

Loreto in Rumbek, South Sudan by Sreedha Jeyachandran

We listened to a speaker who shed light on the livelihoods of the Loreto girls in South Sudan. She stayed in Rumbek, South Sudan for 2 weeks helping sister Orla Tracy who has been making the girls' lives better for the past 13 years by setting up the Loreto primary and secondary school.

Girls in South Sudan were exposed to child marriage, physical and emotional abuse even and in some cases even by their own father. The only place that gave them protection and support was the school. Girls were scared to go back to their homes even during holidays as they fear their father would sell them into marriage. This inspired many to study well and achieve something great in their lives. Schooling in Rumbek improved the lives of the girls and reduced child marriage and death. Sister Orla Tracy has been doing a fantastic job in maintaining the school and she also specifies that the greatest cost in maintaining the school in Rumbek is for security as the school gets many threats by the parents of the girls.

One thing that really impacted me was that we are wearing the same Crest as the girls in Sudan which was really empowering and showed us that the world could solve anything if it got together.

This talk taught us the splendid work of sister Oral Tracy and showed us the struggles and achievements of the girls in South Sudan.

