

August 28, 2019

This is a message and pictures from P. (who we've been praying for). It is very disturbing. I have been trying to find a means to send some monetary help, but it may well be too dangerous for M. to disclose a means to get it. Also, I think she is concerned about the security email.

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From P

Hi Mom,

It was good to talk to you and Dad tonight.

Please find below the message and accompanying photos I received from M. and my translation, which hopefully will be understandable (although the images only appear in the original document). The news is tragic, and some of the images are shocking, but this seems to be the people's stark reality there.

I have sent a message to M. about sending money, but she has not responded directly to my request for details about how to arrange the transfer of funds (perhaps due to security issues). I will keep trying.

I'm glad that she has your support. I'm sure that it means a lot to her.

Love P

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From M.

#### OUR NEWS

The armed conflict that has recently destabilized the chiefdom, one of the eight chiefdoms of the Territory, Province, has caused serious problems for women and children.

Indeed, during the troubled period, the population moved from their place of origin to settle down (in) and other (places) with certain host families.

In the sites they receive help from the international organizations also they themselves manage (to earn something) by doing odd jobs for private individuals.

Temporarily some men who have returned to their villages support their wives who remain in the sites where they are in difficult conditions.

In these sites the major problem we are seeing at the moment is the health of children and their mothers.

Lacking the means, the mothers look after the children with traditional products (herbal remedies?) without (proper) dosing, they tattoo the children's bodies (traditional tribal practice?) with unsterilized

blades; this is at the root of several cases of infant mortality, of which at least thirty cases are recorded every month.

In addition, their diet is poor, that is to say they lack rich nutritional values for the construction of the bodies of children from which we also witness problems of anemia which is the source of child mortality. Psychologically acute trauma of the patients is noted and emotional disturbances of the parents who require complete support.

Here are images of some children suffering from anemia and severe malnutrition at the APALA health center in chiefdom located at least seventy-five kilometers south of the capital of the Territory.

Apart from children, their mothers are also victims. In them we find cases of rape and also fistulous women who live with the stress and in the humiliation.

In case of emergency medical need, women have serious transportation problems, lack of motorcycle, bike, vehicle difficult to walk, people of good will help these women to transport them on the local stretcher.

Here is the woman being transported to Apala maternity hospital for delivery.

Health facilities are willing to accommodate the displaced sick but they also face difficulties, such as the limited means for restocking drugs, lack of appropriate materials for treatment of some specific case (rape, fistula and others) problem of energy source that can help for the conservation of medicine and blood which can help for the treatment of the children affected by anemia then the care of the caregivers and also the limited number operational health centers because the other health structures were destroyed.

In short, three major health centers were destroyed by the attackers with all the equipment.

In the operational health centers the reception capacities are limited, the patients sleep on the ground.