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Subject: **the Organic Farm Bali - December 2011**
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December 2011

The road to the village is under construction!



It took two years stalking the government, but finally we are going to have result.
The road is in an even worse condition right now with building material all over the place.
And who are carrying all the heavy stones and other building materials?
The women, who else?

The villagers visited us with a solution for running water

Ibu we have an idea to get running water into all our houses in the village.
Can you help?
Sure. What is the idea?
We do have a big spring in the village behind the school.
But we need a pump, the pipes because it's steep down.
From there we can put pipes into all houses.
That will cost a lot of money and as you know we are farmers, we are poor.
Maybe Ibu can talk to the Camat (assistant regent)? And maybe ibu can help financially?

Yes, I can but I first need to have a proposal. What will it cost?
How are the villagers themselves going to support?
I suggest that the villagers give their labor for free?

In return the village has to help us to keep the village clean of rubbish?

Will be continued.

The funeral of Tarpa's mom, a priest.



Last month the mom of Tarpa was in the hospital because she needed a blood transfusion.
 Last week she needed a transfusion again.
 Tarpa brought her to the hospital.
 That night she passed away.
 She went home by ambulance.

We visited with our offerings their over crowded house full with family and village members
 Everybody was busy preparing offerings for the ceremony.
 It is still difficult for me to watch his mom lying on her bed and all these people around, chatting, laughing like she is still alive.
 To me it still looks not respectful.



But it is not! Balinese believe in reincarnation. She is going to have a better life!
 Be happy for her, not sad I kept on telling myself.

Because his mom was a priest this was going to be a special funeral.
 If the family has not enough money for the cremation yet (which is the most expensive ceremony) there will be a funeral first and when they saved enough money the cremation will follow.

We went to the grave yard. In our village it means the jungle.
 There was a fresh cut path. We went deep into the jungle.

I asked Wayan why are there plastic buckets and rice baskets cluttered everywhere in the jungle?



Because these were the products the person who is buried there was using in his or her daily life.
 And that is how they can find the remains when it's time for the cremation.
 I couldn't help asking myself what would be there as a reminder to me?
 Computer? Hand phone? A plastic dog?



The ceremony done by a high priest was very simple and beautiful.
 And short! It took only 10 minutes.
 After the blessing all food from the offerings were given to the attendees.
 It was eaten directly as a symbol for Tarpa's mom being with you for the rest of your life.

So beautiful!

When we all walked out of the jungle I realized that there was no garbage left!

Against all other ceremonies where the plastic water cups, plastic bags, packaging from sweets are the only reminders that a ceremony just had taken place.

Only the plastic-buckets and rice baskets spread in the jungle remained.

Pondok Gede is almost finished

Hopefully we will start our New Year in our new house!



Photo: Willem de Leeuw

The 3 month ceremony for Du's baby Devia



During this ceremony Devia is getting her official name, she is going to wear the bracelets around her pulse and ankles and the priest is telling the family from who she is reincarnated. In here case two persons: her grand ma and great grand ma.

Our New Year's present to you

We are preparing ourselves for a happy, fully booked holiday season.

The Farm is blooming! Thanks to you who has planted your seeds of love by finding us and recommending us to others. The reason why we would love to share a part of our harvest with you.

You, your friends or family staying with us in 2012 (starting from February) will get 10% discount in 2012 by attaching this update into your/their inquiry.

Leaves us to wishing you a happy Christmas and/or Holiday and
Wishing you for 2012 the best of everything...
That you so well deserve....

Lots of love from all of us,

Marjan, Wayan & Team

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