



TSOGOLO LA ANA ORGANISATION

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REPORT ON OF ORIENTATION OF NEW STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE EDUCATION BURSARY 2017

BACKGROUND

Tsogolo la Ana Organisation is a local non-governmental organisation which undertakes to see that the rights of orphans and vulnerable children are not violated. The organisation has since 2008 paid school fees for the needy in two schools of Muhasuwa and Namadidi community day secondary schools and the money for this purpose comes from Open Hearts Germany.

In the year 2015/2016, Tsogolo la Ana was assisted by abc-foundation of Germany to build a secondary school in Mpemba, a rural area in Blantyre district. The school opened its doors to learners in January 2017. The school is called Tsogolo community Day secondary school. Although Tsogolo la Ana organisation supervised construction of this school, it was handed over to Government. The teachers who teach there are government employed teachers and the learners at the school are also selected by government. They are selected from the surrounding primary schools after completing their primary school education. The schools include Tsogolo primary school.

BURSARY CRITERIA AT TSOGOLO COMMUNITY DAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

Members of Tsogolo la Ana organisation made a decision to include students from Tsogolo community day secondary school on the bursary from Open Hearts Germany due to the following reasons:

1. Half of the students in the school are orphans; most of them did not afford to pay their school fees.
2. The government, under the Social Welfare department asked Tsogolo la Ana if they could consider putting some selected orphans on the bursary scheme.
3. Many people in Beni village, where the school has been built are illiterate and poor. Having their children on the bursary will help this village to have some of its citizens access education.
4. The school is within the premises of the Tsogolo la Ana school centre (Kindergarten, Primary school and secondary school), hence monitoring the performance will be easy.

SELECTION

The Social Welfare department, community leaders and the headmaster of Tsogolo CDSS selected the students eligible for the bursary and gave the list to Tsogolo la Ana organisation as follows:

NAMES OF STUDENTS ON BURSARY, TSOGOLO CDSS

NAME	SEX	SCHOOL	CLASS
Khumbo Kaliba	m	Tsogolo	Form 1
Shingirayi Kaunde	f	Tsogolo	Form 1
Henry Yasin	m	Tsogolo	Form 1
Alexander Malizani	m	Tsogolo	Form 1
Nita Chimwala	f	Tsogolo	Form 1
Thoko Scort	f	Tsogolo	Form 1
Dorcas Kachingwe	f	Tsogolo	Form 1
Ruth Born	f	Tsogolo	Form 1
Gibson Mvula	m	Tsogolo	Form 1
Chisomo Samuel	m	Tsogolo	Form 1

It was very important to visit the homes of the children to verify their need for the bursary, to meet their guardians and discuss with them how best the children can be looked after in order for them to get the best benefit out of this bursary. In addition, the Social welfare department asked if the students could have a one day orientation workshop so that they should understand and appreciate the bursary.

At this particular point in time, an amount of K300, 000 had been received from Open Hearts Germany to do an activity with the students on bursary. An arrangement was already made to have an education visit with the students. However, when this request came up, there were no funds for this workshop. After discussions, it was agreed to cancel the education visit and carry out this equally important activity.

WHAT TOOK PLACE

The Social Welfare department sat down with Tsogolo la Ana Organisation officers to come up with a one day workshop that would benefit the students. It was facilitated by:

2 Social Welfare officers

2 Officers from Tsogolo la Ana organisation

Because this is a new school and the workshop being the first of its kind and also the fact that the school is in the village, it was agreed that community leaders also be included in the workshop so that they should understand the importance of this orientation and would continue mentoring the students as they live with them every day. The whole idea being that the students should have a bright future as a result of being on the bursary scheme. Hence the following community leaders were also invited as advised by the Social Welfare department of the government:

The Village Head (1 person)
Teachers (4 teachers at the school)
Members of the school committee: (2 male and 2 female).

Students were given an orientation in the following areas:

1. What is an education bursary? This topic was taken by staff from Tsogolo la Ana organisation. They were advised that it is not a right that they have been considered to be on this bursary but a privilege. They should properly guard against bad behavior and make the most out of the bursary they have now acquired.
2. Human Rights: This topic was tackled by staff from the social welfare department. The students will grow up as Malawian adults expected to take part in the development of the country. For them to contribute to the development of the country effectively they need to be exposed to various human rights and their responsibilities.
3. Child Rights: Students were exposed to rights that apply to every child. These are: the right to life, education, parental care, information, protection and many more. They were also appraised on how to conduct themselves as responsible citizens of the country. This was also tackled by staff from the Social Welfare department.
4. Life skills: Assertiveness, self-esteem, decision making were highlighted to the students. This was also tackled by staff from the Social Welfare department.
5. Child abuse: The students were advised to guard against various types of abuses in school and at home such as physical abuse, sexual harassment, psychological abuse, child trafficking and child labour. They will in future be empowered with skills on how best they can handle these situations. This was also tackled by staff from the Social Welfare department.

The workshop started at 08.00 and ended at 16.30 on 26th May 2017, it took place at the Tsogolo Community Day secondary school premises. Ideally, this workshop should have taken place in January as soon as the students were selected into secondary school but more time was needed to select students eligible for the bursary, and being a new school, the selection process took quite some time. It was also very important to sensitize the community on the bursary selection criteria, some members of the community expected that each and every student at this school is eligible for the bursary.

Tsogolo la Ana Organisation would like to express gratitude to Open Hearts Germany who have constantly assisted towards education in Malawi, at first it was only in Chiradzulu district but now the scheme has extended to Blantyre Rural district in Mpemba.



**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TSOGOLO LA ANA ORGANISATION**