



## HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OF YOU!

Greetings from the Deaf Unit!

We here at the Deaf Unit would like to wish you a Happy Easter! We also want to share with you the good news that we are nearing the end of the construction of the Vocational Training Centre in 6<sup>th</sup> of October. We are so excited to move the workshops into the new building. Please pray with us that we will be able to finish this 1<sup>st</sup> phase and move into the new building! Bishop Mouneer and Engineer Magdy both visited the site in 6<sup>th</sup> October recently and were pleased with the progress that is being made (see photo).

There are many other exciting happenings here at the Deaf Unit this spring. In March, Some of the staff attended a 3-day peacemaking conference with other employees from the diocese where they received training on interpersonal peacemaking. At the end of February, Clair attended a conference held by the Ministry of Education on the challenges of integrated education. Rev. Faraj also travelled to Myanmar to give a training course for people there who work with the deaf.

On March 31<sup>st</sup> 5 deaf people and Clair will have a meeting with the Social Affairs Minister. They will talk with her about the challenges that they face as deaf people in Egypt. They especially want to talk about the lack of job opportunities and difference between their salaries and those of their hearing coworkers.

We ask that you continue to pray for Egypt and the work of the Deaf Unit during this time.



## TRAINING COURSE IN LUXOR

Training is a large part of the work that is done here at the Deaf Unit. Last year we brought some teachers from Luxor to Cairo for training here at the Deaf Unit. Now they have returned to help begin the school in Luxor. Their first kindergarten class has 6 students and also has the support of the parents of these children. We are encouraged that they have been able to start this school and we hope that they kindergarten will only be the beginning of the work there. Clair, Randa and Hannan, a deaf teacher, will be going to Luxor to follow up with the teachers in Luxor. This will be an opportunity to answer any questions that the new teachers might have and to continue to give them helpful techniques. They are also hoping to be able to meet with the parents of these children to offer them a sign language course.



## MOTHER'S DAY

This year we had to celebrate Mother's Day differently than normal. Due to the death of Pope Shenouda only a couple of days before, many of the mothers were very sad. But the children had been planning on doing something special for their mothers, so we could not let the occasion pass. The children had saved from their own money to buy small gifts for their mothers to show how much they love and care about them. Bishop Malik was with us and we took this chance to speak with the parents about values.



## 10 STUDENTS FINISHED EXAMS

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of March we had an exam for 10 of our students. This exam will allow them to graduate from the school at the Deaf Unit and enter into Secondary Government school. The test administrator was surprised at how well the students did on their tests. He also administers the same test to hearing adults who have taken literacy classes. Due to the quality education that our students receive here at the Deaf Unit, they performed better on this test than many of the adults who take it.

On the behalf of the students, the staff and myself I would like to thank all of you - individuals and organizations (CBM, Japanese Embassy, British Embassy, Biblelands, Maadi Women's Guild, All Saints Cathedral, YMCA, ARDF, MCC)- as we here at the Deaf Unit highly value your support and encouragement to us.

May God bless you!

Clair Malik  
Director of the Deaf Unit



*We believe in deaf people, we believe that disability is not inability.*



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