

End of the Second Term Report

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10th Year

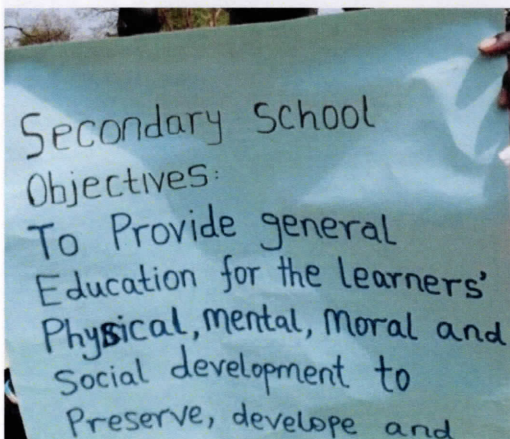
The students at Hope and Resurrection Secondary School celebrated the 10th year of the school's existence in Atiaba by making posters with the goals of education in South Sudan, and by marching through the community singing songs of joy and praise for education in Atiaba.

*"Education is a sowed
seed for community
enlightenment."*

2017 HRSS Students



March 31, 2008—March 31, 2017

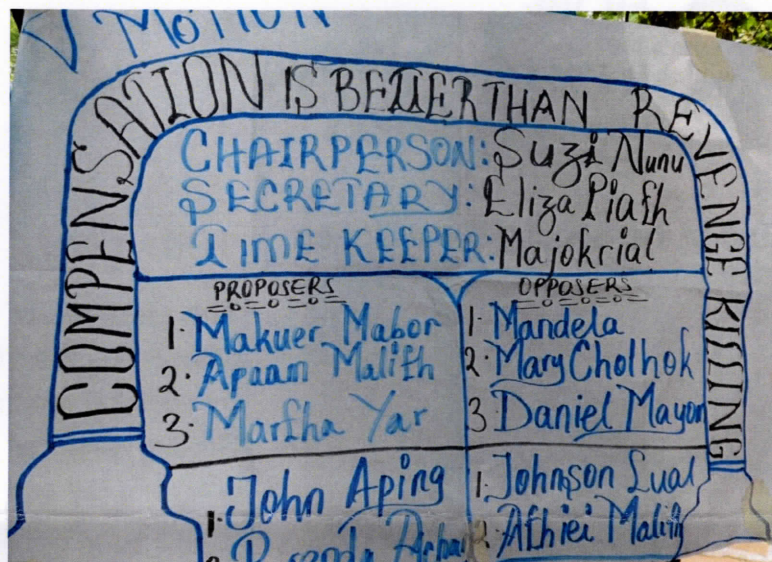


Peace and Justice Program Expands

Again this year, Hope and Resurrection Secondary School (HRSS) is expanding the peace messaging project by continuing its partnership with USAID through the local NGO, VISTAS, which is based in Rumbek, South Sudan. The goal is to continue passing on messages of peace and coexistence. You may recall that in 2016 this program was implemented at HRSS as the host site for several high schools in the area. This year we have extended our peace project message and training to five primary schools in the area: Atiaba Primary School, Living Water Primary School, Abundant Life Primary School, Mathiangic Primary School, and Atiaba Integrated Youth Peace Club.

From these pictures you can see HRSS students visiting the primary schools and helping the younger students learn the art of debate and other activities to promote peace in their communities.

The topics covered were revenge killing versus compensation; and female child marriage practices for dowries. The peace project training helps teach a community how it can restructure its practices to reduce violence and allow peaceful coexistence.



Early Marriage and Dowries



Pictured above, this young girl was presenting an argument in a debate that when a groom's family pays a lower dowry price to his bride's family it is better than if the groom's family had paid a higher dowry price. The main reason that she would argue this is because she has seen that most marriages with a lower dowry price make for healthier and happier relationships between husbands and wives and between the families of both.

When a small dowry is given it is usually done, as it was intended, as a gesture of respect and not for competitive purposes. When a high dowry is paid it is often done for social status or business deals. When it becomes known in a community that a girl of 14 or 15 from a family of status will be married soon, many men will come to her father offering many cattle for her. This competition will result in a large dowry price. The groom and his family have only offered this large price because of the status the bride will bring to them. The dowry is no longer being given as a gift of respect to the bride and her family. The girl bride will be reminded by her husband how much he paid for her, and his view of her will be as his property throughout their marriage (providing it even lasts).

The practice of arranged marriages and marriages that require a dowry be given to the bride's family is something many cultures have practiced throughout time. There are still many cultures that practice arranged marriage, providing dowries, and early marriage (child marriage). South Sudan is one of those cultures. South Sudan ranks 6th in the top 10 countries with the highest child-marriage rates according to the 2015 UNICEF report, "State of the World's Children." This is why one of the founding principles at Hope and Resurrection Secondary School (HRSS) was to emphasize the importance of educating girls and to provide a safe place to accomplish the delay of marriage, with the ultimate objective of eventually ending this practice.

The current famine that has been declared in South Sudan has only exacerbated the problem of fathers giving their daughters in early marriage for the dowries they will bring. Due to the poverty and starvation that is rampant throughout this country, girls are being given in marriage at a much younger age. It has been reported to me by South Sudanese women that girls are being given in marriage after their first menstruation. In order for fathers to be able to make better decisions for their daughters, they need financial help. Giving financial gifts to pay for school fees and food for these girls makes a difference. Please consider fully supporting a girl's education at HRSS. Also, please become an advocate for girls around the world. Share their story! Follow the links below:

- South Sudanese Girls and Education: <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/inpictures/2016/09/educating-girls-south-sudan-160927081830159.html>
- An article LA Times: <http://www.latimes.com/world/africa/la-fg-south-sudan-child-marriage-snap-story.html>
- For more information about humanitarian concerns: <http://www.hopeforhumanityinc.org/South-Sudan>
- For more information about sponsoring a female student: <http://www.hopeforhumanityinc.org/Donate>

Leadership at HRSS

Our mission is to "Equip South Sudan's Girls and Boys for Leadership through a Quality Education with a Christian Foundation."

To equip students for leadership through education takes many types of lessons. Our students are engaged in a rigorous high school academic program that includes a full curriculum in subjects such as math, chemistry, English composition, history, geography, agriculture, business, and religious studies. They also participate in after-school activities such as peace and debate, drama, and sports clubs.

In addition to their academic program, students are also taught to become leaders by leading. It is the culture of our school that the day-to-day running of the school includes student participation.

Every year students are allowed to exercise their democratic rights by electing their own leaders. These student leaders are meant to be a bridge between the students and the school administration.



In coming 2017 Student Leadership

Certificates of merit and prizes are awarded to the leaders at the end of their term of office.



Out going 2016 Student Leadership

The 2017 HRSS Football and Volleyball Tournament

The uniforms are new this year. The students are thankful and proud of their new look. They look great!

Boys' Football (soccer) Team



S1 (Freshman) Team



S2 (Sophomore) Team



S3 (Junior) Team



S4 (Senior) Team

Boys' Volleyball Team



S1 (Freshman) Team



S2 (Sophomore) Team



S3 (Junior) Team



S4 (Senior) Team

Girls' Volleyball Team



S1 (Freshman) Team



S2 (Sophomore) Team



S3 (Junior) Team



S4 (Senior) Team

Winners

Boys' Football — Senior 4 Team

Boys' Volleyball — Senior 2 Team

Girls' Volleyball — Senior 2 Team

