



Newsletter of Jeff, Diane, Daniel & Alyssa ~ living and working in the Persian Gulf & Central Asia.

I Have Never Seen Anything Like This ~

Ban Ki-moon, secretary general of the United Nations, said during a press conference, looking visibly shaken, ***"This has been a heart-wrenching day for me. In the past, I have visited many natural disasters, but I have never seen anything like this."***

The flooding began six weeks ago in Pakistan. Unfortunately, the end is not yet in sight. Floodwaters continue to expand in the southernmost and lowest-lying Sindh Province. Numbers of people affected and houses destroyed have increased significantly in recent days due to ongoing flooding. New displacements reported on a daily basis. And rain and thundershowers, at times heavy, are expected over a number of areas in Sindh Province in the coming days.

Some big numbers:

- 20,500,000 people have been affected
- 1,800,000 houses have been destroyed or damaged
- Over 1,200,000 households have neither received emergency shelter material nor will they be included in the distribution of the shelter material that is currently in the pipeline
- 1,800,000 people are being housed in makeshift sites, mostly schools
- 9088 schools have been destroyed or damaged; an additional 5790 schools are being used as shelters



In addition to the 5790 schools that have been pressed into service as shelters, there are 5200 formal and informal camps where the displaced people are staying (3000 in the Sindh Province alone). The majority of



of the adults in the camps and schools are women with children, as large numbers of men have remained in their home areas to take care of property or livestock. Unaccompanied children are becoming more of a concern in Sindh Province. Schools are supposed to open in the next few days, meaning many people will be displaced a second time.

Even if the water all went away today, the situation would continue to be dire. Stored seeds for planting have been lost. Livestock were washed away. We and our local partners will be engaged in responding to the spiritual and physical needs of the people for a long, long time.

People pulled up onto a truck to flee flooding...

Summer '10 the Best I Ever Had ~

That is what Alyssa says about the three months from the end of 10th grade on June 14th to the start of 11th grade on September 14th.

Diane went to America June 15th to be with her father at Mayo Clinic. Daniel and Alyssa left the UAE for California on June 22nd. Jeff stayed on at home until July 2nd. The kids worked lavender and played with Diane's sister's family, before joining us for the town



parade and related traditional festivities over the 4th of July weekend in Jeff's hometown, Osceola, Iowa. Back to Lincoln, Nebraska for Daniel's new student orientation at the University of Nebraska. On the way to a week-long conference in Virginia, we spent time with Diane's mother and step-father on the left edge of Iowa, Jeff's parents in the middle, and Diane's father and step-mother on the right edge of Iowa. As we do every

two years, we took Amtrak from Virginia to Washington DC, to visit our homeless friends there (from Jeff's days living with and working on behalf of the homeless). Too much fun! Then back to Iowa for a rainy run and, as usual, the Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa. Daniel rode all seven days and 442 miles; Jeff rode 5½ days and 355 miles. Two of Jeff's sisters rode with us, and Diane, Alyssa, Jeff's parents, and Emma the Beagle made up the support crew. (Alyssa rode a half day as well.) That was July. August was spent mostly in Lincoln, seeing friends, and doing some church speaking. Then – a huge family happening – Daniel entered university on August 23rd! He is studying chemical engineering. The many close friends and church family there in Lincoln are a huge blessing to us as parents, being so far away from him.



Alyssa at the County Fair
Jeff, Daniel, Diane with Alex in Washington DC
Daniel finishes RAGBRAI across Iowa

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News from Jeff & Diane

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Contact Information:

Phone numbers: (home) +971-6-2848337
Jeff: +971-50-8725466
Diane: +971-50-8725472
Skype: lavendercamel or caracasbrown
E-mail: caracasbrown@bigfoot.com
Facebook: all four of us