



Registered association for the promotion
of medical care and social support in
Northern Samar, Philippines

Bugko, April 2020

Dear members, dear friends, and supporters of Mabuhay!

In December, I traveled to Germany, despite the tense coronavirus situation. It was good to see some friends and family again. Unfortunately, the incidence rates did not allow for a gathering like we used to have, where I could have reported in detail. That's a shame, but everyone's safety is more important.

At the same time, Super Typhoon Odette (Rai) hit the Philippines on December 16, 2021. With wind speeds of almost 200 km/h and heavy rain, it left a trail of devastation in southern Leyte, Cebu, and Bohol. Many people lost everything again and were left without a roof over their heads, without water or food, and experienced a terrible Christmas. The typhoon was as strong as Haiyan in Tacloban in 2013, and many of you will still remember the images on television. Thankfully, there was no storm surge this time, so there weren't as many deaths as then, but almost 400 people still lost their lives. Two weeks later, there was still no electricity in the affected areas, and, even worse, there was only limited drinking water. Aid was immediately available nationally and internationally, so it seemed as if people had learned from the past. The pictures are from the internet, as I was already in Germany at the time.

I received many inquiries about the situation in Bugko. Fortunately, or thank God, we were spared there, and apart from four days without electricity, strong winds, and even more rain, there was no major damage. There were also some floods in Northern Samar, but a major catastrophe was avoided.

We have had exciting months behind us, as you can see from the length of this report, and I thank you for your diverse help and your memories of us here. PLEASE STAY HEALTHY, EVERYONE!

And now, one final request: It would be great if some of you who receive my newsletter by mail now have an email address. Please send it to a-korth@gmx.de. It saves a lot of work, paper, and postage if we can send the newsletter by email. Thank you in advance to everyone who can support us in this endeavor. Everyone else will, of course, continue to receive it.

And so, I greet you with warm affection and wish you all a blessed Easter despite everything, or perhaps because of it all.

Yours

Sabine Korth

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