

Seminar - Kenyan election crisis

Mattias and Rasmus talk a little. Prayer.

– What happened in Kenya after the election?

Esther Kadena, Children's Garden:

- I was home in Children's Garden and I heard people shouting and saw people running. Kikuyu were hunting people of other tribes and people were killed. They burnt houses. We prayed to God to save us.

Voices from Children's Garden and Homa Bay:

- Many people were killed and property was destroyed. Those who wanted help from the government got little help. Some children got tents to live in, some children went to school but some got diseases. We were praying.
- People didn't get much help. Most houses were destroyed. Many children were raped and many of them are pregnant.
- Some people didn't agree to the votes in the election. If you are from one tribe, people from other tribes could attack you. War started.
- The problems started in one second but are still happening today. Many were killed.
- Education was impossible. Children stayed at home where it was not safe at all. Houses were burnt. And there was not enough food. In Homa Bay about 800 people lost their lives.

Boyd, student from Nairobi:

- It all fell apart. Kenya is a tribal society, and people would keep to their tribes to be safe. People don't listen to the politicians, they "tribe" and tribes started attacking other tribes. All news stations were stopped so we didn't know what happened. I read in a paper about a man that had lost his wife and ten children.

You can't hide from your tribe, it is in your appearance and the way you speak.

– What were the original problems?

Voices from Children's Garden and Homa Bay:

- We are 42 tribes all struggling to be in power. It is a problem of tribalism.
- There are two leaders and when it is election they are both fighting to be the president. When the election result was announced violence started and people were killed. Now the leaders have shared the power.
- Each tribe wants power. Power was the thing that made all people fight.

– Advise to people with power:

- When someone is president we should try to be fair. As youth we should be strong. And leaders should be careful what they say.
- We should not fight for power we should fight for understanding.
- Money is nothing. You should not fight for money or power but for the rights of the people. We should sit down and listen to each other, and talk.
- People should be friends.

Boyd: Money is not very useful. A president who causes blood is not really a leader.

Poem by Homa Bay.

from the poem: "The life of the innocent is gone because of the stomach!"

– Questions from the audience:

- Is the war still there?
- No the war is not there now but people still fear to go back to their homes.

- Did all the city get burnt?
- Not the whole city, only some parts. Many shops were destroyed.
- The whole country was affected.

- How are people being helped?
- A lot of people are being helped by the youth.

- Do you have your parents?
- Some have, some don't.

Poem by Children's Garden.

from the poem: "Dear kenyans, you are sisters and brothers. Let us unite."

"Let the message be clear from our broken hearts."