



amos  trust  
justice and hope for the forgotten

# WORDS OF HOPE

A NEWSPAPER FROM AMOS TRUST





# WORDS OF HOPE #3

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LOVE IS ALL AROUND — a young girl from Amos' partner Karunalaya in Chennai, India poses for a photograph — August 2017.  
© Amos Trust/Tom Merilion 2017



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BETTER THAN POWERPOINT — a young women shares some of her thoughts and feelings in Mwanza, Tanzania — January 2018.  
© Amos Trust/Tom Merilion 2018

# IN DREAMS... BEGIN RESPONSIBILITIES

WORDS Chris Rose

The singer-songwriter Lou Reed’s favourite short story was ‘IN DREAMS BEGIN RESPONSIBILITIES’ by Delmore Schwartz. The story did not do much for me but the title fuelled a life-long belief, that those things I long to see, I have a responsibility to achieve.

Our responsibility at Amos is to those who are forgotten, ignored and passed by. It is to those who are labelled, scape-goated and blamed for events beyond their control. It is for those who live out the legacy of colonial policies, for our over consumption, for the massive and widening gap between rich and poor and for our lack of care.

Our hopes for our friends in Palestine and Israel and the dream of a just peace fuels our actions and pushes us to take risks and to be imaginative in how we pursue this. CEPAD’s work in Nicaragua is rooted in the absolute belief that we have to imagine the future into being, and it is why we have spent the last two years working with our street child partners to develop new responses for girls on the streets.

We dream that these girls, who have never had a first chance, get a second one. Mpendulo and Hlonphile from Umthombo explained to me that if a girl who has fled abuse at home is on the streets for just 1 week, it is so much harder to work with her, as abusive boyfriends and pimps move so fast to offer accommodation, a good time and a place of seeming safety. The reality of ongoing abuse only sinks in soon afterwards. The same stories come from Karunalaya in India, with children targeted immediately upon arrival at Chennai railway station. New Generation in Burundi talk of young girls on the streets and in the slum communities who are scared of growing up as they see what happens to teenage girls.

We estimate that it is 8 times harder to work with girls than boys — at every stage. The same support that can mean progress for 8 boys, means progress for only 1 girl. Girls are so much more invisible, so much more traumatised, so much more trapped by street life and are judged so much more harshly by society. And projects find it so hard to work with them. Workers become dismayed by how hard progress is, at how many steps backward there are for every step forward; by how many times they will be let down and how hard it is to report to funders who want numbers and success. Our dream and our responsibility, and that of our partners, is to change this.

In September this year we will bring the women leading our partners’ girls’ work to the UK, together with women from a number of other street child projects, to share their experiences, to talk of the hurdles they have had to overcome and to look at what works.

EDITORIAL  
editor@amostrust.org

WRITERS  
Azey Bennetts  
Katie Hagley  
Karin Joseph  
Ahmed Masoud  
Chris Rose  
Nick Welsh

SUB-EDITOR  
Jill Howard

PHOTOGRAPHERS  
Clive Horsman  
Mark Kensett  
Matthew Leake  
Ho-Chih Lin  
Tom Merilion  
Kijaji Paul  
Nick Welsh

DESIGN  
Nick Welsh  
Wilf Whitty (RatioType, Bristol)

PRINT  
Newspaper Club

ADDRESS  
Amos Trust  
St Clement's  
1 St Clement's Court  
London EC4N 7HB  
United Kingdom

TELEPHONE  
+44 (0) 20 7588 2638

EMAIL  
office@amostrust.org

WEBSITE  
amostrust.org

NETWORKS  
Twitter — @amostrust  
Facebook — @amosjusticeandhope  
Instagram — amos\_trust

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.  
1164234





ABOVE  
MARY — one of the four young women from Cheka Sana who ran the first ever women's rights Zanzi Half Marathon at home in Mwanza, Tanzania — January 2018 © Amos Trust/Tom Merilion 2018

# KIMBIA BILA SHAKA

“RUN WITHOUT FEAR”

AMOS STREET CHILD lead worker Karin Joseph describes running the first Zanzibar Half Marathon with four new friends.

WORDS Karin Joseph PHOTOGRAPHY Tom Merilion



RIGHT  
HERE COME THE GIRLS! — from left to right: Khadija, Joyce, Mary and Zulfa, showing off their well-deserved medals after completing the inaugural Zanzi Half Marathon — January 2018.  
© Amos Trust/Tom Merilion 2018

AS DAWN BROKE on a Sunday in early February and the calls to prayer floated over Stonetown's crumbling rooftops, we were tying our shoelaces and warming up to prepare for the Zanzibar Half. “KIMBIA BILA SHAKA” — “RUN WITHOUT FEAR” was the race slogan for this, first-ever, women's rights half-marathon, to be held on Zanzibar.

Our all-female group, made up of four teenage girls from Amos Street Child partner CHEKA SANA TANZANIA, together with Kissa, their lead social worker at Cheka Sana, and myself and fellow Amos staff member Azey, were nervous as we set out under a punishing sun.

Joyce, Mary, Khadija and Zulfa ran powerfully. All four girls, aged between thirteen and sixteen, have spent time surviving on the streets of Mwanza before accessing intensive support from Cheka Sana and beginning the difficult but profoundly important process of reunification work with their families. All are now living full-time, or almost full-time, back with family members.

“I've never seen women overtake men before!” declared Mary as we sat and reflected on the race later that day. This run meant many other things for these girls too — it was the first time any of them had left Mwanza or flown on a plane, let alone completing the race and being awarded their medals! A few days before they had experienced another first: being given birth certificates, enabling them to make the trip but also, vitally, giving each of them a legal identity.

Cheka Sana's impressive team works every day across the city to support children who live or work on the streets. For 7-14 year olds, they offer short-term residential support and intensive family reintegration work to help them make the transition back to living at home. For older teenage girls and young women, many involved in commercial sex work, a model of collective support known as ‘association groups’ has proved very effective. Girls form support groups of around fifteen people, and go through a process of group building, leadership and finally investment in a micro-business of their own choosing. There are sixteen groups currently supported by Cheka Sana; thirteen made up of girls and young women.

One of the association groups, this one made up of boys still living full-time on the streets, shared their group motto with us as they welcomed us into their

weekly meeting in a disused shop-front downtown: “ONE DAY - YES”! We asked them why they had chosen this — and they told us that it reminded them of their hope that despite their current circumstances, one day, yes they would make a success of themselves.

All group sessions begin with a ‘community meeting’, where everyone introduces themselves and shares with the group how they are feeling today — green, yellow or red, so that all emotions in the room are acknowledged by everyone else. Often, a guided meditation followed. These beautiful moments of calm felt grounding and spiritual, and despite how the mood in the room had been minutes before, brought a welcome sense of peace to young lives that have been too defined by chaos.

On Saturday mornings, shouts of “HAPANA!” (“No!” in Swahili) echo around the classroom. Nyangi, a social worker and self-defence trainer, is leading a group of eleven girls in their weekly self-defence class. Self-defence classes are one of Cheka Sana's most significant interventions with the girls and young women they support. These 7-14 year olds are currently living at the Cheka Sana girls’ centre, whilst the afternoon class is held nearby for older teenagers and young women, many of whom are involved in commercial sex work. Many are mothers, and bring their babies to the class, taking it in turns to participate or sit with their small children.

As a girl, feeling powerful enough to yell the word “no” is a radical step. For any young person (but particularly girls) in Tanzanian culture, ‘no’ is not a word they are allowed to feel comfortable using with their elders, or men. For many of the girls taking part in self-defence, the most transformative aspect of these sessions is recognising that no man has the right to claim their body, despite what may have happened to them in the past. Some continue for the present time in commercial sex work, but with renewed control over their situation and the choices they make about their bodies and their clients.

Despite this, it was noticeable that the older girls were more reluctant to use the full power of their voices; there was a sense that they had already absorbed the cultural norm — women should be quiet and submissive. Their eyes remained downcast, and their visions for their future felt quite limited

“I've never seen women overtake men before!” declared Mary as we sat and reflected on the race later that day. This run meant many other things for these girls too — it was the first time any of them had left Mwanza or flown on a plane, let alone completing the race and being awarded their medals!

in comparison to the optimism that many of the younger girls expressed.

There's not a country in the world where girls and women have more, or even equal, opportunities to boys and men. Yes, 2017 saw high-profile feminist movements start (predominantly in the west) highlighting abuses women have experienced at the hands of powerful men. However, these movements have rarely made the space to include the women and girls who most urgently require such acts of solidarity — such as the young women supported by Cheka Sana.

Teenage girls on the street are so often there because of abuses they have suffered at the hands of the men they should have been able to trust the most. Once on the streets, they continue to be treated with no value or dignity. All of society rejects them, or defines them by what others have done to them — from those who walk past them on the streets, to their families who often want no more to do with them. Their stories are hard to hear, and their circumstances may feel too challenging to even begin to change. In Mwanza, Cheka Sana's all-female leadership team shared how proud they are of their successes in their intensive family work with boys and the younger girls, but for the older teenage girls, they yearn for new and more effective solutions.

This is by no means unique to Cheka Sana, all our partners have shared the challenges their teams face with the girls they wish to support on the streets. When girls don't make the decisions that the workers expect, or when trusting relationships take too long to build, those supporting them can often feel dejected and helpless to continue. Progress may not always look how we expect and learning to journey with these young women is part of the process.

We started this journey running; alongside teenage girls who've lived on the streets, in solidarity with women and girls. ‘ONE DAY, YES’ — we want children on the streets to be able to claim their rights — and teenage girls, who so often fall through the gaps in human rights agendas, not to be left behind but to be at the centre.

To find out more about Cheka Sana Tanzania, please visit [amostrust.org/cheka-sana-tanzania](http://amostrust.org/cheka-sana-tanzania)



# MUCKING IN...

## WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES

Fresh from a visit to NICARAGUA, Katie Hagley writes about how the community of Teustepe is flourishing.

WORDS Katie Hagley   PHOTOGRAPHY Clive Horsman



We are now 3 years into our 5-year cycle of support for CEPAD’s sustainable community development programme. During this time we have talked a lot about ‘walking alongside’ these communities. So it was great to have the chance to go out there last month with trustee Peter Bone and 18 supporters to see the developments being made and to ‘work alongside’ the communities — digging microdams, moving stones and doing a spot of gardening.

Through this programme CEPAD partners with rural Nicaraguan villages for 5 years of training, which focuses on supporting the community in the areas that they identify as most important for their development. The work is about empowerment and training at a local level, particularly among women.

Meet Secorro and her husband Isabel — pictured below – top right. They have 4 daughters aged 5, 9, 14 and 18 and live in La Joya, Teustepe.

They rely on their small plot of land to produce their main source of food. Like many other families in Teustepe, drought brought on by lack of rainfall, together with infrequent but torrential downpours, meant they were extremely vulnerable to losing their annual crops. During our visit CEPAD was helping to build a ‘microdam’ in their garden and our team was delighted to help.

Microdams are built using simple available resources. It means digging a hole close to your house and lining it with plastic sheeting. It then acts as an excellent mini reservoir by being connected to guttering which captures run-off from the roof, making use of any rain which does fall. For Secorro, it is an essential store of water she can use to irrigate the family garden as well as for washing.

### WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES

Just a few of the achievements this year (taken from CEPAD’s annual report).

Projects include leadership training — with a key emphasis on giving leaders confidence to demand their rights. Over the past year, 9 projects have been approved by the municipal authority including food packages for senior citizens, electricity for 20 homes, two water reservoirs, repair of 5kms of road, installation of 10 water metres and roofing for 28 homes.

- 56 plots of land were diversified with vegetables, roots and fruit trees
- 49 women farmers and farmers’ wives were taught to cook different dishes from their gardens – they then replicated the workshops for another 70 men and women
- 21 microdams were built, and 7 nurseries established (1 per community), with 1000 plants each to be used for the plots, to improve oxygen and reduce environmental damage
- 210 children were supported through 60 talks addressing psychosocial problems in the rural communities — including stress, anxiety, depression and bullying.

**BEGINNING TO FLOURISH** — three years in and Teustepe is really beginning to flourish, with 9 projects being approved by CEPAD’s Community Leadership programme. Photographs: © Amos Trust/Clive Horsman 2018

The training Secorro has received from CEPAD has brought new life to her plot of land and has also meant that she is now learning about how to plant a wider variety of fruits and vegetables, which can improve the soil and the family’s diet.

“Now we grow tomatoes, papaya, pineapple, yukka, peppers, watermelon, we did not know how to grow these before. We have learnt so much.” Another significant part of CEPAD’s training is to teach people new recipes and ways of cooking with these new vegetables and fruits.

And if you look through the achievements in CEPAD’s annual report listed on the left, you’ll see that one of the wonderful things about their model is that it encourages those who have been trained to pass on their training. So training just one person can mean eventually you’re training a whole community. Rosa, another community member made this point clearly: “If I receive training and do not pass it on, then what am I doing? Nothing.”

Meanwhile Secorro has also attended workshops to learn how to make different handicrafts and traditional sweets which she can sell in the village. And some of us were lucky enough to learn how to cook the delicious fudge-like sweets. Yum!

“CEPAD has helped us hugely in La Joya and we have seen great change — especially the women. Before we did not know how to grow plants and run family gardens and we have also learnt to cook differently. Now we can move forward,” said Secorro.

To find out more about how Amos is supporting communities in Nicaragua and how you can get involved, please visit [amostrust.org/water-for-life](http://amostrust.org/water-for-life)







# THE SHROUD MAKER

A PLAY BY AHMED MASOUD

Loosely based on a real life character still living in Gaza, THE SHROUD MAKER is a dark new satire, telling one woman’s story of survival.

WORDS Ahmed Masoud PHOTOGRAPHY Ho-Chih Lin and Matthew Leake

LEFT

**DARK NEW SATIRE**

Ahmed Masoud’s THE SHROUD MAKER will run from 14th – 20th May at the ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ARTS in London with a special Amos gala evening on Wednesday 16th May. *Photograph: © Ho-Chih Lin*

RIGHT

**KEEPING HOPE**

Palestinian writer, director, playwright, curator and Amos Trustee, AHMED MASOUD. *Photograph: © Matthew Leake*



“My young nephew in the besieged Gaza Strip, who is excellent at school with top marks that would get him to Oxbridge, would agree. In fact, it was because of him that despair has crept up to me, as I saw his enthusiasm for studying starting to dwindle.”

“This year marks the seventieth anniversary of the Nakba.” It is a sentence that a lot of people will read over the coming months and may chose not to delve too deeply into. Having just got to grips with the Balfour Declaration, which had its own one hundredth anniversary last year, some may find the whole thing rather confusing. It seems like when it comes to the Palestinian struggle, there is always one anniversary after another.

This is true and mainly due to the fact that the injustice continues under our nose, not so different from what it was a few decades ago. Perhaps it could be worse, mainly because of the loss of hope. My young nephew in the besieged Gaza Strip, who is excellent at school with top marks that would get him to Oxbridge, would agree. In fact, it was because of him that despair has crept up to me, as I saw his enthusiasm for studying starting to dwindle.

“What’s the point?” he said to me. “I will probably end up unemployed anyway.”

I could not argue with him, I just had to do my uncle’s duty thing and tell him to be patient and that he should continue to study hard and that education can change his situation... blah, blah. Of course all of this went in one of his ears and came out of the other, no doubt.

But I could not say anymore, because I am not convinced myself that things will be better, that hope does still exist, lurking around some dark corner of my subconscious mind. How could it exist when I haven’t seen my parents for the last five years? When my parents still haven’t met my daughter? When my mother cries over the phone and tells me that she wishes she were in a real prison because she would’ve served her sentence by now, or at least would have visiting hours so she could see me. She broke my heart and I don’t think I will ever recover from it.

My pain is hard to explain, and is perhaps better bottled-up for another time; at least until it is over and we can start to take care of the side effects.

Or maybe it is what I do — release my pain by creating characters on stage or in novels, so readers can understand me better. They can come to hear a story, just like any story, filled with tales of people in Palestine, their humanity, their humour, their dark side and their resilience.

This year, I am curating an exciting Palestinian Festival of Culture entitled @70: CELEBRATION OF CONTEMPORARY PALESTINIAN CULTURE. It will take place at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (RADA) between 14th-20th May 2018. And yes — as you guess, it is to mark the seventieth anniversary of the Nakba.

The week-long performances will include my play THE SHROUD MAKER, Ahmed Najar’s and Al Zaytouna’s dabke dance production entitled PROJECT 51, live music by renowned Palestinian singer SANA MOUSSA and film screenings curated by MARSM.

The Shroud Maker will be the backbone of the festival and will play six nights throughout the week. This one-woman play tells the story of Hajja Souad, an 80-year old woman living in Gaza who has survived decades of wars, deportation and oppression through making and selling shrouds for the dead, profiting from the continuous Israeli attacks.

These Israeli attacks on Gaza prove highly lucrative for Hajja Souad — until her past returns to haunt her, forcing her to make a momentous decision. Her deliberations take us on a lifetime’s journey, telling a harrowing story of courage, love, escape and disappointment.

Leaving her village of Aqqur near Jerusalem as a young girl, Hajja Souad enters the service of the British High Commissioner in the late 1940s and

grows up as the adopted daughter to his wife, who teaches her English manners and elocution. But in the chaos of the British withdrawal, as the Union Jack is lowered from the port of Haifa, Hajja is left alone to her fate in the abandoned mansion.

She is loosely based on a real-life character still living in Gaza. I wrote this as a dark satire telling Hajja Souad’s story of survival. It’s also a comedy, which delves deep into the intimate life of ordinary Palestinians, weaving a highly distinctive path through the modern history of Palestine. I wanted to base it on true stories told to me to create a vivid portrait of Palestinian life in Gaza underscored with gallows humour.

I hope that you will be able to come and see the play, hear my story and be witness to my pain. Perhaps this is the only thing that still gives me hope, knowing that people still care.

## The Shroud Maker

14th – 20th May 2018

ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ARTS  
62-64 GOWER ST, BLOOMSBURY,  
LONDON WC1E 6ED

The performance of The Shroud Maker on Wednesday 16th May will be a special Amos Trust gala evening. For full details of the run, please visit [rada.ac.uk](http://rada.ac.uk) or call the box office on 0207 908 4800 or email [boxoffice@rada.ac.uk](mailto:boxoffice@rada.ac.uk)



# HARD TO REACH

## SOUTH AFRICA'S INVISIBLE GIRLS

Chris Rose shares news from his recent visit to UMTHOMBO — our street child partner in South Africa.

WORDS Chris Rose PHOTOGRAPHY Mdu Ngubo



LEFT  
**BEACH GAMES**  
Set up in 2015, Umthombo uses sport to respond to the needs of children who live on the streets of Durban.  
*Photograph: © Mdu Ngubo 2017*

“We are deliberately targeting the young people and children who are involved with street life that other groups are not working with, and who society has given up on.”

MPENDULO NYEMBE, UMTHOMBO DIRECTOR — 2018

UMTHOMBO was created in 2005 by Tom and Bulelwa Hewitt to respond to the needs of children living on the streets of Durban, especially in the Point, Port and Beach areas, where most of them gathered. They began to campaign for them to be seen and treated as children just like any other.

The stories of former street children who went on to work at Umthombo, together with the surfing programme and hosting of the first Street Child World Cup, had a massive impact on changing the treatment and perception of children on the streets. The impact was particularly felt by the Municipal Authorities who credited Umthombo's outreach and reintegration programmes as being key in vastly reducing the numbers on the streets. As these numbers decreased, Umthombo's work had to adapt to reflect their changing locations and needs.

Outreach and reintegration are still key. In 2017 they met 261 children and young people on the streets. 183 joined their programmes, which include sport, psychosocial support and temporary housing. If a child wants to be reintegrated there is a very strong programme which includes extensive aftercare support for them and their families (last year 45 children were successfully reintegrated).

The locations have changed. The rapid rise in substance misuse, especially wonga (a highly addictive heroin based drug) in the large townships that surround Durban, means that most children start by going to the streets in these areas. It has become clear that the work now needs to focus on developing preventative programmes in these townships. In response, they have set up a series of local partnerships in key locations to facilitate this, establishing a school-based programme and working closely with a local drug and substance misuse charity.

Youth unemployment rates are also a key issue, as high as 68% in parts of South Africa. Umthombo's 10-week residential post-16 programme, which is now massively oversubscribed, offers young men who have been on the streets and are involved with or addicted to substances, employment and independent living skills. It includes detox, group work, sports (especially running) and individual support to address their needs. It also provides work experience, skills such as cooking, cleaning and reintegration work with their families.

I visited the eight young people on the current course. Two recognised me from years earlier when they had been involved in Umthombo. Since then they had both been in prison and been addicted to a variety of drugs. The group were nearing the end of their programme and were giving one another feedback on their progress and those areas they needed to work on. The safety they felt to talk about these areas and the massive progress each had made is a testimony to Lindelane who has been working at Umthombo since my first visit in 2006. His relationships with each of them, his care, interest, challenge and gentle humour are so impressive.

As they talked about themselves, they asked about young people on the streets in the UK. The similarities in experience stood out.

“These girls are invisible, people ignore them. If they do see them they call them bitches or hookers. They need our love and our support.” Hlonphile Umthombo's girls' lead worker explained: “If they are on the streets for more than a week, they will get trapped here by an older boyfriend or a pimp and then it becomes so hard to work with them let alone reintegrate them back into a home.”

A core group of 20 girls and young women who have been involved in street life for up to eight years are in regular contact and receiving support from Umthombo. Due to extensive outreach work, 1:1 and group support, the relationships with these girls are now very strong. Each Monday and Thursday they come to the centre to shower, to do their washing and to talk. They felt confident to attend a residential weekend away where they agreed not to use any substances for the entire period, and have also been involved in STD and HIV testing.

These young women, many of whom are parents, also now refer girls who are new to the streets to Umthombo. They will either phone Hlonphile and tell her about a new arrival, bring them to group sessions or give the girls Hlonphile's number. Last year 17 girls new to the streets were successfully reintegrated home and this number is set to increase.

Two young women who had been on the streets for several years also moved away from street life. While this is obviously great, this is not the sole aim of the programme. The aim is to journey with these girls who want to meet up to support one another, to have someone to talk to and get advice from; to feel valued and not judged. We joined a group of 25 of these young women for a morning of beach games — volleyball cricket etc. Very often male workers abdicate responsibility for the work with girls — here it was very different. It was clear that they were there to support Hlonphile and to engage with these young women.

We have been looking to do a photographic study with these young women and as Hlonphile asked their permission, there was an immediate response — “No, (another) organisation took my picture and put it in the newspaper, saying I was a street girl, and my mother reads that paper.”

Having journeyed with Umthombo from their start and seen the highs of 2010 and the lows and struggles that followed, it is great to see where they are now.

The next 12 months are critical. Our current Comic Relief grant for Umthombo ends in December and this will mark a massive reduction in the resources available to them. They are looking to increase support in South Africa and we are keen to identify new support for them and to share their success with the numerous Amos supporters who have journeyed with them.

Mpendulo, Umthombo's director, will be over in the UK from 17th - 25th May when he will join the Amos Road Club ride from London to Paris. You can join him, simply visit [amostrust.org/london-paris-2018](http://amostrust.org/london-paris-2018) — we are also finalising speaking engagements for him, so watch this space.





**"NO ONE IS FREE UNTIL  
WE ARE ALL FREE."  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

PHOTOGRAPH Tom Merilion

Two young children peering over a wall into a lorry park.  
Chennai, India — August 2017.





# #ONHERTERMS

OPPOSITE PAGE  
Two young women from Tanzania who have received a micro-loan from Cheka Sana Foundation to start their own sewing business.

ABOVE LEFT  
Siblings sleeping in their 'bedroom' — part of the pavement-dwelling community in Chennai, India.

ABOVE RIGHT  
Sangeetha playing football with her friends at Karunlaya, Amos' partner in India. She's their star player.

ABOVE  
Joyce leads a HIV-awareness session at Cheka Sana's drop-in centre for boys who are living on the streets.

If you would like to support our work with girls who live on the streets of Burundi, India, South Africa and Tanzania, please visit [amostrust.org/on-her-terms-appeal-2018](http://amostrust.org/on-her-terms-appeal-2018)

PHOTOGRAPHY:  
© Amos Trust/Tom Merilion 2017-2018





JOIN US ON AMOS' ANNUAL PALESTINE EXPERIENCE TRIP THIS SUMMER  
Experience the amazing Bet Lahem Arts Festival, visit the Sumud Peace Camp in the South Hebron Hills and spend time at Banksy's Walled Off Hotel in Bethlehem.

Image: © Amos Trust/Mark Kensett

# PALESTINE EXPERIENCE

## 29 JULY — 6 AUGUST 2018

[AMOSTRUST.ORG/PALESTINE-EXPERIENCE-2018](https://amotrusted.org/palestine-experience-2018)

Join us for our annual creative trip to Palestine and Israel this summer. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the best street-party in the world — the amazing Bet Lahem Live Festival. Visit Banksy's Walled Off Hotel and immerse yourself in Palestinian community life. Meet our friends and partners across the West Bank, and visit creative grass-roots projects, who are working for full equal rights for everyone who calls the Holy Land home. Please join us.

TO WATCH OUR SHORT FILM ABOUT BET LAHEM LIVE FESTIVAL, PLEASE VISIT [VIMEO.COM/AMOSTRUST/BETHLEHEM-LIVE-2015](https://vimeo.com/amotrusted/bethlehem-live-2015)



AMOS KILIMANJARO CHALLENGE 2019  
Amos supporter and Duke of Edinburgh Award leader, Joy Martin, on top of the highest peak in Africa — January 2017. If you would like to join her up there, please visit [amotrusted.org/kili-2019](https://amotrusted.org/kili-2019)

INTO A DAYBREAK THAT'S WONDROUSLY  
CLEAR I RISE. MAYA ANGELOU

## 25 JANUARY— 7 FEBRUARY

# CLIMB KILIMANJARO 2019

WORDS Azey Bennetts  
PHOTOGRAPHY Kijaji Paul

PRICE:  
£2,250 excluding international flights and connections to Mwanza and a £1,500 fundraising challenge  
[amotrusted.org/kili-2019](https://amotrusted.org/kili-2019)

Join us for our first ever Kilimanjaro Challenge in Tanzania which will include 7-days climbing the highest peak in Africa and a day's safari in the Serengeti National Park.

INTRODUCING OUR FIRST EVER TRIP TO TANZANIA TO CLIMB KILIMANJARO  
Our street child partners CHEKA SANA are based in Mwanza, which happens to be right next door to Kilimanjaro! We want to combine one of the ultimate bucket-list challenges with a visit to Cheka Sana to experience their amazing work with children on the streets (particularly girls and young women) and to raise funds for this fantastic Tanzanian project.  
Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa, 5490 metres above sea level, and the highest free-standing mountain in the world. We asked Amos supporter and Duke of Edinburgh Award leader, Joy Martin, to research a special Amos trip to climb Kilimanjaro — this is what she said,  
*“The summit climb began at midnight and is a 7 hour trek. It's a breathtaking experience illuminated by the light of thousands of stars. As we got closer to the top, watching the sun come up was incredible. It was a huge personal challenge and it took me 56 minutes to complete the final 1km which would normally have taken me just 10 minutes. But it was worth it to reach the snow-covered plateau at the top and to look out from the tallest freestanding mountain in the world!”*

This unique trip will start with 5-nights in Mwanza where for 3 days, you will join Cheka Sana on the streets, visit their day centre and sheltered accommodation and experience their reintegration work.  
Grace, and 10 other young women from the streets went through Cheka Sana's therapeutic group work programme, after which they set up their own

tailoring business. “I didn't know women could run a business without a man in charge. We should be strong enough to stand our ground”.  
You will then have a 1-day safari in the world famous Serengeti National Park, before flying to Kilimanjaro airport in nearby Moshi.  
The next day you will begin your 7-day climb up the beautiful Machame Route which has a 92% success rate, with Tanzanian trekking company Safarease. Being a non-technical climb it is open to most people of reasonable fitness.  
THE TRIP WILL INCLUDE:  
— 7-days climbing Mount Kilimanjaro including accommodation (tents), full board, entrance fees and tips for guides and porters  
— full board accommodation in Mwanza  
— a 1-day safari in the Serengeti National Park  
— internal flight from Mwanza to Kilimanjaro airport.

TRIP COSTS:  
£2,250 excluding international flights and connections to Mwanza and a £1,500 fundraising challenge.  
We are keen to encourage as many people as possible to join us for this challenge, and especially women. Our aim is to raise as much money as we can to support groups of young women, like Grace, to unlock their potential and overcome the barriers they face which can seem as immovable as Kilimanjaro itself.

For full details, please visit [amotrusted.org/kili-2019](https://amotrusted.org/kili-2019)





# JERUSALEM @70 EASTER FOR JERUSALEM

WORDS Chris Rose  
PHOTOGRAPHY Mark Kensett

This Easter we are asking people to think not only of the events that occurred in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago, but also of the current situation.

ABOVE:  
**40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS** — looking out into the Judean Wilderness during Just Walk to Jerusalem.  
*Photograph: © Amos Trust/Mark Kensett 2017*

GOOD FRIDAY REMINDS US:  
**Each time we support someone in need,  
Each time we stand up for an ideal or speak  
out against injustice,  
We stop people from knowing what it means  
to be forsaken.**

*A meditation for Good Friday taken from  
'WORDS OF HOPE', available to buy now from  
[amostrust.org/words-of-hope-book](http://amostrust.org/words-of-hope-book)*

In every community there are people who share Jesus' words from the cross: "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Our work at Amos and through our partners is to make sure that those who are so often forgotten, know they are not forsaken.

At Easter our thoughts naturally turn to Jerusalem, the triumphal entry of Palm Sunday, the last supper, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Jerusalem is unlike any other city as it is integral to three faiths in a way that no other city is. It even has its own mental health disorder, 'Jerusalem Syndrome', when visitors experience religious delusions and believe they are harbingers of the end of days.

The US President's declaration, to move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv and to recognise Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, leaves many Palestinians in Jerusalem feeling even more forsaken. They know that the Israeli government would prefer that they were not there and its policies towards them are punitive and discriminatory. And the Palestinian Authority has no jurisdiction as the Separation Wall prevents access.

This year marks the 70th Anniversary of the Nakba and the formation of the state of Israel when close to 1 million Palestinian refugees had to flee their homes. It is also 50 years since the start of the Israeli occupation of East Jerusalem, the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights.

We believe that this Holy Week we should focus on the current situation in Jerusalem — so our thoughts are particularly with the 300,000 stateless Palestinian residents of the Holy City. At this time it is vital that we continue to put pressure on our Government to maintain its position that until Jerusalem can be the capital of a future Palestinian state, it will not recognise it as the capital of Israel.

As we share Christ's peace on Maundy Thursday, we pray for the peace of Jerusalem. We pray that there be peace, justice and full equal rights for all its inhabitants.

Our book 'WORDS OF HOPE' contains a series of prayers under the section 'Life' for use during Holy Week, as well as many others about Palestine. To mark our focus on Jerusalem we have published a supplement entitled, 'EASTER FOR JERUSALEM' which we're making available as a free download. It contains civil rights activist Langston Hughes' poem 'Democracy', which is as true for the residents of Jerusalem today as it was for the civil rights movement. It also features prayers by GARTH HEWITT, NAJWA FARAH and GERALD BUTT and two new Statements of Faith, one based on 'Credo' by theologian and political activist Dorothee Sölle.

*To download your free copy of 'Easter for Jerusalem',  
please visit [amostrust.org/easter-for-jerusalem](http://amostrust.org/easter-for-jerusalem)*



After Just Walk to Jerusalem I am now known in Palestine as 'ABU JACK', father of Jack, as a token of respect for me because of the achievements of my son. I am also really proud to be 'ABU MILLIE' and for good or bad my greatest legacy will be in the lives of my children. However there is another sort of legacy we can choose and that is how we can support, not only the people, but also the causes and projects we care about after our death.

In the last 24 months we have received a series of legacies which have transformed our work. We try, whenever possible, to make sure that these legacies are used to fund those initiatives that we may not be able to do otherwise, and which allow us to take the risks that we believe a prophetic, creative human rights organisation needs to take.

Last year as I set off to walk to Jerusalem and tried to reassure the team and Trustees of my absolute belief that 'everything would be alright' — the receipt of one of these legacies helped them all to sleep at night and to know that we would be alright.

These legacies have also part-funded Karin Joseph's new post leading our girls/street child work, an appointment we desperately longed to make and yet had no way of funding. It was fantastic that Azey, Karin, Kissa (the project worker from Cheka Sana) and 4 of the girls from the project were able to launch the next phase of this work at the Zanzibar Half Marathon. The girls' words from this trip capture so much of why this matters:

"When we were flying — I felt free because I was flying over the world's problems. I think women can do anything now — women were running at the same level as the men, I did not know this was possible."

# WALKING WITH AMOS WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

WORDS Chris Rose  
PHOTOGRAPHY Tom Merilion

ABOVE:  
**WALKING IN SUNSHINE** — two girls from Cheka Sana Tanzania walk hand-in-hand along the sea front on Zanzibar, the day after they ran the Zanzi Half Marathon in support of women's rights.

*Photograph: © Amos Trust/Tom Merilion 2018*

Legacies have also played a crucial role in allowing us to support our partner projects. This has been especially the case in Gaza where they faced major financial shortfalls as the focus of international funders switched to Syria, yet on the ground they faced an ever worsening situation.

My wife Sarah and I wrote our wills shortly before the first Street Child World Cup in 2010. We were leaving our children for the first time to fly to South Africa to run an international event which we knew would be hugely divisive, and which a number of experts had advised us could go disastrously wrong.

The legacy of that event has been far-reaching and the issues that we struggled with over choosing guardians for our children, feel as distant as our fears for that event and so we now need to look at our wills afresh.

I have no idea what my legacy at Amos Trust will be, but I do hope that I leave my successor, and in time her/his successors, with some of the resources they will need to address the issues and causes that they believe Amos will be called to pursue.

If like me, you are rewriting a will, or planning your first will, and would like to include a donation to Amos Trust or our partners' work, then please do get in touch by emailing us at [office@amostrust.org](mailto:office@amostrust.org) — we would be delighted to assist you.

*To find out more about leaving a legacy to Amos Trust, please visit [amostrust.org/legacy](http://amostrust.org/legacy)*



REMAIN IN  
LIGHT AMOS DAY  
2018

—

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL  
17 – 25 NEW INN ROAD,  
LONDON EC2A 3EA

SATURDAY 29TH  
SEPTEMBER  
/10.00 – 16.00

#REMAININLIGHT

# REMAIN IN LIGHT

## AMOS DAY 2018 — SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

AMOSTRUST.ORG/REMAIN\_IN\_LIGHT

Amos Day will have a new look and a new venue for 2018 — the Amnesty International Centre at 17-25 New Inn Road, London. In the morning we will focus on our ON HER TERMS campaign with a chance to hear from the women workers involved in our street child work. Trustee Robert Cohen will lead the afternoon on Israel/Palestine entitled APARTHEID@70. To find out more and to register for your free tickets, please visit [amostrust.org/remain\\_in\\_light](https://amostrust.org/remain_in_light)

### AMOS LISTINGS

# 2018/19

Amos trips and events are open to everyone. Join us as we challenge injustice, build hope and create positive change.

For further details please visit our website at [amostrust.org/diary](https://amostrust.org/diary)

#### 26 – 29 MAY 2018 TEAM AMOS CYCLE RIDE LONDON – PARIS

[amostrust.org/london-paris-2018](https://amostrust.org/london-paris-2018)  
Cycle from London to Paris over four days with the Amos Road Club. Join us as we ride and raise funds for our partners in India, Tanzania, South Africa, Burundi, Palestine and Nicaragua.

#### 29 SEPTEMBER 2018 AMOS DAY 2018 REMAIN IN LIGHT

[amostrust.org/remain\\_in\\_light](https://amostrust.org/remain_in_light)  
With updates from our four street child partners, the Change The Record campaign in Palestine plus 'Words Of Hope'. Please note the new venue for 2018.

#### 2 – 10 DECEMBER 2018 AMOS CHRISTMAS EVENTS

[amostrust.org/christmas-2018](https://amostrust.org/christmas-2018)  
Join us this Christmas in London, Bristol, Cheltenham, Canterbury, Cambridge (TBC), Bradford and Manchester.

#### 25 JANUARY – 7 FEBRUARY 2019 KILIMANJARO CHALLENGE

[amostrust.org/kili-2019](https://amostrust.org/kili-2019)  
Join us for our first ever Kilimanjaro Challenge in Tanzania which will include 7 nights climbing the highest peak in Africa and a day's safari in the Serengeti National Park.

#### 7 – 18 APRIL 2019 AMOS HOME REBUILD

[amostrust.org/rebuilding-home-2019](https://amostrust.org/rebuilding-home-2019)  
Amos Home Rebuild trips are an opportunity to bring hope to a Palestinian family and community by helping them to rebuild their demolished home. Join us in Palestine in April 2019.

10 – 19 OCTOBER 2018

### ALT. PILGRIMAGE TO PALESTINE & ISRAEL

Join us on the Amos Alternative Pilgrimage to Palestine and Israel. You will be based in Bethlehem and Nazareth with time in Jerusalem, Hebron, on the shores of Lake Galilee and in the Judean wilderness. Visit the historic and biblical sights and experience the situation on the ground. Meet local people and see for yourself the impact of the illegal Separation Wall and settlement expansion on Palestinian life today. Meet Amos' inspirational partners in Bethlehem, visit the young people of Alrowwad Cultural Centre in Aida Refugee camp and enjoy a BBQ at Wi'am Reconciliation Centre in the shadow of the Wall. Stand in solidarity with Holy Land Trust at the Sumud Peace Camp in the South Hebron Hills and visit Banksy's Walled Off Hotel in Bethlehem. PLEASE JOIN US.

[amostrust.org/alternative-pilgrimage-2018](https://amostrust.org/alternative-pilgrimage-2018)

10 – 19 OCTOBER 2018

### FAMILY-FRIENDLY TRIP TO PALESTINE & ISRAEL

This unique family-friendly trip to Palestine and Israel will be based in Bethlehem and include a day in Jerusalem with visits to our partners around the West Bank. You and your family will meet inspirational Israeli and Palestinian peacemakers, enjoy incredible Palestinian hospitality and food and meet the people, projects and communities that Amos supports. We will make sure that you and your family, if they are accompanying you, have some time of your own to explore and shop. Parents will be able to adapt parts of the programme to suit their own children's/family's needs. This trip is full board and includes return flights from London to Tel Aviv. Prices are based on two people sharing although single rooms are available upon payment of a supplementary fee. APPLY NOW.

[amostrust.org/family-friendly-2018](https://amostrust.org/family-friendly-2018)



JOIN US ON AMOS' ALTERNATIVE PILGRIMAGE THIS OCTOBER  
An Alternative Pilgrimage to Palestine and Israel — based in Bethlehem and Nazareth with time in Jerusalem, Hebron, the shores of Lake Galilee and the Judean wilderness. *Photograph: © Amos Trust/Mark Kensett*



“My friends ask me: ‘Why do you spend your time and energy working with girls who live on the streets and sell themselves for sex?’ I tell them that I do it because everyone else has rejected them.” *Ravina, Youth Work Manager with Cheka Sana Tanzania.*

Projects all around the world struggle to work out how to support teenage girls and young women who are living on the streets or involved in street life.

Most of these girls have fled domestic abuse and violence. On the street they quickly become street smart and their distrust, fear, trauma and shame becomes more deeply ingrained by their experiences, as they are judged, belittled and ignored by wider society.

We have been working with our street child partners in South Africa, Tanzania, India and Burundi to develop new responses for these girls. Those that have been most successful, and it is really important to say how fragile these all are, have been built around remarkable, deeply committed, infectious women who see these girls and young women in a way which is so counter-cultural. Their work is built on an unshakable knowledge that these girls, who so often let them down, rile against them and appear unlovable, are in fact wonderful.

Yet many people do not want to hear what Ravina, and the workers like her, have to say. They come from societies where women’s voices are often ignored and when we do shine a light on these girls it shines a light on the failures of society and our desire to judge others.

To make any progress in addressing the needs of these young girls and women — we desperately need to learn from the women who work with them.

# ON HER TERMS APPEAL 2018

WORDS Azey Bennetts & Chris Rose  
PHOTOGRAPHY Tom Merilion

BELOW  
ON HER TERMS  
A young women from Mwanza, Tanzania — January 2018.  
Photograph: © Amos Trust/Tom Merilion 2018

That’s why we want to create opportunities for them to be heard and to learn from one another, so that they can more firmly establish their work. They can help other projects to understand how to find and support workers who are like them and develop responses that work.

So we are excited to let you know that coming out of long discussions with our partners, we will be hosting a week-long gathering in the UK, bringing together 20 women workers from our projects and those undertaking similar work, to share their experiences and to look at how they can make their projects stronger. By discussing the opportunities open to them and the barriers that hold them back, we hope that by the end of the week they will identify the next steps for their project — and their goals for this work.

We will also give them the opportunity to share with Amos supporters — at Amos day — and with other interested groups while they are here.

We know these projects will need our ongoing support. We want to raise funds for these women to go back and deliver their ideas. We want to develop an online forum for them to share their struggles and successes, and to arrange exchange visits between projects.

They will also need support to identify how they can enable girls and young women to have a real role in the future development of the work and in starting to shift people’s negative response to them. So that five years from now not only will these projects be stronger, there will be more projects doing fantastic work with girls and young women and there will be more women leading projects like these.

# MEET TANYA

Tanya is ashamed that she ran away from home — ashamed that she had to live on the streets, ashamed of the names she is called and ashamed of what it takes to survive.

She needs to know that she is strong — strong enough to have fled an abusive home, strong enough to have survived on the streets and strong enough to have made choices that no girl should have to make. Strong enough to dream of a future for her and her child and strong enough to take the next step — on her terms.

Without the involvement of women and girls who can identify with what it means to be a teenage girl on the streets, nothing will change. Without the support of all those who are outraged that girls like Tanya have to survive on the streets, this vital work will not progress.

If we are to avoid the situation where countless girls are still living lives trapped in fear and shame on the street, we need to learn from those who are transforming their lives — and equip those who say it is too hard and takes too long to know that they can create the difference they long to see.

## YOUR SUPPORT WILL ALLOW US TO:

- bring 20 women workers to the UK to find their voice and share what they have learnt
- pass on their learning to those who want to set up new projects
- create an online platform so they can continue to learn from each other and strengthen their work
- find ways for the girls who benefit from these projects to shape their futures

To make your donation please use this form or visit [amostrust.org/on-her-terms-appeal-2018](http://amostrust.org/on-her-terms-appeal-2018)

## THANK YOU

# ON HER TERMS APPEAL 2018 WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

## I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF AMOS TRUST

- ☐ I/ We enclose a one-off contribution of £  
☐ I/ We would like to give regularly to Amos Trust and have completed the Standing Order form

## PLEASE USE THESE FUNDS FOR

- ☐ On Her Terms Appeal 2018 ☐ Amos Trust General Funds ☐ Amos Street Child  
☐ Amos Palestine ☐ Amos Communities ☐ I/ We would like a receipt  
☐ I/ We would like to receive WORDS OF HOPE E-news

## ABOUT YOU

TITLE	NAME
ADDRESS	
	POSTCODE
TELEPHONE	
EMAIL	

## STANDING ORDER FORM

TO THE BANK MANAGER	YOUR BANK
POSTCODE	
Please debit my/our account	
ACCOUNT NO.	SORT CODE
WITH THE SUM OF £	EACH MONTH / QUARTER / YEAR (delete as applicable)
STARTING ON DD / MM / YYYY	

## And pay this sum to Amos Trust

ACCOUNT NO. 10939419	SORT CODE 16-20-30	BANK RBS, 10 NORTH ST, GUILDFORD, GU1 4AF
SIGNATURE	DATE DD / MM / YYYY	

## PAYMENT METHODS

**CHEQUES** (payable to Amos Trust). We also accept charity vouchers.

**CREDIT / DEBIT CARD** To donate by card, please visit [amostrust.org/give](http://amostrust.org/give)

**STANDING ORDER** To give a regular gift, please complete the standing order form above or visit [amostrust.org/give](http://amostrust.org/give) — or if you would prefer to talk to us about making a donation, please call the office on 020 7588 2638 during normal office hours.

## GIFT AID DECLARATION — DONATIONS TO AMOS TRUST

☐ Please GIFT AID this donation and any I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years

I confirm I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income tax and/or Capital Gains Tax then the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

SIGNATURE	DATE DD / MM / YYYY
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**PLEASE NOTIFY AMOS TRUST IF YOU:**  
Want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address; no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

## PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM AND DONATION TO:

Amos Trust, St Clement’s, 1 St Clement’s Court  
London EC4N 7HB, United Kingdom  
Registered charity no. 1164234  
TELEPHONE: +44 (0) 20 7588 2638  
EMAIL: [office@amostrust.org](mailto:office@amostrust.org)  
WEBSITE: [amostrust.org](http://amostrust.org)



To support our On Her Terms Appeal 2018, please visit [amostrust.org/on-her-terms-appeal-2018](http://amostrust.org/on-her-terms-appeal-2018)



# SOLIDARITY

—  
BY ROBIN MESSAGE

SOLIDARITY. Can we be solid alongside someone? Someone we don't know, of another culture, another class, another country, another time? Can our souls take in their pain, our minds their devastation, our hearts their joy.

SOLIDARITY. It's not just polite concern. Or sympathy with their plight. Nor empathy with suffering that is far beyond our comprehension.

SOLIDARITY is to claim an incomplete understanding of another's pain, and to humbly ask to know more of it.

SOLIDARITY is laughing when their children are born, weeping when their children are killed.

SOLIDARITY is a painful experience of letting go of our privilege and welcoming in despair.

SOLIDARITY is to walk towards those who lack a place, to walk alongside those who lack a hope, to walk in the place of those who lack a voice.

SOLIDARITY is hard. It's too hard. It's too damned hard.

Yet to not show solidarity is to be half a person. If we cannot raise our eyes above our own concerns, if we cannot think of the needs of the other, if we cannot find room in our hearts for a stranger, then our lives will be empty and meaningless, and no amount of our own comfort will give us peace.

SOLIDARITY is the ultimate goal of faith, the highest calling of humanity, the greatest triumph in a world of suffering.

SOLIDARITY is our walk onwards in defiance of barriers and checkpoints and borders and guards and interrogations to make a simple human call of freedom and justice for all.

**#CHANGETHERECORD**

