

Hostel reopening update, in the context of floods, mosquitos and covid-19.

(10 Sept 2020)

After the Pakistan government announcement that schools and Colleges are allowed to reopen on 15th September (after 6 months of being closed), seemingly good news, it is not even possible for many in the Sindh rural areas, seemingly bad news. Extreme monsoon rains and widespread flooding have caused havoc in the area, with water not draining away, definitely bad news.

In the Mirpurkhas region and beyond villages have flooded with water having nowhere to drain. Many people are living on charpais on the side of roads which is where the highest land is. People are currently dealing with trying to access food and basic needs while being exposed to a plague of mosquitos- which some describe as being as thick as the locusts which came through. These mosquitos bother not just people, but animals also causing death from disease, so people are seeking mosquito netting to protect animals as well as themselves.

The grounds of the School and Colleges which our hostel students attend are themselves flooded out, and cannot open by next week and not until the water can be drained. While the rains happened at the end of August, due to drainage issues water still lies deep in many places.

In light of all this, the Mirpurkhas Hostel will delay calling the students back. We are watching the situation (rains are predicted again on 22nd). We are hoping that we will be able to bring hostel students back so they can continue their studies by the end of the month.

Please pray with us for the many challenges these communities are facing.



Hostel building top right, and neighbouring land (over 1 week after rains)



Entrance to College where hostel boys study (over 1 week after rains)



St John's School where the hostel boys study (over 1 week after rains). The white rectangles are benches for sitting on. The path to the office which can be made out is much higher than the surrounding grounds.



St John's School where hostel boys study (over 1 week after rains)



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