

An attack by the Elements!

July/August 2010

Dear Ones,

As you are aware, Door of Hope works among the poorest, deprived people in Eastern Europe. Imagine it! Miserable sanitation, sometimes a single village tap, roaming dogs and snuffing pigs, rubbish heaps and pot holes, soaring summer temperatures, plummeting Siberian cold. Dilapidated hovels, shacks and tents called "homes," deprived education opportunities, chronic employment, meagre heating in winter and scourge of disease in summer. In such areas of Bulgaria, Ukraine and Latvia, Door of Hope is feeding deprived children, supplying Christian educational opportunities and teaching skills to teenagers.



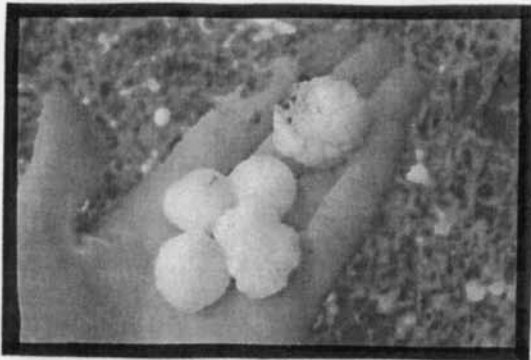
The past two months have added insult to injury. It all started with chronic rain storms hurling raging floods through ghetto villages. Homes were devastated, crops and garden vegetables destroyed. As the water began to subside, a strange and macabre event occurred one late afternoon... **Thousands of frogs** began emerging out of nowhere!

"It's raining frogs," warbled one little child. They poured through the streets like rain water, covering garden plots, layering the pot-holed streets and streaming into homes through every crack and cranny.

The explanations have been many, but no one knows for sure. Was it a mass migration of frogs picked up by the furious storm? Was it a great escape from a possible earthquake that didn't happen, the area of our work among the poor children being a seismic one. It has also been suggested that high temperatures added to moisture could produce a plague of frogs. Similar events occurred in Greece and Turkey causing great apprehension.

Many theories but no single answer. It certainly made the people of Chirpan to fearfully question whether doom and chaos was approaching. The frogs finally disappeared as suddenly as they had arrived, but a further catastrophe was to follow! Another storm flinging hailstones the size of walnuts upon homes gardens and people (*see picture overleaf*)





I marvel how people struggling with their poverty can cope with miserable onslaughts that you and I will never have to face. Floods, storms, frog plague and hailstones but still the gypsy children create a smile on their faces. A sight that never ceases to amaze us.

These children are in constant need of help and support. Different ones have different needs.

We need to supply food, dental care, hygiene-help, education for the little ones and seminars for the teenagers in order to prepare them for their many efforts to find employment. Our work, while not easy, has been rewarding: worth all the financial worries and fatiguing visits when we see the children eating their food, learning their lessons, receiving dental treatment and responding eagerly to the loving message of Christ who, like themselves, was acquainted with poverty.

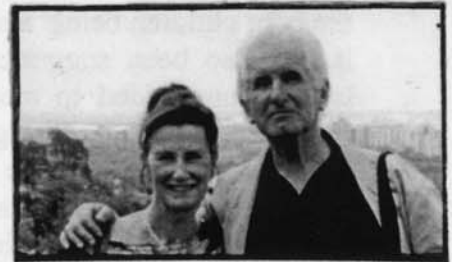


The aftermath of summer floods, frogs and storms have precipitated these poor people into even worse conditions. Door of Hope wants to give further help in whatever way possible. Add to these problems a shortage of income at this time of the year prompting us to come to you for help. We really do not like pleading for money, many of you having been long-time, faithful supporters of our projects. Nevertheless, we have to ask for financial assistance while assuring you that every donation will be wisely used. As I often say, Door of Hope avoids extravagant advertising and expensive office space, preferring to trust the wisdom and discretion of its supporters in their giving. You and your donation will bring comfort and sustenance to these poor people, especially children and the elderly in the devastated areas that I have been describing to you. A free-aid envelope is enclosed herewith. We thank you in anticipation. The *Eternal One* be with you.

In the Deep Beauty of Gratitude.

Philip and Diane

Rev. Philip & Mrs Diane Streeter.



Door of Hope

P.O Box 60, Battle, East Sussex, TN30 0WW.

Tel/Fax: 01424 870836. Email: Doorhope@aol.com

Website: www.ecl-doorofhope.org Registered Charity: 1083260