



Letter of Recommendation

“ My name is Sabore Ole Oyie. I am a chief of my village, a warrior and an elder of the Maasai tribe in Kenya. I reside in Kenya, where my tribe lives a pastoral life, herding cows, goats and sheep. We move around a lot, depending on where there is water, and where there is grass for our animals to graze.

In Maasai culture, the women fetch the water every day, while the boys/men herd the livestock and protect them against the lions, leopards, cheetah, buffalo, hyenas, etc. The women often walk 3 hours one way to get household water from a river or watering hole. That water is always filthy. They then walk home with two jerry cans filled with the dirty water, do their best to clean the water, but still people get sick (and some die) from the contaminated water.

So I had a vision to build wells in the Maasai Mara region, which have been funded by a non-profit NGO from California. Now we are putting schools next to the wells. That way, the women and girls could walk shorter distances, and learn to read and write while they fetched the water – which is clean. Of the two wells that we drilled, one had good water, the other was contaminated by fluoride and nitrates. The cost to put an additional water cleaning system on this well was at least \$20k. Fortunately, I met with Merlin people who could clean the water for less than \$2k. We did a fund raiser in one night in California, and were able to exceed the \$2k cost. It is much harder to raise \$20k than to raise \$2k of donations.

This Merlin system also has the advantage that it is portable by hand. I carried it back to from the USA to Kenya in the overhead bins of the airplane.

As of this writing, we are working with Narok University, to do the final set of water testing, to ensure that this new system delivers clean drinking water to the people of my village. There is nothing to indicate that it won't. I will update this posting, once we have gone through the final water quality testing.



Photo #1: the well set up. Solar panels (since we live many miles off any electrical grid) power a pump, underground pipes with fill that 10k liter tank on top of a building. Gravity fed water outlet on the building, to which the water purifier is attached.



Photo 2: That's me, Sabore, in California, learning how to repair the water purification system. The animals will "smell" the water, and will chew on the wires, the tubes/pipes, etc, so I need to repair it if/when the wild animals damage the system. The system is on the left end of the table in this photo.

Any questions? Email me at saboreswell@gmail.com, and I'll reply when my cell phone gets a signal in the bush of Kenya. ”

Sabore Ole Oyie, Chief, Warrior and Elder

Massai Tribe, Kenya