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To: ron5dean25@me.com

PC

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Salaam from the Sensenigs

The last week has been an eventful one for us in Chad. The rains this year have been abundant throughout the whole region, causing the water to rise drastically in the Chari river that runs through N'Djamena. Last week, the waters flooded the FATES seminary campus, leaving it accessible only by boat and creating significant damage, particularly in the library. The seminary quickly moved its headquarters to a nearby church but is still struggling to find regular access to electricity to recharge cell phones and computers. Many of our colleagues both at the seminary and at the hospital have had to evacuate their homes due to flooding.

Pictured below: Before the flooding, Peter with FATES professors Joël Djimodoum, Caroline Ndong, Joël Marzou, Djedeyom Mbaindem Honoré, and Koumaba Moussa (top); the seminary campus as the waters rise (bottom left); director of FATES Dr. Esaie Lawman Mouna speaks to incoming students (bottom right).



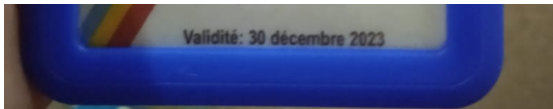


October 20, which was to mark the end of the interim government set up after the death of the late president, was a day of significant protests all over the country. Protesters were met with a violent crackdown by the local military forces, killing dozens.

In anticipation of the planned protests we kept the children home from school, and the French school eventually cancelled all classes. Christy worked at the hospital, where most of the staff were not able to leave their homes to get to work. Other staff at the hospital could not return home and were forced to work back-to-back shifts, separated from their families. The protests subsided after Thursday but a curfew has since been put in place with strict and violent enforcement. There are reports of house raids and arrests in retribution against the protestors.

We hear many personal stories showing that what is making the news is only the tip of the iceberg of what is being endured by our Chadian brothers and sisters. We are moved by the fortitude and courage of our Chadian friends and colleagues despite such difficult circumstances. Please keep the hospital and seminary staff and leadership, and the country as a whole, in your prayers.





In the midst of all this, we have many reasons to be grateful. Moses and Celeste are adjusting really well to their new school. Moses was even elected one of two class representatives. In September we moved to staff housing at the hospital, which has made it a lot easier for Christy to work regular shifts. Do not be fooled by the badge, she has not completed any doctoral work here in Chad, but has gladly joined a great team of Chadian "sages-femmes" (literally "wise women," in other words, midwives).

Our move to the hospital has significantly increased the commute to the kids' school as well as to the seminary. We are very grateful for the purchase of a sturdy vehicle from MCC Chad which has made all of these commutes possible.

Thank you for your support!

Contributions can be sent to either:

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