

Rampage on Carcavelos beach

“It is difficult to understand why this kind of events happens”, writes the Portuguese newspaper Metro on June 20. “For many years the governments in office has not wanted to acknowledge the fact”. The result: We act as if we do not understand the foreigners and not care how the children of the immigrants are doing and what they need.”

Carcavelos is precisely the place where the Foundation has its headquarters. It is from there we work. The newspaper writes “It is scaring to know that the problem will not be solved at the first try”. It is easy to look down **on others**, but it is God’s wish that we should cooperate so that the poor can get a footing and not need to hate **us**.



A privilege to be able to contribute

In the guestbook Mary Sisson writes:

This was my first visit to the Maj-Lis Foundation as new community Liaison Coordinator at the Embassy in Lisbon. Maj-Lis shared with us the incredible work her Foundation does to help people in need. It is a privilege for us to be able to contribute to any small way to the life-changing help that this amazing organisation is able to provide.

Mary Sisson

“There are people in this world that are so hungry that God cannot reveal himself to them in any other way than in the shape of bread”, said once Mahatma Gandhi.

I want to thank all of you, who with your gifts have blessed God’s work. Thanks to your generosity we have been able to give love and attention in the “shape of bread”, to so many.

Layout: Samuel Johansson
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A Hope in the Dark

A Newsletter From

Maj-Lis Humanitarian Foundation in Portugal

September - November 2005



Rampage on Carcavelos Beach

In the summer heat they came running and screaming and begin taking whatever was within their reach. In the confusion that followed – people ran in all directions – it was impossible for the police to distinguish the muggers from those who just grabbed their things and started ran. In Portugal, people from the former colonies are not always very welcome. It appears that all people with foreign origin on the beach were judged alike and accused of being part of the gang.

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August 2005

Dear friends,

A human being is more than the time between the cradle and the grave. A human being is more than an angel **She is spirit**, soul and body. And life is a gift.

Many people seek during their whole life for a proof of gods existance. Nobody can see God and live, but he has shown himself like a fire that did not go out, or like a guiding star or like a dove that descended or by speaking from the heaven. **By reading God's word, we can find him.**

"What kind of teaching is this? Why, he gives orders with power and authority to the unclean spirits, and they come out! said all astounded to one another."

"The wind blows where it wants to and you hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it's going, he explained. That's how it is with everyone who has been born from the Spirit."



photo:Jeppe Gustafsson

"The light has come into the world, but people loved the darkness rather than the light. Why? Because their actions were wicked. For everyone who does evil things **hates the light and avoids it**, so that his actions won't be exposed. ...God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world, but rather so that through him, the world might be saved."

"**If you knew** God's gift, that is, who it is saying to you, "Give me a drink... the water I give him will become a **constant source within him**, welling up into eternal life!" (Luke 4:36, John 3:8, 19-20, 17, 4:10, 14)

From all these Bible quotations we see that a spiritual life in Christ is not to live with a code of laws under your arm, but to own a flowing stream of living water inside you.

How I wish to be able to share with others that secret.

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This year's summer drought

Portugal (together with Spain and Morocco) has suffered a devastating drought that in the long run threatens the economic development of these countries, according to the newspaper Dagen 2005/06/20.



The experts fear that the bad harvest this year will be the beginning of a dry period that can have an influence on harvests for many years to come, says TT web news. The fear is now that the drought will curb the economical growth and lead to inflation. The fires rage, the corn harvests are half of the normal and the farmers are anticipating great losses.

"It is a catastrophic year. We have never seen such a drought", says Carlos Duran who has farms in Spain and Portugal. Portugal has, with EU's mediation, bought corn from Hungary to ease the problem.

Fires beyond control

The firemen fight forest and grass fires burning beyond control. According to the authorities, the work is made more difficult by the "high temperatures and repeated changes of the direction of the winds". The largest fire, in central Portugal, raged with such intensity that the large motor traffic artery had to be closed for several hours. In order to keep that fire under control, aircrafts bombed the fire with water and the fire engines went in shuttle service.

More than two thirds of Portugal are calculated to be affected by the drought, and forest fires are twice as extensive as the average of the last five years.

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