

POTATO FOR FAMILIES BY THE SHORES OF LAKE TITICACA

The Bolivian altiplano in recent years has been affected too much by the effects of climate change, causing natural disasters, such as droughts, frosts, hailstorms, in some places causing floods. Drought has affected the area of the altiplano the most. Lack of rain has caused low crop production including the potato crop, which is the main food for the peasant families. Potatoes are served in different dishes, and are generally used as an main ingredient cooked for the apthapi (Andean buffet).

By the grace and mercy of God, the members of the "FRIENDS" church raised funds precisely to help with the potato product for consumption of the families that were greatly affected by the drought. On this occasion, potatoes were distributed to 63 families in the community CHIJIPATA ALTA and in the community KARAPATA ALTA. First, the purchase of potatoes for consumption was made, 100 pounds were purchased for each family as a maximum amount (some families need to split their share because there were so many families to help). After the purchase of the potatoes on Saturday, May 13 at 7:00AM, each local authority from both communities came to pick up large loads of potatoes in rented cars for each community. Some of the young adult Friends, sister Emma and I, traveled to the communities in public transportation. First, we went to the community KARAPATA ALTA, there the authorities welcomed us with a delicious lunch. As soon as we ate lunch we began the distribution of the potatoes. Potatoes were delivered to 43 families.

Then, later in the afternoon we

headed towards the community CHIJIPATA ALTA where 20 families were given an amount of 100 pounds per family. When we arrived, all the families and their authorities were already gathered, waiting for us. Before we distributed the potatoes, we prayed for the families and for the blessing of the potatoes for them. Also, some families gave words of thanks for the potatoes because they hardly harvested any potatoes this year.

The distribution of potatoes to the families of both communities was unforgettable and very joyful. Personally, having supported this delivery activity in some way made me feel happy, since this contribution of potatoes for consumption will be very helpful for the families that practically lost their potato crop due to the effects of climate change. Seeing so much joy from each family that received the potato marked a living experience for me.







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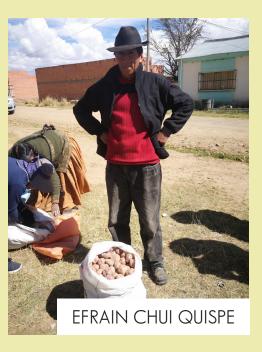
























COMUNIDAD CHIJIPATA ALTA



































