

**Monday, August 31, 2009**

**To whom it may concerns:**

I am Appealing, for Emergency Food Relief to the people of Panthou Thanybur Village, Aweil South, Southern Sudan.

**Dear fellow Americans:**

I am here by sending you this letter because of the situation I left behind me in Southern Sudan, particularly in my Village, known as Panthou Thanybur Village, where most of my relatives live. I desire to be able to help others who are in great need like these people, but I do not have the capability to do so. I have suffered for so long in that village many years ago while living the same kind of life these people are still living now. I would still remember vividly how I used to carry water from the open well to our family morning and evening, pounding the grain to produce some flour for one meal for the family, or in most cases when we did not have food just like this time of the year, my grandma would go in the forest to collect some edible leaves, roots, and fruits. When she get back home she would begin to boil the leaves or the roots for several times, because most the leaves and roots are bitter. After that process, the family would then have something to eat for that night, and the next day, she would then go through the same process. That was the situation that people have to go through until they would have something from their farm. Having lived that live myself and now, I am living different kind of life here in the States, it always causes me to think of the ways and means of helping not only my people in Panthou Thanybur Village, but also the rest of the disadvantaged and underprivileged people in Southern Sudan as well as around the world. I don't know about you, but as for me, my dream has always been seeking to serving my fellow human beings wherever and whenever I can; I want to be part of the solution that would end human suffering around the world. Sound like impossible for one person to change the world, right? Well, I would say that it is true that one person cannot change the whole world, but I also do believe that the idea of one person can change the cause of the history when others join in and work together toward achieving the same goals and the purposes for the so call Vision. If I was in a position to do anything to help these people, I would have done it. But now I am dealing with my immediate family matters that seem almost impossible for one person to solve. I am not only providing my immediate family with food assistance, but also with medical care as well as the accommodation for my fiancé, who is now under treatment in Kampala, Uganda. However, I know one thing, I know that there are people of good will and faith-driven individuals in this great nation, who are always willing to scarify their time, talents, resources, and even lives to help lift out the disadvantaged and underprivileged fellow human beings in their afflictions. I do believe that this is one of the most humanitarian needs that need your full participation; you have always done this in so many ways; I hope that you will consider doing the same thing to reach out to the people of Southern Sudan too.

Having communicated to you the reasons why you should take this appeal seriously, I am therefore, appealing to you to join me in helping the people of Panthou Thanybur Village and maybe the whole region of Aweil South, Southern Sudan, with food aides, medicines, and clean water this year. They are in desperate need of these three basic life support; the need of food assistance this year is great since they are not receiving any food donations any more from World Food Program. There was one of the food distribution centers, in Panthou-Thanybur area, at place called Tiaraliet, which was one of the World Food Program distribution centers in the previous years. But this year, the organizations brought little food to that location with restrictions on who should get help and who should not. They people who are in charge with the distribution claim that the only people who can get help are those who came back to Southern Sudan, either from one of the refugees camps in Eastern Africa or from the camps in Northern Sudan; they also said that they would only compensate the people who team up to work the farm, or the children who go to school would receive food assistance during the schooling session. These restrictions of course, left the rest of the population without hope. Since the initiation of Comprehensive Peace Agreements was signed, the Nongovernmental Agencies reduced their assistance to populations of the Southern Sudan because they claim that the government of the Sudan would do something to help its citizens. That idea is not working because neither side, the government of Southern Sudan or the government of the whole Sudan, mainly in northern Sudan, are doing nothing to help stabilize the situation. The situation for the vast majority is unimaginable especially for those families who do not have anybody holding apposition in the government or have somebody living in the developed nations. It was heart-breaking for me the time I visited my family. Most of the relatives, friends and neighbors used to come to me every day trying to ask for assistance, but I did not have much to offer them. I was hoping to buy some

foods for my family and the rest of my relatives who are living close to my Dad, but the little money that I had for that mission went into the wrong hands of unmerciful business man who tricked my cousin, after he received the money, that he was going to bring truck to load the food grain, and went and disappeared instead. I was left without words to express my shameful moments of coming from America and was unable to even help my immediate and extended families with something during such a critical time.

Due to these burdens, dear fellow Americans and brethren in Christ, I am requesting you to do something to help me to help my relatives and the rest of the people in Panthou Thanybur, Aweil South, Southern Sudan, to get something before something worse, like starvation, might happen to them. Losing a family member due to hunger is the worse and embarrassing thing in Dinka/Jaang Culture; it is even most embarrassing to the members of the immediate as well as the extended family that would have done something to prevent the incident. If you can put yourself in my place today, you will see what I am talking about and more importantly understand the burdens that I carry each and every single day. I have faith in you, and I know without doubt in heart, that with your support, this situation in Panthou Thanybur, Aweil South, Southern Sudan, will and can be stabilize through our collective efforts and dedication to serving one of the least brethren in Jesus' name.

I am always thankful for what the good Lord has done for me; by bringing me to this great nation on earth, and for allowing me to know most of you who are always on standby to scarify for the needy around the world. There is no better time to extend your generous support to the needy then this time to the people of the Southern Sudan, particularly, my relatives, friends, and neighbors in Panthou Thanybur Village where my father lives as well as the rest of neighboring villages in Aweil South, Southern Sudan.

Thank you so much for taking your time to listen to my story, and for your understanding in these matters. I look forward to hearing from you soon. May the good Lord bless you and your love ones; may He protect and guide you in all that you do. And please pray for the people of Southern Sudan daily, and ask the Lord to send them the relief they need at this critical time. If you have questions, you may contact me through my email: [wamadhol22@yahoo.com](mailto:wamadhol22@yahoo.com) or on my cell phone: (402)305-6488.

Sincerely Yours;

James Tong Akol