



# BTA News

*A Quarterly Newsletter of Bridge to Africa 2009:3*



*Newsletter: Valeria Giandomenico, Editor*

## *3<sup>rd</sup> Newsletter*

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Dear BTA members!

How are you doing?

I am ok, but I am late! I promised a newsletter after vacation time, but vacation finished a long time ago and I did not manage to come back to you on time! Why? Well... I am working very much and not only for BTA ☺. I am sure that it is the same for you! Can you forgive me? I hope so!! ☺

During summer time we did not have many meetings for the executive committee members. We had an informal one to summarize what it is very important for our future and to plan something that should have been completed by the end of October.

Well I can tell you that we succeeded to be on time ☺

**It's time to summarize for you what BTA did and experienced till now!**

We decided to write for all the members the summary of one year in action and I really suggest you to read it carefully. You will find that BTA is able to work properly!

We managed to give our honorary membership certificate to Badria Elamin during the Rap/Magic (Hiphop & Magic) social event of which you will find more news in the next page ☺.

We managed to summarize all our different activities in terms of achievements and planned new ideas. I will only spend a few words on two ongoing projects

1<sup>st</sup>) Project: "Tree planting in order to maintain a safe environment for future generations in Africa" has been activated trying to start the project in Ethiopia. BTA got in touch with Woldetensaye Integrated Community Development Association (WICDA). Our project leader was in Ethiopia to verify everything about the possibility to start the project last July.

We considered the budget that was needed to start, nicely provided by the head of WICDA. However, we realized that the request of money was so high to be out of question that BTA could provide the sum. Therefore, the members of the project group decided to continue to explore weather in Tefki, situated 35 km from Addis Ababa, next year we might be able to see many trees planted by women's organization in Ethiopia with supported by BTA efforts and funding provided by BTA members.....on going.....☺

2<sup>nd</sup>) "Project: "Abandoned Children in Africa-How can we help?" We have started our activity by considering abandoned children in Sudan. In Khartoum (Sudan), every day about 5 children are abandoned by their parents, this number will probably increase in the future☺! This is offering a lot of pressure on the homes that provide accommodation for the children mainly Maygoma and Sajjanna orphanages.



African Nature, by P.Sundin

The members of the project group had several objectives, such as:

A) To build a deep and realistic knowledge on the life of the abandoned children in Sudan; B) To find collaborative partners in Sudan and C) To initiate a group of BTA members who will follow the project activities in Sudan.

To try to fulfill these objectives, Afaf Kamal-Eldin (BTA Chairperson) and Adila Elobeid (Abandoned children project leader) visited Sudan last summer. Our members managed to get in touch both with governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including national and international NGOs.

First seminar on what, they have learnt for us is coming in November and we invite you to join ☺

Thanks to new acquired knowledge about problems and challenges a group of BTA member have planned their work for 2010. We have already discussed to try to send two Swedish volunteers to the home for disabled boys and the one for disabled girls. We would like to start collaborating with a Department of Psychology at a Sudanese University to further understand kids' problems. Furthermore, we have discussed with the Dean of Riyadh Modern schools the possibilities of starting "Sex Education".

We still have a lot of work to do. However, everything is on going..... :-)

Before telling goodbye, I will leave you with 2 special questions where did P. Sundin take the pictures on page 1 and 2? Thanks Peter for the pictures.

It is now time to send my best wishes for an active fall and winter that will take us to 2010, at least here in Sweden. I will also try to update you about BTA life and I promise to answer my last questions if you did not manage to understand where the images come from.

Best regards,  
Valeria Giandomenico

## *Hip hop & magic event, 15 August 2009*



Local Uppsala Hip Hop group "Eurokids" managed to amuse the audience with songs and poems. Furthermore, Dr. Alkwin Wanders entertained everybody with many tricks and jokes working as an established magician.

Thanks to the effort of a few BTA members, Dr. Alkwin and Euro Kids, 43 adults and 57 seven young kids enjoyed an event where magic attractions and music fused perfectly to let people to see each other in the names of friendship and different form of arts. Vegetarian Sudanese sandwiches with falafel, sauce and a drink have been served☺!

*Pictures from BTA Hip Hop and Magic Event, August 2009*



## *Upcoming Events*

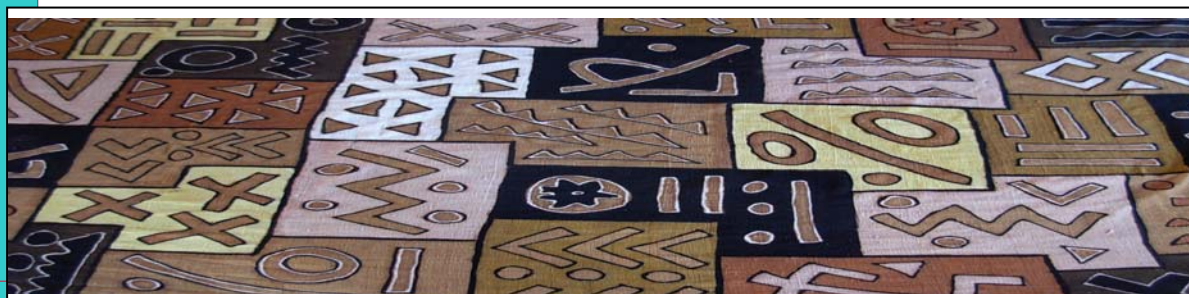
*BTA's Annual Meeting is held on 27 October 2009  
at Bredgränd 14, Uppsala (19:00-21:00)*

*Seminars on Sudanese Orphanages will be held end of November or  
beginning of December 2009 (contact [children@bridgetoafrica.se](mailto:children@bridgetoafrica.se))*

*The Zimbabwean Cultural Evening will be organised by BTA on  
28 November 2009*

*BTA Book Club will start October 2009  
(Contact [activities@bridgetoafrica.se](mailto:activities@bridgetoafrica.se))*

*There will be an African Film Festival "Filmer om relationen Afrika-  
Europa" organized by Cinema Africa in Stockholm 21-25th of October*



## **Bridge to Africa (BTA)**

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