



A Place of Refuge and Hope

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ORPHAN CARE PROJECT ° MALAWI, CENTRAL AFRICA
miqlat.com



Celebrating

Miqlat Primary School: Year One Completed!

On the 28th of July, 2017, the Miqlat Primary School at Kogoya Hope Center celebrated the conclusion of its first year of class. Over the course of the year, our students have flourished. A few who had been lagging behind in their past schools, have responded so well to the new learning conditions that they will even be skipping a grade next year! At the closing celebration, we were all treated to an amazing picture of our children's families who arrived in large number to celebrate the year's achievements with cheers and special gifts of money, snacks, and soft drinks at the announcement of a student's class rank or award presentation. To really give you a picture of the impact of our new school, we bring you stories from two of our children who have especially benefited.

When we asked our Kogoya Program Coordinator, Ethel Dinala, to choose a few students to interview about their time at Kogoya's new school, her immediate first choice was Amos Kachopa. At ten years old, this bright eyed young man should be making his way to 5th grade this coming year. However, when he began school at the age of 6, Amos was registered at a local government school where there were so many students in his 1st grade class that it was nearly impossible for him to get attention from their single teacher. Unfortunately, Amos also found himself in a group of friends known for their bad behavior: fighting, stealing, and ditching class. Amos reports that these friends encouraged him to follow in their footsteps resulting in his rarely attending school at all. He repeated 1st grade and was struggling his way through 2nd grade when, as Amos tells it, "by the grace of God, Miqlat opened its primary school."



Amos Kachopa

Ethel recalls the first day of Miqlat school with Amos as the happiest student around, a gigantic grin on his face, full of pride in his new school uniform. Attending school at Miqlat this year, he has been able to associate with the friends he had already made in the Miqlat family, and together they have developed good behaviors of timely attendance, class participation, and hard work. Having a much smaller class and even smaller groups for reading instruction, Amos received personal attention from his teacher and teaching aides and has improved dramatically in his reading, writing, math, and English. Amos actively involves himself in nearly every class activity and boldly approaches our international staff and visitors to test out new English phrases. Having now passed 2nd grade, Amos looks forward to beginning class 3 this September which, he says, "will only happen with Jesus, because I know Jesus loves me and with Him, everything is possible."

Enelesi Kaipa



Enelesi joined the Miqlat family when she was very, very young. After beginning at the local primary school, she progressed smoothly to the 6th grade. However, during that year, her mother fell desperately ill and Enelesi was forced to abandon her school pursuits to care for her younger siblings. By the time she returned to class, still carrying much of the burden of care for her family, Enelesi struggled seriously. Though she

continued forward each year after that and finished 8th grade, her performance was so poor that it was impossible for her to pass the 8th grade exit exam and proceed to high school. At this point, her teacher advised that she return to

6th grade, which caused this intelligent, but overworked, young woman an immense amount of grief. She turned to the Miqlat staff for counseling just as we were formulating the class lists for the Miqlat Primary School's first year. She had the option to simply repeat 8th grade at the government school, or, as the staff suggested, she could return to 6th grade and finish her primary school education with Miqlat.

Though it hurt her pride, Enelesi decided that it would be much better to learn at Miqlat than at the same school where she was failing, and thus she re-entered the 6th grade at the age of 16. With the unique support offered in the Miqlat learning environment, Enelesi focused her mind on the task of learning and spent the entirety of the 2016-2017 school year ranked as one of the top two students in her class. Confident and happy with her choice to make the sacrifice of pride to attend the Miqlat school, Enelesi is thrilled to be moving forward to tackle 7th grade this year, and we expect her to soon emerge as a leader among her peers.



“And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.” Matthew 18:5

Home Office:
Miqlat Inc.
1850 Lake Morena Rd.
Campo, CA 91906
619-478-9200
www.miqlat.com

Mail Orphan
Correspondence To:
Miqlat Inc.
PO Box 30782
Chichiri, Blantyre 3
Malawi, Central Africa

Contact/Questions:
Sonrise Christian Fellowship
Kogoya Hope Center
Bill & Judy Saunders
760-728-7859
billandjudysaunders@gmail.com

Sponsorship:
Kogoya Hope Center
Contact: Gayle Kott
760-728-5322
gmktt@aol.com

Contact/Questions:
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church
Thuchila Hope Center
Lauri Balbi - Outreach Project
Coordinator
lbalbi@fopc.org

Sponsorship:
Thuchila Hope Center
thuchila@sbcglobal.net
Content and photos
Sally Fox & Emma Holmquist



Website: miqlat.com
Facebook: Miqlat
Instagram: [miqlatmalawi](https://www.instagram.com/miqlatmalawi)