

CHAIN CARES FOR THE LESS PRIVILEGED

EVENT: DRILLING OF BOREHOLE IN UNGWA BAKI, ROGO LGA KANO STATE.

Date: 22nd June, 2010

Ungwa Baki is a remote village in Rogo local government area of Kano state, Nigeria. It has an estimated population of over five hundred people whose major occupation is farming and cattle rearing. Though they are from Kano state, Makarfi local government area of Kaduna state is the closest town they can easily access. The journey is normally done on foot, motorcycle or bicycles and lasts up to an hour on foot. The inhabitants of this village are Christians (ECWA) and speak Hausa language as their mother tongue. They are surrounded by four other smaller villages that are largely Christians and a handful Muslims but there is a peaceful co-existence between them. The inhabitants of these villages still practice one of Africans beautiful values which is communal living. The smiling faces, laughter and openness confirms their warm-heartedness which is typical of the African; always willing to accommodate strangers.

Living without basic social amenities such as hospitals, schools, good roads, electricity, water and telephones, Ungwa Baki is a microcosm of ancient Africa before the advent of civilization. Though they rely heavily on agriculture, these farmers still use crude farm tools like hoes, machetes, cutlasses and bulls. They crave for western education has led them to build two little mud classrooms where their children learn. Even so this school only opens at about 2pm; after every domestic and farm work must have been completed. This shows the place of education in the life of these people. They go to nearby villages where there are streams to prepare their nursery beds in readiness for the rainy seasons. This is

because they have only two little streams that dry up in the dry months of January, February and March. These streams also serve as a drinking place for their animals.

Water has really being a problem to these people until Rev Hayab, CEO CHAIN stumbled on this community during a conversation with a friend. CHAIN decided to do a survey of the village and realized how much they needed potable water. A well meaning individual decided to sponsor the project immediately. Construction went on smoothly and on the 17th June 2010, the work was completed and on the 22nd June 2010 the borehole was commissioned. It was not a big occasion but it was quite significant as the men left their farms to come and appreciate the efforts of the organization.

Women were not left out as they kept laughing and teasing one another. These housewives; Halima Dauda, Eli Ahmed and Esther Usman told how they trekked long distances very early in the mornings to the nearby village to get water from their steams. The children kept pumping water out of the pump in excitement.

Towards the end of the occasion, the community thanked CHAIN through their spokesperson Rev Iliya Ango. They pleaded with CHAIN to relate their living conditions to the larger society so they can also enjoy the benefits of technology. The CEO of CHAIN assured them of his interest in their community and prayed for positive responses. The King Kilishi Sarki sent words of gratitude through Ishaku Bako to CHAIN for considering his community as a beneficiary of their project.

Finally, Rev Hayab urged them to take good care of the facility so it could serve them well, he also wished the entire community well and prayed that similar developments should follow.

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