

## Morocco And Winter Heating September 2006

We're sorry to report that serious issues of persecution continue against our brethren in Morocco. They report harassment and persecution of various forms. In a moslem country where there's actually a law making possession of an Arabic New Testament a crime, it's not surprising. All that our brethren report is corroborated by ample internet testimony- e.g. <http://www.jubileecampaign.co.uk/world/mor1.htm> reports that young men are being arrested for possessing and distributing New Testaments and for attempting to persuade Moslems to change their faith, resulting in detention with the following treatment:

- 1) Food deprivation - only being given a small piece of bread daily;
- 2) Interrogators extinguishing cigarettes on his chest;
- 3) Being stripped naked and forced to sit on a glass bottle;
- 4) Electric shock treatment in an electric chair set to low voltages, enough to induce pain but not enough to kill;
- 5) Dunked in filthy water during questioning"

Whilst our brethren have so far been spared these extremes their problems are still very real. And yet despite these difficulties they continue to preach very zealously, thus setting an inspiration for all of us- for maybe in our contexts we find it simply awkward or embarrassing to turn a secular conversation around to the things of God, or to stand up for our Lord and His ethics in the course of daily conversation. Our brethren are truly an example. They've been using the internet to good effect; the laws against possessing Arabic New Testaments and the general opposition to Arabic language Christian literature is overcome to a large extent by the possibility of reading such material on the internet. We're pleased to report the baptisms of brothers S,F,Z and SAID, and sisters B and W. They are largely from different towns throughout Morocco- from Tangier in the north down through Fez to Agadir. We do ask for your prayers for them all. We were able to give the book Wrested Scriptures to those who know enough English- they're so active in internet preaching that it's a handy reference for them in their work.



We also took with us some quilts knitted by sisters in Cape Town, South Africa, and were able to distribute these to relatives of our brethren- in the small towns bordering the Sahara desert, it actually gets very cold at night.



## Distributing Wrested Scriptures



On this trip, we were able to assist two brethren to go on a preaching tour of Morocco, visiting contacts and brethren. This was a very brave thing for them to do, and having travelled with us for a bit, we gave them support to be able to continue on a 2000 km round trip around Morocco. We're very proud of them and glad to have brethren with such initiative. Here they are about to set out, after a prayer together, from Marrakech Bus Station.



Back in north eastern Europe, we've begun work on the Winter heating project. We spent several hours looking at toilet solutions for the rural folk, the two places we went to both had websites, we learnt afterwards- <http://www.toitoi.lv/> and <http://www.aleksis-m.lv/menu.html> . Sorry the sites are in Latvian language only but you will get the idea. Quite expensive for what they are but the technology enables the waste to be hygienically extracted and properly used as fertilizer [with natural treatment] rather than dousing the holes in the ground with harmful chemicals which basically just kill the smell, ruin the ground and get into the local water cycle and damage the crops, which is what most of the folks are doing.

They're called eco toilets or bio toilets and imported from Germany, all very green. They use no water, which removes the plumbing problem, operating instead on the basis of a compost-like material. They cost about 500 GBP each [900 US\$] which is steep but they are well built and can be heated.

We observe the problem faced by many rural families in the very low temperatures of disposing of human waste. We believe that some of the outbreaks of illness they suffered last Winter would've been related to this problem.

Advantages of installing the bio-toilets are that they will

- a) give them a new toilet
- b) enable them and their children to have a heated toilet if we buy the cabin as well as the toilet
- c) provide fertilizer
- d) be more ecologically friendly and hygienic than some of the present systems or lack of them which some of them are using; human waste is a major source of disease in those places if not properly treated and
- e) not requiring running water to flush them they entirely bypass the huge problem of water freezing.

We believe these could provide ecologically friendly and practical solutions to problems faced in the rural areas by single sisters with young children, and elderly folk living alone, all of whom have nobody much to help them in repairing or maintaining the hole-in-the-ground toilets they use. Many of these in any case ought to be closed down and relocated. Anyway, have a look at the websites to get the idea.

We've also been able to start distributing firewood to elderly and isolated bre & sis, and will report later on this.

With love from your brothers and sisters of CCM