



# **KULSEN & HENNIG**

## **DOMINIK KULSEN**

Nature's Brilliant Colours

Winter Greetings! - Newsletter No. 32

12/2017

## **A Diamond for Peace**

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### **Dear Clients and Readers; Dear Friends;**

Once again, the end of the year rush is upon us and a successful and exciting year is coming to an end. We would like to use the contemplative Christmas season as an opportunity to thank you for our excellent and trusting cooperation. The trust you have placed in us and in our Natural Fancy Coloured Diamonds is highly appreciated and of great value to us!

As the holidays are also a time for sharing heart-warming stories, we would like to tell you the story of an exceptional rough diamond found earlier this year which is about to make the world a better place.



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## "The Peace Diamond"



**The "Peace Diamond" is the world's 14th largest diamond:**

Weight: 709.48 ct

Location of discovery: Koryardu, Sierra Leone

Date of discovery: 13 March 2017

Proceeds from the auction on 4 December 2017: 6.5 million dollars

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### A Diamond for Peace

When the more than 700 ct Peace Diamond was discovered on 13 March 2017, it might have suffered the same fate as other valuable diamonds before it – sold under the table for cash and smuggled out of the country, gone forever. The Peace Diamond has, however, taken another, much more meaningful path. From the man who discovered it, to the president of Sierra Leone, the diamond has been a source of great excitement and even greater hope:



Koryardu, in Sierra Leone, is one of the poorest places in the world, without sufficient food, clean water, electricity, bridges or roads. There is also a lack of medical care, schools and jobs. Despite everything it lacks, however, Koryardu is home to many honest people.

When Komba John-Bull, a diamond digger, knocked on Pastor Emmanuel Momoh's door, there was no way the pastor could imagine the sensational find his employee held in his trouser pocket. With the words, "This is what God has blessed us with this afternoon", he revealed his find. The more Mr. Momoh examined the stone, the more his excitement grew – the stone had to weigh several hundred carats! He knew immediately that the head of the chiefdom, Chief Paul Ngaba Saquee, had to be informed to ensure the diamond would go through the right channels on its way to market.

Saquee immediately made his way to the President of Sierra Leone. He was not deterred by

the enormous pressure exerted on him by the local traders. They wanted to buy the diamond at a cheap price without government involvement. It had always been Saquee's dream to publicly auction a diamond found in Sierra Leone. The resulting revenues, with the President's approval, would directly benefit the country's residents in order to improve the vital infrastructure and address all the other shortcomings. With this in mind, the President decided upon the name of "Peace Diamond" for the stone!

Selling the diamond by auction, however, turned out to be more complicated than expected. In a first attempt to publicly auction the diamond, the local dealers were believed to be working together to undermine the diamond's final price by offering low bids, which were then rejected. It was time to offer the Peace Diamond on the international market. To do so, Momoh and Saquee selected the Rapaport Group to handle the diamond's auction on the international market. In order to support the peace-making process of the "Peace Diamond", the Rapaport Group cancelled its usual commission. Finally, the diamond was sold at auction a few days ago, on 4 December 2017, for \$ 6.5 million.

The story of the Peace Diamond should serve as an example and model of how to strengthen and promote trust in official distribution channels and in government. This trust is crucial to ensuring peace in Sierra Leone!

The "Peace Diamond", which has since improved the lives of thousands of people, shows us that a diamond's value is not just based on the 4 C's (**C**arat, **C**olour, **C**ut and **C**larity). This stone is proof of how much good can be achieved through honest diamond trading.

We hope that many more diamonds will soon have a similar story to tell.

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## A Matter of Honour

Once again this year, we are making a generous donation to a project that is near and dear to our heart in South India, where a very special organization labours with great dedication and passion to help young people make their way out of poverty and build a future worth living.

You can reread the article, "A Matter to the Heart", which provides the details of this project, in our newsletter from last December.

If you too would like to make a donation to this valuable cause, you can do so [online](#) or via the [Arunachala Rising Sun association's web page](#).



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**The entire KULSEN & HENNIG GBR and DOMINIK KULSEN AG team wish you and yours a very happy holiday season and all the best for the New Year!**

**We look forward to seeing you at Inhorgenta in February!  
Hall C1 / Stand 309 / from 16 to 19 February 2018**

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You will receive our next newsletter at the [INHORGENTA MUNICH](#) 2018 (February 16 - 19).

Earlier editions of our newsletter may be found in our [newsletter-archive](#).



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