

From: theorganicfarmbali@red-paprika.com
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To: scott@stparris.com
Reply-To: marjanbali@gmail.com



AUGUST 2011

Probably you have mentioned that this update is kind of late.

First of all it's because the update has a new look! Thanks to Philip!

The other reason is that we were just too busy welcoming so many happy guests. July, August and December are high season in Bali.

Do you see any differences?

From Ugly Bear to naughty Huggy Bear in just 1,5 month...



Kid's box update



The kids were excited to open the donation box again.
We counted the money. 545.000 Idr! A fortune for the kids!

We decided to buy school uniforms from it (120.000 Idr) and opened a bank account on Dodi en Putu's name. And hope to supply more kids in the village with school uniforms or maybe even send kids (girls) to school in the future. Some parents in the village don't have the money to send their kids to school because the dad lost all in cock fights.

So sad!
Thanks, thanks, thanks for your donations and making the kids so, proud, happy and smiling!

Ngotonin, Dede's (Dodi's baby and Dodi kecil's brother) first birthday ceremony



In Bali children are considered holy and the smaller the child the closer he or she is to heaven. Seldom disciplined, a child is never beaten as it is believed it will damage the soul.

The baby, which embodies the soul of a reincarnating ancestor, is said to be an infant god of Dewa, until it is 42 days old.

It is carried about on a family member's hip as it is not allowed to touch the impure soil until it is 105 days old. It's first birthday is celebrated 210 days after birth, a year in the Balinese calendar, and the mother makes a temple offering to announce the child's arrival in the village. (source: Bali a traveller's companion)

Dodi had to sell 2 cows for this ceremony (more than 10 million). The ceremony is so expensive because all village members and priests are invited. Already weeks in advance the whole village gathers in Dodi's house to do all preparations. You have to give your guests food (rice, pork), cigarettes and drinks in return.

Dede's hair will be shaved, so he will be bald for a while. Religion tells the child is "getting clean" from the placenta from the mom by cutting it's hair.



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Bali's Rice Terraces a Major Tourism Attraction Irrigators Seeking Revenue Share:

(source: whatsnewbali.com)

Members of a traditional irrigation organization in Tabanan claim that they reap none of the benefits from tourism created by the panorama of rice terraces that they maintain. Representatives of the Jatiluwih subak (irrigation organization) in Penebel district say that an entry fee charged to tourists wanting to view their fields raises around Rp25 million (US 2,938) a month, but say that none of it reaches the organization responsible for maintaining the photogenic landscape. Krishna, a member of the Jatiluwih subak, said that 20 percent of the monthly takings were used to pay ticket salesmen, and to maintain their ticket booth. The remainder was split equally between the Tabanan government and village organizations. Without the local agricultural landscape there would be no tourism revenue at all. "Tourists come here to see the wide expanse of tiered ricefields. Those ricefields are managed by the subak," he said. Foreign tourists visiting Jatiluwih are charged Rp10,000 (US 1.18) each to see the ricefields, and are issued with tickets printed by the regency government.

Bali With Kids TV at The Organic Farm Bali



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Lots of love from Dodi and his family, Kadek, Du, Ibu Wayan, Marjan, Wayan, Dodi Kecil, Putu, Dede, Poleng, Bear and all animals!

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