HOLY TRINITY PEACE VILLAGE KURON

Opening of St. Thomas Secondary School Kuron

Bishop Emeritus Paride Taban 3/16/2020

Today marks a milestone in the history of Kuron, and the people of Kauto Payam, Eastern Equatoria, South Sudan, with the official opening of St. Thomas Secondary School Kuron by the Founder and Chairperson of Holy Trinity Peace Village Kuron, Bishop Emeritus Paride Taban.

1.0 Introduction

It is a very big milestone in the history of education intervention within the communities of Kuron and most so, within the boundaries of the people of Kauto County, of former Kapoeta State following the launching of the construction of the first secondary School since times immemorial or medieval times in South Sudan and former Sudan. The official opening comes at critical time following successful primary education intervention for nearly fifteen (15) years by Holy Trinity Peace Village Kuron, founded by Bishop Emeritus Paride Taban of the Catholic Diocese of Torit. It is because of his love for people, which led him to establish the institution within the innocent and untouched Toposa communities "Bishop often refers to as God's people" and the surrounding tribes of Murle, Jie and Kachipo, without which, these communities would continue to exist without educational development.

Most importantly, the secondary school comes at the time when St. Thomas Primary School has achieved its objective of provision of quality education to the disadvantaged communities of Kuron and beyond. This has been possible with the consistent academic excellence exhibited by the 100% pass rate ever since, the first primary leaving candidates sat for their examinations until to date. Moreover, over the years, St. Thomas primary school has been competing with St. Bakhita primary school in Narus, for the 1st position formerly in Eastern Equatoria, and later in Kapoeta State. Interestingly, St. Thomas Primary school ranked number one by producing the best overall candidate in the South Sudan National Examinations of 2019 in former Kapoeta State. In the past years, the primary leaving candidates had to find secondary school elsewhere other than within Kuron, and most of the students were facing enormous challenges which hampered their future academic excellence. Thus, the starting of secondary school, will not only ensure transition of pupils from primary to secondary school, and will also enhance students' academic excellence for the future population of Kuron and beyond.

Conclusively, on behalf of the management of HTPVK, I would want to very much appreciate the board of Kuron for taking a bold decision to see that the secondary school is opened in 2020. Moreover, I still lobby for more support for the secondary school inform of both financial and material support like, text books, scholastic materials, furniture, amongst others.

Prepare by;

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Bishop Emeritus of Catholic Diocese of Torit,

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2.0 Photos



Deputy Governor of Former Kapoeta State, South Sudan, officially opens the construction site by ground breaking action of digging the foundation



Bishop Paride Taban, Head of Office UNMISS Torit, and Deputy Governor of Former Kapoeta State, planting a tree seedling within the construction ground of the St. Thomas Secondary School



On-going Construction of two classrooms and office space for St. Thomas Secondary School



Bishop Emeritus Paride Taban with pioneer students of St. Thomas Secondary School in Kuron on official opening on $16^{\rm th}$ March 2020



Bishop Emeritus Paride Taban with pioneer students of St. Thomas Secondary School and volunteer teachers in Kuron on official opening on 16^{th} March 2020



Bishop Emeritus Paride Taban with pioneer students of St. Thomas Secondary School, Programme Director, Peace Advisor and volunteer teachers in Kuron on official opening on 16th March 2020