

Travel report by Dirk Fißmer

01/11/2008

I went to Pakistan in may 2008. I stayed there for four mounth. My Pakistan trip changed me. I met Mrs. Matto in the church and we talked aboud pakistan. Mrs Matto is the Princepal at a School in Pakistan. I Quickly discouvered that Pakistan is much different than Europe. Let me start by telling you about my Inspirations. After Mrs Matto told me abbout Pakistan my interest was aroused. I wanted to help the poor children in Pakistan. I wanted to do this in Pakistan and not in Germany. With the help of Mrs Matto Family I traveld to Pakistan. A very long Flight, with a 14 hour stop in Dubai. Boy, was I tired. From there I went to Lahore / Pakistan. I wasent controlled or checked at astoms, because I was a special gueest. I really brought a lot of things with me. Five kilogramms chocolate, 500 pairs of classes, which Apollo Optics supplied. I dident have room for my things. A special driver took me to the village were I stayed for four mounths. Was I in a Hotel, no, I was in the middle of nowwhere amongst the natives Even women were friendly to me. Life is simple, but there are happy. And finally I was able to visit the local school. The children were very exited. Mrs Matto made sure, that the children wouldnt be afraid. I will never forget this feeling The children came up to me with joy in their eyes, with really touched my heart. The children kept screaming repeatly Mr Dirk, Mr Dirk which I found to be very spezcial. And now I feel like I have 500 children. The older children already knew they ABCs after few hours. I visited the school every day and I slowly became a part of it. The children were always thirsty. Regular power failures . Can sed A lot of problems. No Power no Water. I solved this problem by building a water pump. It was easy to be helpful. It was too much work for one Man. So I promised the children that I would come back. Benches and chairs are urgantly needed. So the children wouth dont have to sit on the ground. Children get ill because of the high amount of dust in the air. There is no life or color in the school.

Painting the walls would be a good start. The markets which I visited were impressive. The People I met, were so nice and friendly to me. I saw how cows bathed in the River. All the lokal men jumped into the River and we all had fun together. Threre were no terrorist, just friendly hard working people. The only difference I saw, was the color of their skin. After four mounths it was now time to go home. What a touching Moment. The children all sang spezial songs in my honour. My suitcases were very heavy because I bought a lot of things. I could write a book about my experiences in Pakistan. Maybe one day. I can proudly say, that I cam a now a close friend of the Matto family. My dream is to return this year and fullfil my promises to my " adopted" children and Friends. I am Dirk Fißmer Thank you for your time.

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