



The People of Shikokho

Price Ksh.....

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INSIDE

Editorial.....	2
The community.....	2
The club.....	2
The Clinic.....	3
Sports.....	4

The school

Shikokho Secondary School was started in 1979 by Mr. Glen Dabysshire who was the first headmaster. It was taken over by Mr. Andrew Thomson Miller who is now a professor in the Michigan State University. He was the second Headmaster. He was succeeded in 1988 by Mr. Mugaisi Asudzi who headed the school up to 1999. Currently the school is headed Mr. Majanga Muhangani.

It has a student population of about 400 students and about 20 teachers. They are four classes group into 10 streams. Each stream is assigned a class teacher and two students as prefects. The staff has very high turnover and currently includes:-



Mr. Majanga Muangani who is the Headmaster and is employed by the Government (TSC). Mr. Opeko Jeremiah the deputy H/M also employed by the government include Mr. Muloli Donald, Wangila Protus, Liyayi Felix, Mamadi Elkana, Mamadi Dolphin (Mrs), Sawanga Ruth (Mrs), Sulwe Tom, Tsimango Godwin and Imbwaga Muyanje. Others who are employed by the school are Lidavalia Edwin, Ashihundu Edwin, Wilera Cynthia, Khama Sally and Anyanzwa Desmond.

Staff Picture from left to right: Mr. Liyayi F. , Imbwaga A., Wangila P., Egogwa Z., Sulwe T. and Litswa I.

From Western Kenya to the Western world

Mission Statement

Shikokho is a village, in the Western Province of Kenya, the District of Kakamega in Ikolomani Division, South Idakho location. It is in this community that the visitors from the west like Glen, Miller, Leuking and many others have visited and stayed for sometime. These visitors had had profound impact on the social and economic front in the village. For instance a school was started through their effort now called Shikokho Secondary School (1979), they have helped to transform Isaac Lidonde's home clinic which is now owned by a women group in the village and have supported the church a great deal.

These three facilities namely the school, the clinic and the church and many other topical issues in the community of Shikokho will be the main focus for this newsletter and later issues.

The Shikokho quarterly is a newsletter almost a magazine that is intended to be produced every 3 month and therefore 4 times in a year. It is a newsletter that will highlight the developments, peoples, special features in the school and the clinic and other issues of interest.

In this issue, please find out more about Isaac Lidonde the main man behind the administration of the clinic. He is highly experienced and has come out in his old age to utilize his talents in assisting the people of the community.

Read about the school and especially the sports in which the school has excelled and gone up to the district for the first time as highlighted by Mr. Lidavalia, a teacher and head of games in the school.

Enjoy your reading !

*Amos Imbwaga Mnyanje
Editor.*

The community around the school is basically agricultural. The people obtain their daily bread from cultivating their farms and planting crops such as beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*), maize (Corn), bananas (plantains) sweet potatoes (*Ipomea batata*) and a range of locally available green vegetables. They own small pieces of land on which they have built their homesteads and have left a portion for the crops. They are habitually peasant farmers except for a few who plant about a quarter acre or so of tea and coffee which are sold as cash crops. In addition the members of this community keep a few animals both as live-stock and pets. These include cattle, goats, sheep, poultry such as domestic fowls, pigeons, ducks and on rare occasions turkeys. The pets includes dogs, cats and rabbits. These birds are meant for slaughter so that they supplement their diets with proteins. Still on the economic front, a few of the villagers have paid employment. About one eighth of the population (mainly youth) are employed as primary school teachers, farm workers in schools such as Shikokho and others have clerical jobs in Nairobi. Their income per month and per person may range from as little as Ksh. 1,500 to as high as Ksh. 8,000/

Socially, the community is made of about 4 clans, the Bamuhali clan which is the most predominant, the Bamusali, the Bavuka and Bashimuli. All these clans belong to the Idakho who are a sub-ethnic group of the Bantu. They are organized into village elders (maguru), assistant chief in charge of a sub-location and a chief in charge of a location. Politically, they are represented by a councillor and an MP. It should be noted that the chairman of the Board of Governors of the school is a member of this community and the clinic is basically a health facility owned and utilized by the community.

Religiously the people belong to several sects and sub-sects of the Christian Religion. The Catholic church is well represented by the presence of a small mud-walled semi-permanent structure (chapel). Others are the Friends church which is a neighbour to the school, the Holy Spirit church among other minor ones.

Leisure activities among the members of the community include bull-fighting, Busaa drinking (a locally prepared liquor) and singing and dancing in traditional ceremonies.

Generally the people are very friendly and welcoming.....

to be continued in the next issue.

Clubs

Clubs in the school include the debating club which meets every Thursday for their discussions. They plan to meet other schools for competitions.

The Young Farmer's Club is still in its rudimentary stages. They plan to register the club with the government so that they can participate in National Agricultural shows. If they get enough funds they plan to keep animals and have crops that can compete favourably in quality and quantity in the shows.

The writer's club is also at its premiere stages and the patron plans to have members to write essays which can be published in this newsletter.

Other clubs are of subject nature like the biology club, Science club, History club, Environmental club among others. These clubs help to improve the academic standards in the school and boost the literacy levels among the students. They plan tours to factories, museums, National Parks but are hindered mainly by lack of funds.

SECOND TERM

The school has had a very busy schedule since January. First we got a visiting teacher from the San Francisco in California state. He taught mathematics in forms 1, 2 and 3 and left towards the end of June. The students, teachers and the community liked him most.

The form four results (KCSE) were announced officially in March this year and two students scored mean grade of B-

On July 16th, the school had a parents day (equivalent to AGM) and the occasion was presided over by the Provincial Director of Education—Western Province Mr. Elly W. Osiemo. The PDE was pleased by the big turnout of parents to grace the occasion. He advised parents on many issues and reminded them to put as priority the girl child education. For instance he told parents to take back to school girls who get pregnant and delivery. It is their right to learn even after giving birth as long as they are willing to learn.

*By Joyce
A form 2G student*

Goodbye Mr. Zones !

We have gathered here to show how we feel as happiness fades away as sorrow shines in our hearts because you are going away and you should know that nobody would ever fill the gap that you are living behind. You are very special in our hearts and we lived like people who knew each other for along time. Never did we see each other like strangers. We lived like a family heading for one goal and that is success. A goal that would bring laughter in our lives and now as you go away, we will always put in mind the advices and ideas you shared with us. Teachings that made our school live and work as a community. The understanding and caring and always ready to help us whenever we needed help is something that none of us would ever forget. That is why you always saw the smiles upon our faces as you passed by. You were our superstar.

I know many of us want you to stay and would even postulate you to stay if we had the authority but on the other hand your family needs you the most. Greet all of them and tell them about the beautiful Kenya and tell them that they are welcomed in Kenya and should not be afraid because Kenya is a peaceful country. We also wish you Joy and happiness and above all we wish you life that would be kind and generous to you and also hope that you have all that you ever dreamt of because you deserve the best.

Always remember the good times we shared in the past days and even the struggles and hard work we put in our academics that brought our school up to the ladder of success and there was always a hearing of the hardworking Shikokho. Something to be proud of. Always put in mind that you will always be a friend to our hearts because the friendship in you gave us strength to move on and go thro' almost everything. We will always say a little prayer for you and hope that you too would always include us in your prayers. So goodbye and know that it was a pleasure having you here and hope none of us took it for leisure because it was like a piece of treasure without measure. Safe journey Mr. Zones as you go back home and God bless you. We will all miss you!

CLINIC

Shikokho clinic was officially registered in the year 1995 as a diagnostic clinic belonging to a group of women who had come together to form a women group. Before that it used to operate as a private facility solely owned by Mr. Lidonde.

Since its registration, it has developed in many respects. Now it has been expanded and accommodate patients overnight on admission. It has also through the assistance from friends in the US completed a maternity unit.

Shikokho clinic deals with health cases from the Shikokho community, particularly Malaria, typhoid, dysentery and other minor problems. Now the community is happy that the expectant mothers do not have to travel to KAKAMEGA town for delivery as there is a fully operational maternity wing thanks to the assistance from the west. The clinic is privileged to have Felistus Lusega who is a Kenya Enrolled Community Nurse who is in charge of consultation injection(administration) MCH/FP etc. Ms Doreen Sayo also a Kenya Enrolled Community Nurse Certificate deals with consultation, injection, dressing etc. Ms Dyphinah Lukoye is a midwife in-charge of delivery, assists in the pharmacy section among other duties. Ms Mildren Namusende deals with registration, Revenue collection and keeping of records. She is also the general administrator of the clinic.

And finally, Mr. Isaac Lidonde who is a haematologist cum lab technician is the chief administrator of the clinic and specifically deals with laboratory Diagnosis of patients. He also assists the government in collecting data related to common epidemics such as malaria, typhoid, tuberculosis etc. He sends these data to the government so as to take possible steps



Mr. Isaac Lidonde

Isaac Lidonde

Known in the village as Isaka, Isaac Lidonde was born in the early 30's long before the country gained independence. He joined the then African Government School Kakamega (now Kakamega High School) (Kenya Junior Secondary School) exam in

1945.

Isaac proceeded to the only medical college in Nairobi by then which is now the Kenya Medical Training College. He also went abroad and joined Woodley College in Burkingham where he did some work on haematology and took a certificate in Theology. He was sponsored by the Friends Church between 1961 and 1962. In 1976, he took the East African lab technicians course and attained a diploma in Medical Science Laboratory Technician.

Isaac worked for the government for two years and was thereafter employed in the then European Hospital between 1952—1978. He resigned and started utilizing his experience in the village by treating those who were sick.

He has been operating in his house until 1995 when the facility was registered as a Diagnostic and Medical Community Clinic. He is now the Chief Administrator of the clinic in charge of about 7 members of staff. He is the laboratory technician.

Isaac thanks chevy chase for offering financial and material assistance to the clinic. He looks forward to equipping the clinic with more modern equipments so that he can treat those in need.

S

hikokho Secondary School is blessed with students with various talents. One visiting the school will be able to identify this fact by simply interacting with the students. To mention but a few, you will see students exhibiting their talents in soccer, volleyball, handball, netball and athletics.

Soccer which is the most popular game in the area and the province as a whole is played by both boys and girls. This year the boys soccer team made history for playing/competing up to the district level; the highest level so far achieved. It has to be clear that Kakamega district in which the school is located is the home of National heroes such as Kakamega High School, Musingu and Makhokho High School. It is with this in mind that I feel the team members under the guidance of their coach Mr. Edwin Lidavalia deserve a pat on the backs.

Games in the district are organized in a way that the competitors begin their campaign at Zonal level. At this level Shikokho boys played so well that the twenty four-man team was a crowd puller whenever it was playing.

Their opening match was on 17/2/2003 at 9.00 a.m at Musingu High School. Where they began by sending shock waves by humiliating their opponents Malimili 3-0. However, in the afternoon match, they lost by a lone goal to Shichinji. This was a bit pill for them to swallow, they polished all their mistakes and won all their remaining matches by big margins such as 60 for Shitoli, humbled Lirhembe 40, won 2-0 versus Imbale before loosing 2-0 to Musingu H. School.



Shikokho football team

After putting up a sterling performance at the zonals the team qualified for the District league by beating Lugala Secondary School 3-1, in a match that the school captain Ikolomani said, "It was like a final of the World cup" Playing at the district was not an easy task for the team was pooled against boarding schools which are endowed with proper games equipment. Sincerely this reminded me of the David and Goliath biblical story. The team was like David without enough playing boots, and a uniform. Watching the team take on the pitch one could rule them out for a walk over. Amazingly, they gave the competition surprises by scoring very beautiful and fantastic goals. Of importance to mention; Ikolomani's goal when playing Ingotse in a match that we lost 4-1, Jumba's goal versus Shabwali, Beti's goal from a penalt spot kick that sent the Shikunga goal keeper the wrong direction and Amwoga's goal versus Chbuyusi.

Being their fist appearance at the district, they won one match, versus Shikunga (3-1), had two draws of (1-1) versus Lugusi, (2-2) versus Chebuyusi and lost 3 matches to Makhokho, Ingotse and Shabwali. The team showed a lot of confidence and talent that if well nurtured they can give the giants a run for their money.

Finally, the team was composed of twenty-four players: **Captain**—Ikolomani Danstone, **Goalkeepers**—Amwoga Dan and Makhalanyinya Evans, **Defenders**—Muchalwa Alvine, Chitayi Shem, Amwoga Sunday, Mabinda Shem, Mabilia Oscar, Likami Wycliffe; **Midfielders**—Jumba Kevin, Beti Bonface, Ikatwa Kevin, Imbova Kelvance, Kashindi Belvis, Matubache Tom, Mwove Robert, Erunga Austine, Mabilia Benard and **Strikers**; Ikolomani Danstone, Amwoga Edmond, Makotsi Benson and Andulu Damiano.

Other games in the school are football for girls which made its way through the finals but did not make it to the districts. The girls tried very much given that this was their second attempt courtesy of the headteacher who supports games.

Volleyball girls caused a stir in the district tournaments as they beat many giant schools like Mukumu girls. The team almost qualified to the provincial but were knocked out of the district to semi finals.

A new game in the school introduced this year was handball for both boys and girls. Mr. Liyayi trained the team and immediately enrolled them for zonal tournaments,

A detailed report due in the next issue.