. We spent a night and in the morning set off to Bujagali to my grandmothers place. We got there and they warmly welcomed us with tea and groundnuts. Later they took us to the place we were supposed to sleep and it

was so comfortable. Everyone was so tired that I had to wake them up like little kids for supper. The next morning we had breakfast and some of us set off to a distant place called Chyomya where my elder grandmother stays. In Chyomya fruits are so many and we ate until we got tired. When we got there the guys wanted sugarcane and I brought one sugarcane per person but it wasn't enough so I took them to the sugarcane plantation. To our biggest surprise we got three kilo of posho for lunch - for only 5 guys. The others enjoyed in the meantime the Nile, swimming and even finding a tortoise. In the evening we met in Bujagali again and slept after having fish, posho and sweet potatoes for supper. The next morning we set off back to Kampala.

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A Filmteam at Rainbow

Leonie Benker, 20.05.10

From Sunday the 25th of April till Friday the 14th of May the Rainbow House of Hope Uganda had two very special visitors from Germany - Andy and Mathias. They were sent by the German Rainbow Association to make a movie about Rainbow, especially for promotion and education purposes during Mr. Mwase's promotional visit "Africa Meet Europe 2010". Preparations for these exciting three weeks had been going on for a long time already and when the two filmmakers finally arrived they had a full programme every day. Unfortunately they were too late to visit the children at school - the eruption of a volcano on Iceland had polluted the air with ash so that all flights in Europe had to be cancelled. Therefore Andy and Mathias could only arrive in Uganda on Sunday, even though their arrival was planned for Tuesday. School had ended on Friday but lucky enough Rainbow

housed a holiday school on their compound and Andy and Mathias were allowed to film them. There were many things going on during those weeks - several interviews with the administration, board members and the founders of Rainbow, tours to Rwanda and Jinja, a parents- and board meeting, a debate about HIV and a big social gathering with comedy, modeling, eating-competition, dancing, games, music, football and fun. Also many projects were introduced, the football team got filmed

during their training and several children were visited at their homes. Furthermore Timo's participation in a concert at Club Rouge got recorded and the Brass Band produced the soundtrack for the movie. Besides their busy work plan Andy and Mathias had always some time to talk to the members of RHU and spent some good time with them.

We want to thank Andy and Mathias for their work and we're very excited to see the result of the last weeks hard work!



Mathias



Andreas

"Two Bazungu running around with heavy bags and stupid hats"

Mathias, 25.05.2010

When we arrived in Kampala early in the morning of April 24, we weren't so sure what to expect from the next 3 weeks. None of us had ever been to Uganda or Africa be-



Andy, Micheal and Mathias at the river Nile

fore. Our aim was to shoot a documentary film about Rainbow House, to show people in Uganda and the world what Rainbow is about. We were warmly welcomed and just after a few days of filming it felt as we were already part of the Rainbow community. But surely, two Bazungu running around with heavy bags and stupid hats is no common sight in the neighborhood of Nsambya. Traveling to Queen Elizabeth National Park for two days and day trip to Jinja with Michael were highlights in our small tourist program. The best thing was going to Kigali with the Brass Band. Soon we realized

that our time was running short and we still needed to record some of the interviews, rainbow-activities and music.

For us it has been three weeks of exciting experiences and it was great fun. From July on we will work on editing the film and it will be finished in September when Michael is coming to Europe.

When we just had arrived, I think Martin said: I will miss you. I didn't know what he meant, but now, after three weeks of living together with so many friendly, warm hearted people, it is very clear. We are missing you too.

Education: Republic of Rwanda

Susan, Teddy and Leonie 26.05.2010



Flag of Rwanda

President: Paul Kagame

Total area: 10,169 sq mi

Population (2009 est.):
10,473,282

Capital and Largest City: Kigali

Monetary Unit: Rwanda Franc

Government: Republic

Geography: East-central Africa, surrounded by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Tanzania, and Burundi

People: The inhabitants of Rwanda can be named as Hutu, Twa (Pygmy people) and Tutsi. While the Hutu and Tutsi are often considered to be two separate ethnic groups, it is remarkable that they speak the same language, have a history of inter-marriage and that their culture is very similar. Traditionally the differences between the two groups were occupational - agricultural people were considered Hutu, while the cattle-owning elite were identified as Tutsi.

History: In 1890 – 36 years after the first European visited the country - Rwanda became part of German East Africa, but after the First World War it became a Belgian League of Nations mandate. The country declared independence on 01.07.1962, it was under Hutu rule. In 1994 the plane of the current President Juvénal Habyarimana, who was a Hutu, got shot and he died. This was the beginning of a

genocide which lasted ca. 100 days – est. 1.000.000 Tutsi and moderate Hutus were killed by Hutu extremists. A militia called Interahamwe and radio propaganda was the leading force of the genocide, but also ordinary Hutu joined in massacring their Tutsi neighbors. Although the slaughter seemed to be a spontaneous outburst of hatred, it has in fact been carefully organized by Hutu extremists.

No country came to the Tutsi's rescue, the UN even withdrew nearly all of their soldiers and the few who remained – some soldiers of UNAMIR commanded by General Dallaire - were not allowed to use their arms.

In response to the genocide the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) – a refugee rebel army based in Uganda - invaded Rwanda and a civil war started. In reaction to that more than one million Hutu fled across the border into Zaire (now the Demo. Rep. of Congo).

The Interahamwe reorganized themselves in refugee camps and started attacking Rwanda again. This and Zaire's threat to exile their own Tutsi, led to Rwanda's support of rebel forces commanded by Laurent Kabila, who overthrew Zaire's Mobutu Sese Seko. The president of the new government of Rwanda was Pasteur Bizimungu, soon replaced by Paul Kagame, one of the Tutsi rebel leaders. Their first challenge was to deal with the consequences of the genocide. Traditional courts – called gacacas – were established to deal with the incredible high number of ordinary Hutu genocidaires. In Sept. 1998, a UN tribunal sentenced Jean Kambanda, the former prime minister of Rwanda, to life

in prison for his participation in the genocide. He became the first person in history to be convicted for the crime of genocide, which was first defined in the 1948 Genocide Convention after World War II. Since 2003 Rwanda has a new constitution that includes a balance of political power between Hutu and Tutsi. In the first presidential elections since the Rwandan genocide, Paul Kagame, who had served as president since 2000, won an overwhelming victory. In June 2004, Pasteur Bizimungu, the Hutu who had served as president between 1994 and 2000 was sentenced to 15 years in prison on charges of inciting ethnic hatred. Many critics suspected the trial to be politically motivated.



President Kagame is expected to win the upcoming election in August this year, although more and more critics raise their voices that Rwanda under Kagame is not a democrat but that he's more or less a liberal dictator.

Regular Activity: Girls Group



Modeling during the Social Gathering

Susan, 23.05.2010

At Rainbow, we have different activities like sport, music and many others. But one activity has taken the girls' hearts - the girls project.

This project was introduced by Micheal Mwase, when one of the volunteers, who was really interested in dancing started training the girls. She was called Veronika. The thanks goes to who started

and Rose, who was also a volunteer and started the work of influencing and mobilizing the girls about different types of dances, which up to now we perform on functions at Rainbow like social gatherings, Christmas, and other days. We practice different dances like "western music" and African traditional dances, which is doing well.

We not only dance, but we also have other activities like sports, cooking, crafts and counseling by our good friends, including volunteers like Leonie and other community members.

Special thanks to Micheal, who gave us a room at the new Rainbow House. Before we used to go at a neighboring youth center, called "YES Center", but it was not easy, because sometimes we used to find the room occupied and it was tiresome to move up and down

with the girls, but now everything is okay, because we have our own room, which was painted recently with the girls and the Go Ahead!-Members.



Young members dancing during the Social Gathering

Language Course, Lesson 1: Greetings

Deutsch	Luganda	English
Hallo	-	Hello
Wie geht es dir?- Gut	Oli otya? - Bulungi/ Gyendi	How are you? - Fine
(Guten) Morgen	Wasuze otyanno? - Bulungi	Good morning
(Guten) Tag	Osiibye otyanno? - Bulungi	Good Afternoon
Was geht?/ Wie läuft's?	Ogamba ki? /Stoli ki?	What's up? / Any news?
Gut gemacht	Jebale (ko) <i>used as a greeting</i>	Well done
(Gute) Nacht	Sula Bulungi	Good night
(Danke) gleichfalls	Kale, nawe	Thank you, likewise
Tschüss/ Auf Wiedersehen	Weeraba	Goodbye
Schön dich zu sehen	Nsanyuse okukulaba	Nice to meet you
Willkommen zurück	Kulikayo	Welcome back
Bis Morgen	Tulabagane enkya	See you tomorrow