

Orphans First

Changing Children's Lives Through Christ—One by One

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Orphans First Update July 2009

Dear Orphans First Sponsors,



By the time you receive this update, I should be in Africa, God willing. My husband and I will be mostly in French-speaking Africa – including Benin where we have a program for impoverished children (Benin map on left, our children on right), and where we're looking to build a children's home. Many children live in precarious situations, and some even die, as the next paragraph illustrates.



Pastor Koudjo recently told me about a woman who died giving birth. The Benin people believe when a woman dies in labor, it's the baby's fault. Thus the baby's remaining family took the infant home—and neglected him. The baby died. This happens all the time, Koudjo says. But with the correct structure, a children's home, they could take these babies in and prevent this kind of agonizing horror. Thank you for praying with us that God's will be done in this area.



Meanwhile, I'm pleased to introduce another of our children in Grace Home, India—7-year-old Kareema Shaikh. When Kareema's father died, her mother had no means to care for her so she brought her and her older sister, Nagoora, to Grace Home. They were both in poor shape, with no means to be educated. But today all that has changed—thanks to your generous giving. Says Kareema, "... I was 4 years old then. I really love being here in Grace Home. I love learning new Bible songs and verses. My favorite subject in school is Telugu. My favorite flower is rose."

Thank you for helping Kareema and all our precious children in different parts of the world.

I would appreciate your prayers for our time in Africa. Please pray for:

- *our health (I already contracted Malaria in Africa years ago, & am not as strong now as then),
- *protection as we cross the borders by foot between Ghana, Togo & Benin (the heat & dirt make this hard),
- *finances to cover our trip (at date of writing, we don't have our plane fare),
- *souls to be touched, lives transformed, and people to see Christ in us,
- *that we'd hear God's clear direction regarding buying land, and building a home in Benin.

Thank you for your prayers and continued giving on behalf of the children.

Janey DeMeo M.A.

President & founder - orphansfirst.org

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