



Love Sierra Leone News March 2024

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

News from Pastor Yatta

The ministry is led by Pastor Yatta Samura who has been a friend of St Andrews for over 20 years. Pastor Yatta leads 6 Sierra Leonean Churches between Freetown on the Coast and Kono some 200 KM in land.

Pastor Yatta reported a very frightening situation starting on the 26th November 2023. There were 2 jails broken into by armed men with 100's of prisoners set free and 19 deaths as the armed services re-established order. The BBC reported that whilst "It was not clear at the time, the government says that this was a coup attempt." For December there was a night time curfew in Freetown.

Pastor Yatta writes to us with his explanation of the attempted coup and for the ensuing intimidation, violence and chaos on the streets of Freetown during December: **"The hunger in this country is too much and the poverty rate is very high. Where Parents are finding it very difficult to look after their children. Children are hungry going up and down in this country."**

PRAISE

Pastor Yatta writes: *"We held our Christmas feeding programme in January this year. The program was started by the women of the grace Community Church on New Years Day. The had good food Music and dancing. It was a joyful for them. A woman by the name of Mrs. Kadiatu Kamara came to say thank you to one of our organisers in tears. They had nothing to eat that day in their home, so this was a huge blessing to her family, and she sent all her 3 children."*

On the 12th January 2024 we went to St Andrews school, Maima, Kono. The Children are coming from neighbouring villages up to 3 miles away. This is a village setting and a very poor community. It was difficult to stop people from coming. It was organised for the church children and school. Many of the elderly people came to beg for food. It was a blessing to the children and community. They fed 178 children for which we thank you all!"

PRAYERS

1. For stability in Sierra Leone after a failed coup in November 2023.
2. For peace and fairness to prevail.
3. For the Women's ministry to grow.
4. For the Sports ministry to grow.



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