

Letter from Yared, Jinka Hospital, Feb 5th 2013

Thanks be to the Lord almighty

My three weeks stay in Jinka has been interesting as well as challenging. I have observed all the changing hospital environment and was part of it working with new staffs. A lot has changed since I left Jinka four years ago, at that time I was a general practitioner working with Dr Bjarte Tidemann Andersen, a Norwegian surgeon, now it is difficult to walk in his foot step. Now the operating theater lacks organization and the scrub nurses are new and it is demanding somehow. The patient flow is still high and I almost go to the theater everyday and the weekends are also busy with emergency cases, bullets and stab injuries are becoming common.

So far I have tried to list out the equipments we need urgently, like drill(manual or electrical), burr hole set (for head injury patients), cautery (diathermy) machine and suturing materials.

Concerning the patients in Jinka, the challenge is they arrive late and the treatment course lasts long and they will finally fail to pay their bills. Previously there was the poor fund where missionaries and individuals store money to support the poor. But after the project phased out , there is no such fund. Now I am strongly convicted to reestablish that system, whoever reads this newsletter can contact me on my address (yaredagidew@yahoo.com) or contact the Tesfa foundation (<http://www.tesfa-hope.org>) or Dr Bjarte (bjarte@tesfa-hope.org) to make a contribution. Last week one tourist who knew Dr Thorleif (the previous Norwegian surgeon) came to the hospital and payed the bill of two patients and they went home and we got two more free beds to help other patients. Patients are not allowed to go home unless they pay for their bill, so they occupy beds unnecessarily.

I have also observed that patients and attendants still hear the good news about Jesus every morning at the reception and this has been a trend from the beginning when the NLM project started. Kese (Rev.) G/Michael is still coordinating the work of God in the hospital, praying and preaching to the patients.

To my disappointment the baby who was born with a parasitic twin has died and I thank all of you for your prayer and concern. She got hospital acquired pneumonia and couldn't make it.

Yours

Yared Agidew