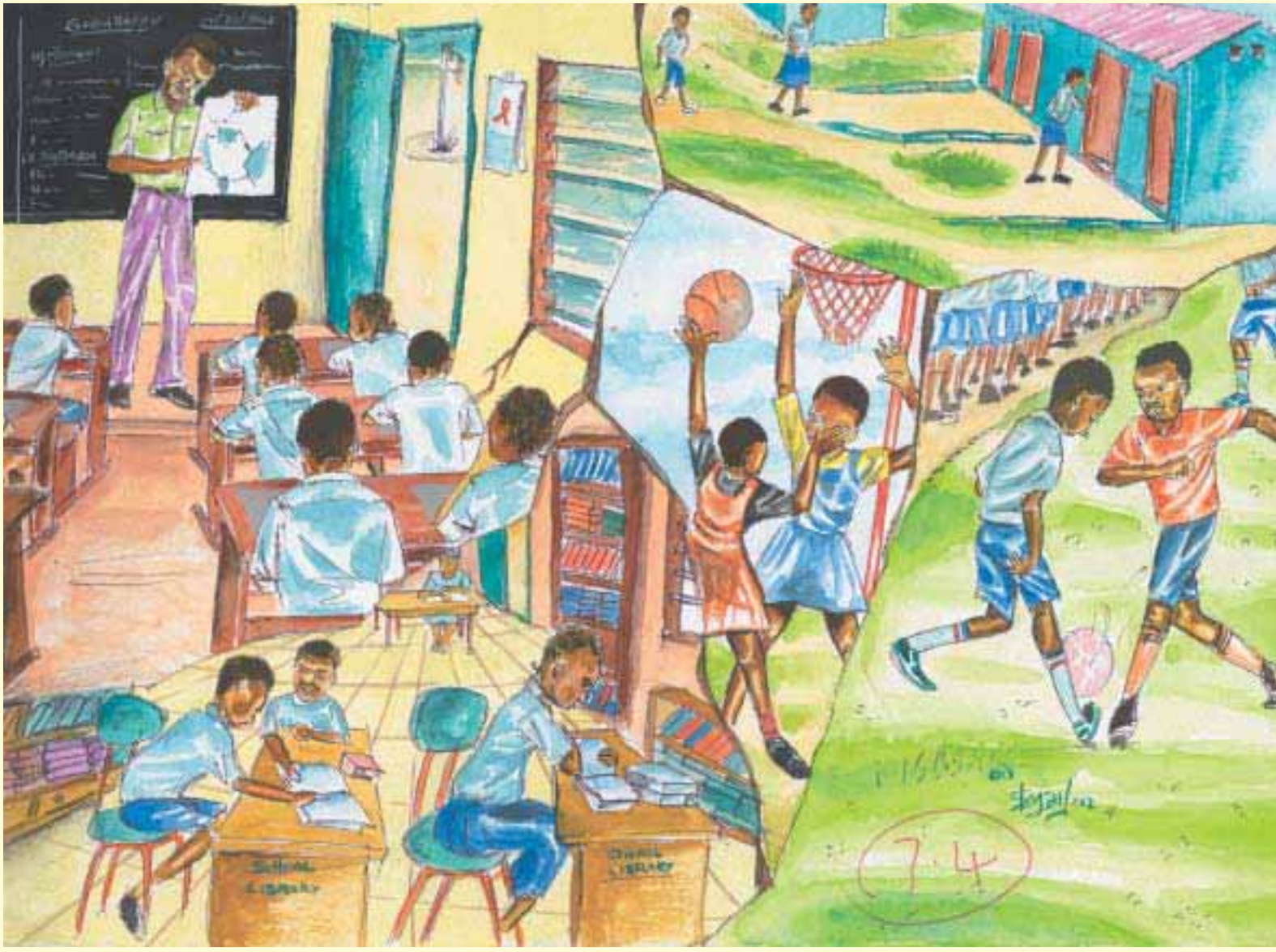
People Speak Out on
What is a Good School?



Essays and Drawings

hakielimu

What is a good school? It is different things to different people. Some people emphasize buildings and the environment. Others think relationships and governance are more important.

Over one thousand people of different ages and backgrounds across Tanzania responded to a competition on "What is a Good School?" organized by HakiElimu. The aim was to stimulate debate on the meaning of quality education. The variety and depth of the response demonstrates that people across Tanzania are thinking about education and have ideas to share.

This booklet summarizes the issues raised and publishes 17 of the best essays and drawings received. We hope they will inspire students, parents, teachers and policy makers to pay greater attention to the quality of education, and to implement creative ideas that will make a real difference.



HakiElimu is an independent civil society organization which seeks to realize equity, quality, human rights and democracy in education and society. We facilitate communities to access information, transform schools and influence policy-making; stimulate imaginative public dialogue and organizing for change; promote critical research, analysis and advocacy; and collaborate with partners to advance social justice.

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People Speak Out on

What is a Good School?

Essays and Drawings from a competition organized by HakiElimu

Acknowledgements
Many thanks for all those who supported us in the production of this booklet
• All the "What is a Good School?" Competition participants
• All HakiElimu 2002-2003 staff
• Ms. Rose Masenga, Chairperson, Quality Technical Working Group, Ministry of Education and Culture
• Tanzania Printers Ltd for their contribution on layout

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Publisher
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ISBN 9987- 8943-5-6

Introduction

What is a good school? A good or bad school is different things to different people. Some people emphasize buildings and the environment. Others think relationships and governance are more important.

In 2002 HakiElimu organized a countrywide essay and drawing competition on quality education. The topic of the competition was "What is a Good School?" and "What is a Bad School?" The competition aimed at stimulating the public, particularly children and young people, to debate the meaning of quality education and contribute to the Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP).

Over one thousand people of different ages and backgrounds across Tanzania sent in entries. The variety and depth of the response demonstrates that people across the country are thinking about education and have ideas to share.

This booklet summarizes the issues raised by the participants, and publishes 17 of the best entries received. These are not exhaustive, but give an indication of the sorts of things that matter to the public. The responses provide an opportunity to learn from how people are thinking, and point to areas where public information and debate need to be deepened. We hope this booklet will contribute to fostering this debate.

What do people think

Almost all of the entries touched on the importance of good infrastructure for schools. These include classrooms, the school environment and resources that a school requires to provide quality education. While many concentrated on the fact that a school cannot be good without proper classrooms, others argued that a good school is made up of much more than its infrastructure.

A good number of entries stressed that schools should be fun! Both for teachers and students! Everyone involved in schools should feel welcome and enjoy the time they spend there. Many of the entries highlighted that corporal punishment makes school an unsafe and unhappy place, and that this interferes with learning. They said that good schools have alternative forms of discipline which help students learn rather than scare them through beatings.

Many of the entries highlighted that schools should teach real life skills and provide an all-round education. This included the provision of sports facilities and libraries as well as curriculum which focuses on the development of the whole child. This means not just teaching by rote but teaching children to think for themselves and respect one another.

Good schools also place an emphasis on the importance of good relationships at different levels. These include relationships between:

- pupils which value equal rights
- pupils and teachers that reflect mutual respect and understanding
- schools and communities which are accountable and transparent
- school management and Government which are supportive and where information is shared.

"A good school is the one that has responsible teachers who are committed to their job. They encourage their students to work hard for good performance. In a good school, teachers aim at preparing their students to be good citizens in future."

Xaveria Hyera (17) female

"In a good school there is a good relationship between students and teachers. Students are free to ask questions and the teachers are always ready to discuss and answer them in a friendly way."

Bethseba E. Mjema (18) female

Good governance was seen as equally important in many of the entries. Some talked about the value of involving the wider community in decision making about schools. Others discussed how schools should be more transparent in sharing information with both pupils and parents.

"A good school has a school committee which closely supervises different development activities of the school."

Habibu Hasan Surumbu (50) male

In contrast bad schools were characterised as those schools which did not have good infrastructure or were poorly located. Bad schools had overcrowded classrooms and teachers who did not attend to classes. Poor management, the lack of involvement by the community and poor relationships between pupils and teachers were all features of bad schools. In many of the entries corporal punishment was seen as contributing towards a bad school.

But this is only a summary. The 17 best entries are published in this booklet. Read and see what the authors themselves had to say. Think for yourself. Discuss what you think makes a good or bad school. Talk to your friends and neighbours. Write to the Government and to the newspapers. Contact the radio stations. And tell us what you think! Your views matter! You can make a difference!

"A bad school is one where teachers do not enter the classroom, and where students are rampantly beaten such that it causes conflict between students, teachers and parents."

Jacqueline Ngowi (25) female

The best entries

1. Tuelimishane Youth Group, Group Entry
PO Box 11348, Mwanza

This group entry emphasizes 'good governance' in schools. It also says that students should not be expelled from school just because they have no uniforms.



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SHULE NZURI NI IPI

Shule ni mahali ambapo hutoa elimu/mafunzo kwa watoto/vijana ili kuwafanya watu hao wawe na ujuzi wa mambo mbalimbali katika maisha yao kwa wakati huo na wakati ujao. Pia huwafanya waelewe mazingira yao wanayoishi na mfumo mzima wa maisha katika mazingira hayo. Hali hii husaidia kufahamu taratibu za binadamu wafanyiwekea zinazowawezesha kuishi maisha yanayokubalika na watu wote katika hali zote.

Shule nzuri ni ile yenye majengo imara, mazingira safi yanayoizunguka na vyanja vya michezo. Kwa miaka ya hivi karibuni pamekuwa na shule nyingi zilizojengwa kiholela na hivyo majengo yake kutishia maisha ya wanafunzi. Ili kutofautisha shule hizi, shule nzuri ni ile yenye majengo imara ambayo inawahikikishia wanafunzi kupata masomo bila kuhofia kuanguliwa na majengo. Mazingira safi huwahakikishia wanafunzi afinzi na usala wa afya zao. Hali hii inawavutia na kuwapa shauku wazazi kuwapeleka watoto wao katika shule. Kwa kuwa anakuwa na uhakika wa maisha ya mtoto wake. Pia wazazi hushawishika kuchangia michango mbalimbali itakayokuwa inahitajika kwa maendeleo ya shule ili kuwawezesha watoto wao kupata huduma nzuri zaidi wakiwa shuleni.

Shule zenye mazingira machafu zinawafanya wanafunzi kuchukia kusoma. Hivyo ni vizuri shule iwe na bustani za maua na majani, viwanja kwa ajili ya michezo mbalimbali kama vile mpira wa miguu, mikono na kikapu. Bustani za maua na majani huwafanya wanafunzi kuipenda shule yao na huwazuia wanafunzi kuwa watoro katika vipindi vya masomo pia hata wazazi inawapa moyo wanapoona watoto wao wanakuwa wakati wote shule wakiendelea na masomo yao. Viwanja vya michezo husaidia wanafunzi kufanya mazoezi ili wasiwe dhaifu shuleni. Pia muda maalumu kwa ajili ya michezo uwepo usije ukaingiliana na vipindi vya darasani. Kufanya kila kitu kwa mpangilio unamwezesha mwanafunzi kujiweka tayari kwa jambo fulani kwa wakati unafaka.

Shule nzuri ni ile yenye maabara na maktaba yenye vitabu vyote husika. Maabara za kutosha kwa ajili ya kutumia wanafunzi kutawawezesha kusoma kwa vitendo. Mara nyingi kusoma kwa nadharia huwachosha akili wanafunzi kwa sababu wengi wao husoma kwa kukariri. Kwa wale ambao hawana uwezo huo hupata shida sana kusoma kwa njia hiyo lakini kama kutakuwepo na maabara za kutosha na zenye vifaa vya kutosha vitawesaidia sana wanafunzi katika masomo yao. Kuwepo kwa vitabu kwenye maktaba husaidia sana wanafunzi darasani. Pale ambapo mwanafunzi anashindwa kuelewa darasani, anaweza kupata taarifa zaidi kutoka kwenye vitabu ambavyo vinahifadhiwa kwenye maktaba. Usomaji wa vitabu huwajenga wanafunzi kuwa wasomaji wazuri na wepesi wa kuelewa zaidi.

Shule nzuri ni ile yenye vitabu vya kutosha kwa kila mwanafunzi. Endapo kila mwanafunzi atakuwa na kitabu chake kutaepusha ugomvi wakunyang'anyiana vitabu na kutawapa wanafunzi amani na uelewa wa jua zaidi. Pale ambapo wanafunzi watahitajika kufanya kazi nyumbani, itakuwa rahisi. Kwa sasa hivi hali ya vitabu kwa kila mwanafunzi ni mbaya sana. Wanafunzi wenye uwezo tu ndio wanaoweza kumudu kupata vitabu. Kwa walimu pia ni muhimu kuwa na vitabu vya kufundishia ambavyo ni vya wakati huo (havikupitwa na wakati).

Anani
Tuelimishane Youth Group
S.L.P. 11348
Mwanza

Tuelimishane Youth Group, Group Entry
PO Box 11348, Mwanza

Katika shule nzuri wawepo walimu waliotunukiwa vyeti na wenye uwezo wa kufundisha. Walimu wawe wenye taaluma, uweza, mbinu na ubunifu unaofaa kwa kuwafundisha wanafunzi. Hii huwafanya wanafunzi wapende masomo na shule kwa ujumla. Kupenda masomo kunampelekea mwanafunzi kupenda shule hata mafanikio yake huwa ni mazuri. Sio kuwa na walimu wahabaishaji na wasiokuwa na taluma na mbinu za kutosha.

Shule nzuri ni yenye uongozi mzuri kuanzia Mwalimu Mkuu. Kamati za Shule na viongozi wa chini kwa ujumla. Mwalimu Mkuu akiwa mtekelezaji na mfuatiliaji mzuri wa masuala ya shule, nidhamu ya wanafunzi na shule kwa ujumla basi uongozi wake mzima utafanya kazi kwa bidii sana na utaleta mafanikio mazuri katika shule hiyo. Ni dhahiri pia shule nzuri ni ile yenye kufaulisha wanafunzi kwa wingi na kwa alama nzuri zinazotakiwa. Shule ambayo inafaulisha wanafunzi zaidi ya asilimia sabini (70%) ya wanafunzi katika darasa husika. Hali hii itaweza kuipa shule sifa nzuri ya kuvutia watu wengi kupeleka watoto wao shuleni hapo. Kwa hakika shule ambayo inafaulisha wanafunzi zaidi ya asilimia sabini (70%) hiyo ni shule yenye mazingira mazuri, maktaba yenye vitabu vya kutosha, maabara za kutosha, waalimu wa kutosha na wenye ujuzi na uwezo wa kufundisha wanafunzi na uongozi mzuri wa Kamati za Shule.

Shule nzuri ni ile inayotekeleza kanuni, sheria, na taratibu zote zilizowekwa na serikali pamoja na shule yenyewe. Sababu shule nyingi Tanzania kama si zote hazifuati utaratibu na sharia zilizowekwa. Hivyo hujiwekea taratibu na kanuni kwa kulinda maslahi ya Uongozi pamoja na walimu. Hali hii huwasababishia wazazi na wanafunzi usumbufu mkubwa. Kwa mfano mwanafunzi haruhusiwi kufukuzwa kwenye mtihani. Lakini shule nyingi hufukuza wanafunzi pindi wafanyapo mitihani yao na hii hupelekea wanafunzi kupata matokeo mabaya katika mitihani yao. Hiyo ni ukiukwaji wa taratibu na sheria zilizowekwa na serikali. Shule kukataa kufuata kanuni, sheria na taratibu zilizowekwa na serikali ni kero kubwa kwa wanafunzi. Kanuni mojawapo ambayo haifuatwi ile ya Viboko. Wanafunzi wanadhibiwa kwa makosa ambaye siyo yao kwa mfano kukosa michango na sare za shule.

Hitimisho letu ni kwamba katika nchi ya Tanzania kama shule nzuri chache mno zilizo na mfumo mzuri wa elimu kwa walengwa ukilinganisha na nchi nyingine tukizinisha na vigezo tulivyovitaja hapo juu. Ni jambo la kusikitisha kwamba Tanzania yenye raslimali nyingi kama vile madini, vivutio vya watalii (mlima Kilimanjaro na mbuga za wanyama) na ziwa, bado shule nyingi hazina vitabu vya kutosha, walimu wa kutosha na wenye elimu inayofaa. Maktaba pamoja na maabara pia hazipo za kutosha. Mojengo mengi ni ya tope na kuezekwa kwa nyasi! Uhaba wa walimu huchangiwa na mishahara midogo wanayolipwa, kukosa nyumba nzuri za kuishi, usafiri mgumu vijijini, kukosa posho za kujikimu wakipata uhamisho, kukosa matibabu kutokana na mfumo mbaya wa uchangiaji huduma. Haya yote huchangia katika kufanya shule iwe mbaya.

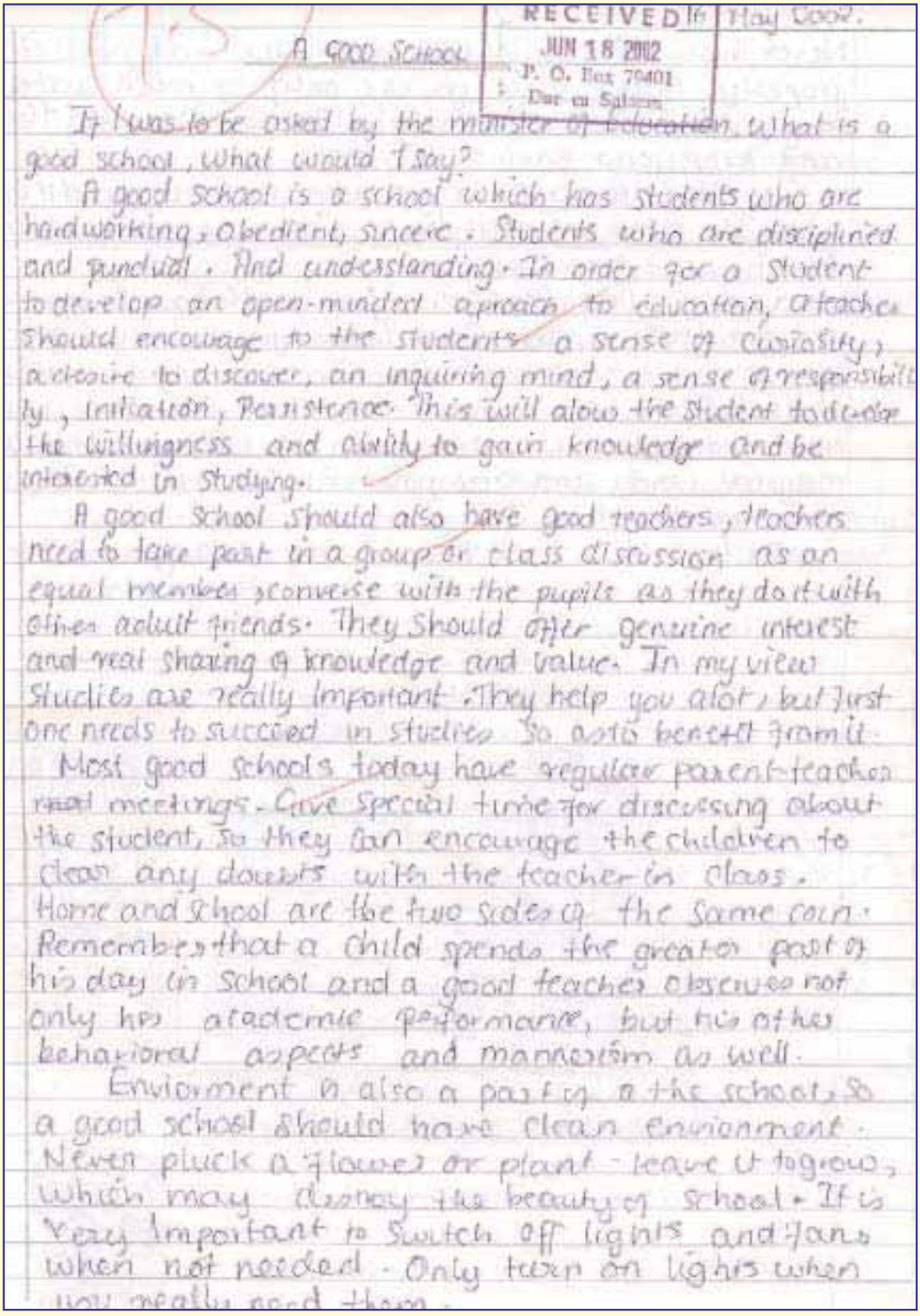
Ili kuweza kufika safari ndefu ya ndoto zetu za shule nzuri, tunapendekeza Serikali, Taasisi, Mashirika yasiyo ya Kiserikali, Mashirika ya Dini na Wazazi kulipa kipaumbele swala zima la elimu. Tunachohitaji ni kuwa na shule nzuri yenye sifa ambazo tumezitaja hapo juu. Hivyo tunahitaji raslimali nyingi zaidi zitengwe kwa shule. Lakini pia tuhakikishe raslimali hizo zinatumika kwa kazi iliyokusudiwa.

Amani
Tuelimishane Youth Group
S.L.P. 11348
Mwanza

2

2. Amirah Naushad Baliram, (13) Female
Al-Muntazir Islamic Seminary, Dar es Salaam

Amirah focuses on the importance of relationships. She argues that teachers should act as equal with pupils in the classroom. She makes her points clearly and backs them up with good examples



A good School

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If I was to be asked by the minister of Education what is a good school, what would I say?

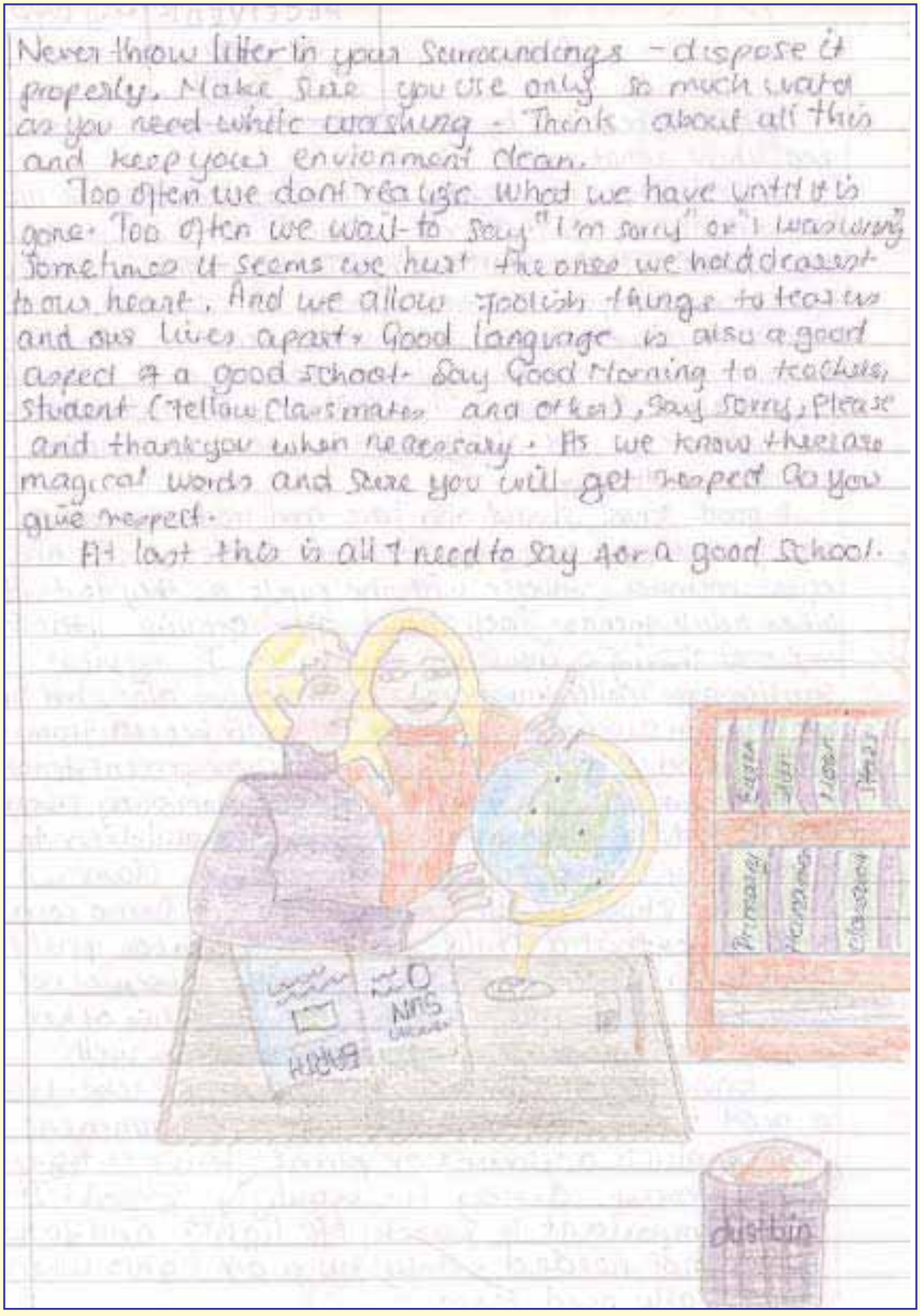
A good school is a school which has students who are hardworking, obedient, sincere. Students who are disciplined and punctual. And understanding. In order for a student to develop an open-minded approach to education, a teacher should encourage to the students a sense of curiosity, a desire to discover, an inquiring mind, a sense of responsibility, initiation, Persistence. This will allow the student to develop the willingness and ability to gain knowledge and be interested in studying.

A good school should also have good teachers, Teachers need to take part in a group or class discussion as an equal member, converse with the pupils as they do it with other adult friends. They should offer genuine interest and real sharing of knowledge and value. In my view Studies are really important. They help you alot, but first one needs to succeed in studies so as to benefit from it.

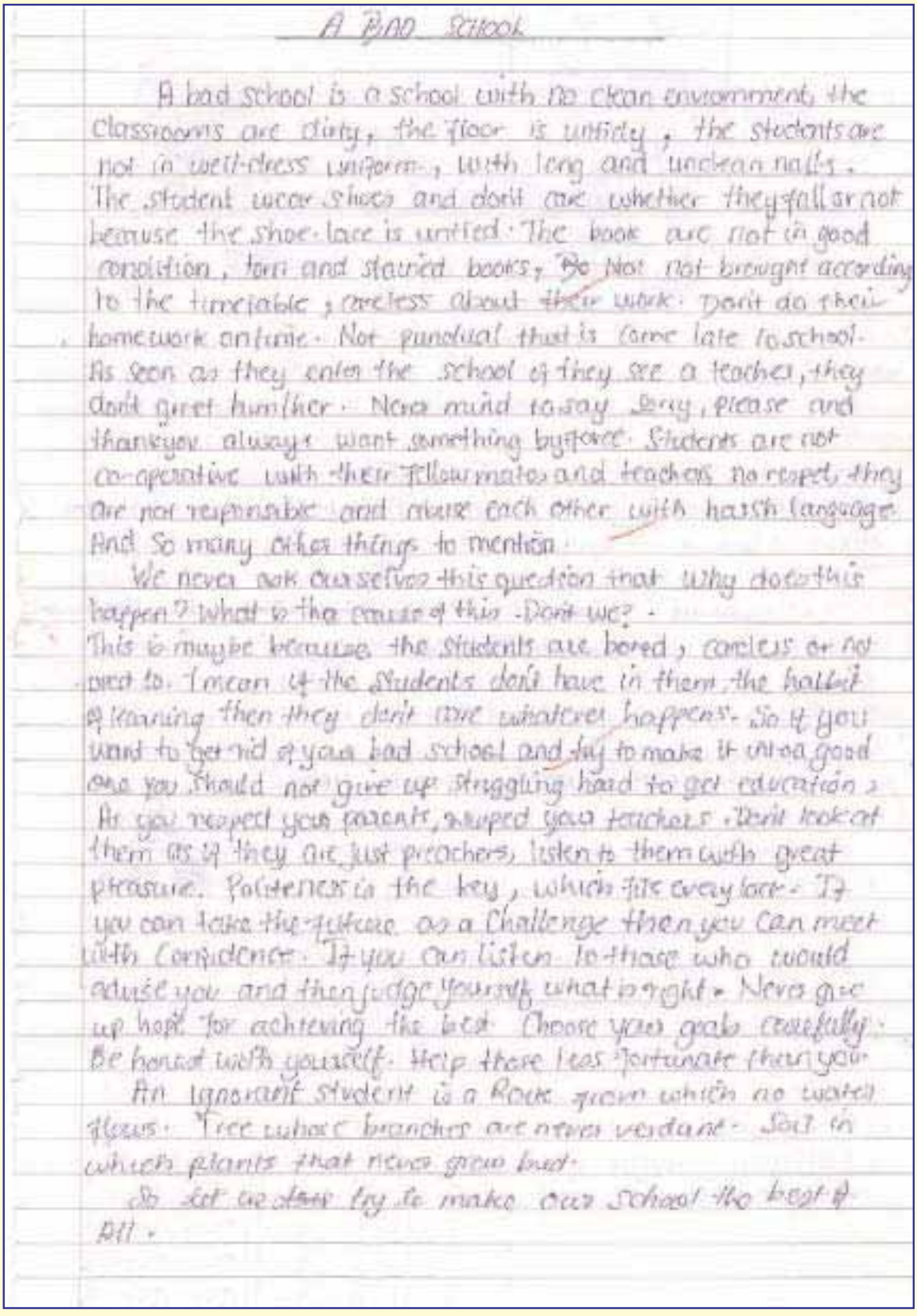
Most good schools today have regular parent-teacher meetings. Give special time for discussing about the student, so they can encourage the children to clear any doubts with the teacher in class. Home and School are the two sides of the same coin. Remember that a child spends the greater part of his day in school and a good teacher observes not only his academic performance, but his other behavioral aspects and mannerism as well.

Enviorment is also a part of a the school, So a good school should have clean enviornment. Never pluck a flower or plant - leave it to grow, which may destroy the beauty of school. It is very important to Switch off lights and fans when not needed. Only turn on lights when you really need them.

Amirah Naushad Baliram, (13) Female
Al-Muntazir Islamic Seminary, Dar es Salaam



Amirah Naushad Baliram, (13) Female
Al-Muntazir Islamic Seminary, Dar es Salaam



A Bad School

A bad school is a school with no clean environment, the classrooms are dirty, the floor is untidy, the students are not in well-dress uniform, with long and unclean nails. The student wear shoes and don't care whether they fall or not because the shoe-lace is untied. The book are not in good condition, torn and stained books. Do Not not brought according to the timetable, careless about their work. Don't do their homework on time. Not punctual that is come late to school. As soon as they enter the school if they see a teacher, they don't greet him/her. Never mind to say Sorry, please and thankyou. always want something by force. Students are not co-operative with their fellow mates and teachers no respect, they are not responsible and abuse each other with harsh language. And so many other things to mention.

We never ask ourselves this question that Why does this happen? What is the cause of this. Don't we?.
This is maybe because the students are bored, careless or no used to. I mean if the students don't have in them the habbit of learning then they don't care whatever happens. So if you want to get rid of your bad school and try to make it into a good one you should not give up struggling hard to get education, As you respect your parents, respect your teachers. Don't look at them as if they are just preachers, listen to them with great pleasure. Politeness is the key, which fits every lock. If you can take the future as a challenge then you can meet with confidence. If you can listen to those who would advise you and then judge yourself what is right. Never give up hope for achieving the best. Choose your goals carefully. Be honest with yourself. Help those less fortunate than you.

An ignorant student is a Rock grown which no water flows. Tree whose branches are never verdant. Soil in which plants that never grow bud.

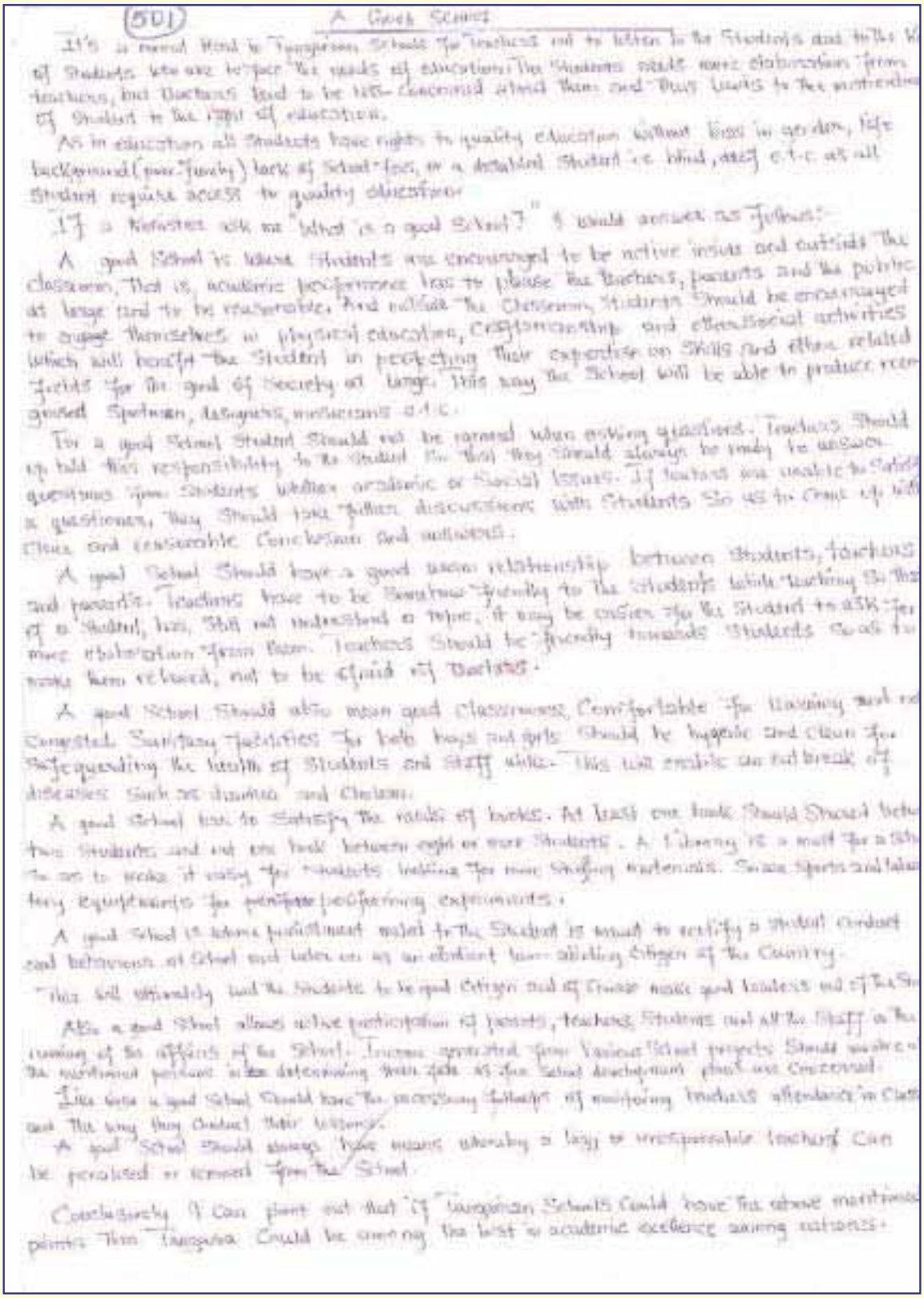
So let us also try to make our School the best of All.

Amirah Naushad Baliram, (13) Female
Al-Muntazir Islamic Seminary, Dar es Salaam

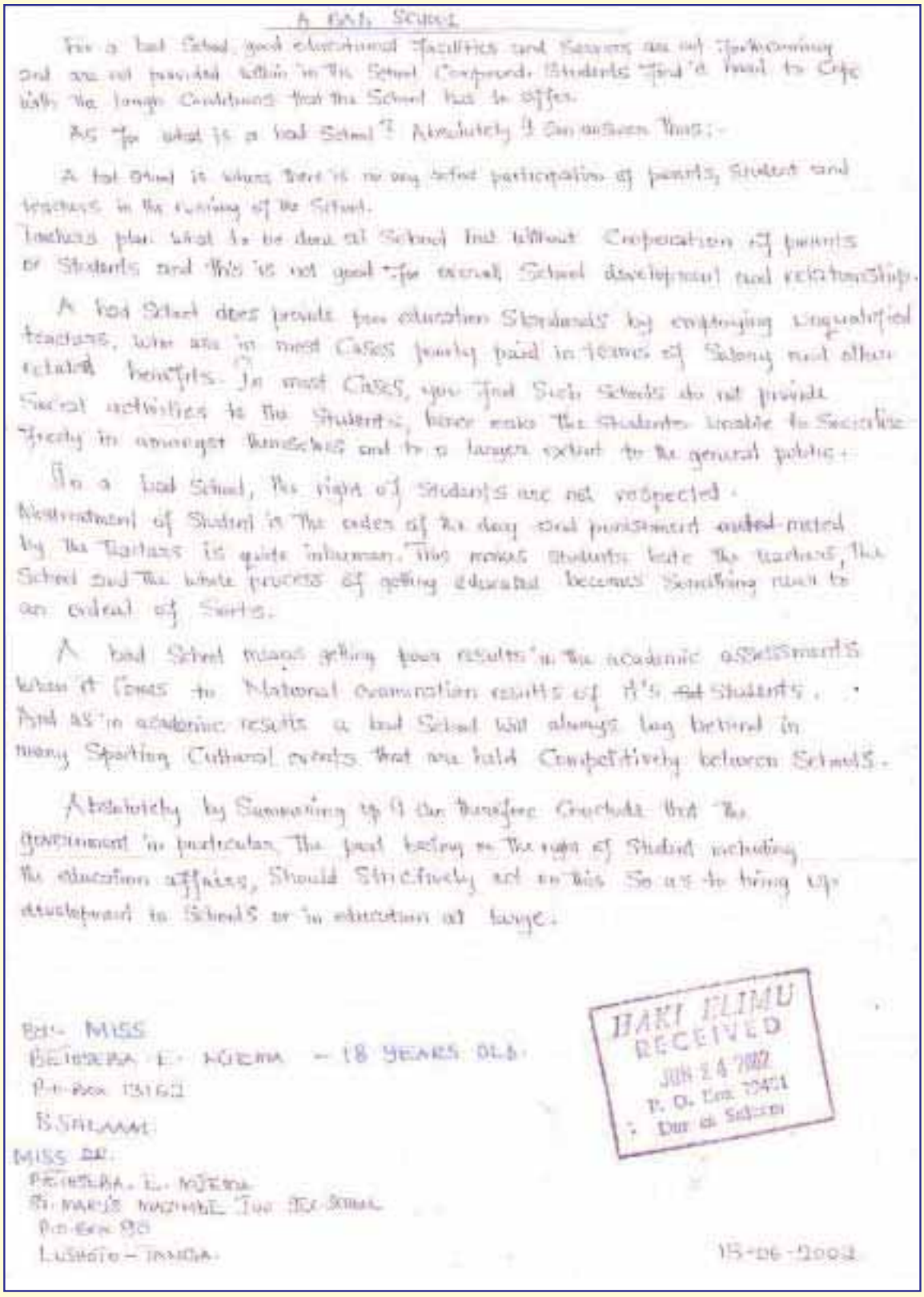


3. Bethseba E. Mjema (18) Female
St. Mary's Mazinde Juu Secondary School PO Box 90, Lushoto

Bethseba's essay concentrates on the fact that a good school should involve the whole community in running school affairs. These include parents, students and all other members of the community. She also highlights the importance of following up on teacher's performance and making sure they have good attendance.



Bethseba E. Mjema (18) Female
St. Mary's Mazinde Juu Secondary School, PO Box 90, Lushoto



A Bad School

For a bad School good educational facilities and Services are not forthcoming and are not provided within in the School Compound. Students find it hard to Cope with the longe Conditions that the School has to offer.

As for what is a bad School? Absolutely I can answer that:-

A bad School is where there is no any active participation of parents, Student and teachers in the running of the School.
Teachers plan what is to be done at School but without Cooperation of parents or Students and this is not good for overall School development and relationship.

A bad School does provide poor education Standards by employing unqualified teachers, who are in most Cases poorly paid in terms of Salary and other related benefits. In most Cases, you find Such Schools do not provide Social activities to the Students, hence make the Students unable to Socialize freely in amongst themselves and to a larger extent to the general public.

In a bad School, the right of Students are not respected.
Mistreatment of Student in the order of the day and punishment ~~meted~~ meted by the Teachers is quite inhuman. This makes Students hate the teachers, the School and the whole process of getting educated becomes Something near to an ordeal of Sorts.

A bad School means getting poor results in the academic assessments when it comes to National examination results of ~~it's~~ its Students. And as in academic results a bad School will always lag behind in many Sporting Cultural events that are held Competitively between Schools.

Alternatively by Summarizing up I can therefore Conclude that the government in particular the part having to the right of Student including the education affairs, Should Strictly act on this So as to bring up development to Schools or in education at large.

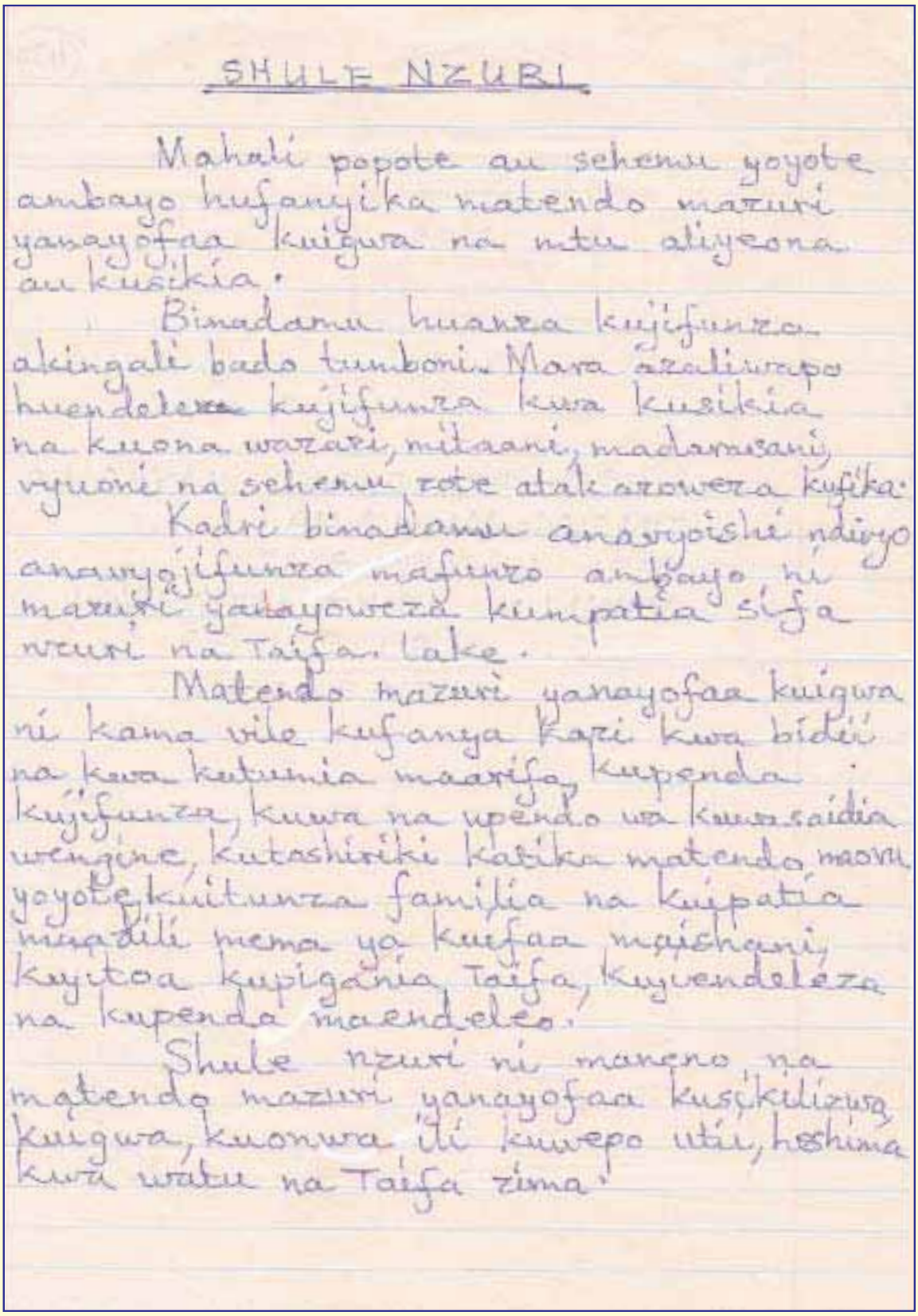
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4. Deosdediti Mayagilo (12) Male
Isike Primary School, PO Box 433, Tabora

Deosdeiditi states in his essay how important good schools are in developing who we are as adults. Good schools should help to develop a person and teach real life skills for us and our families to benefit in the future.



SHULE NZURI

Mahali popote au sehemu yoyote ambayo hufanyika matendo mazuri yanayofaa kuigwa na ntu aliyeona au kusikia.

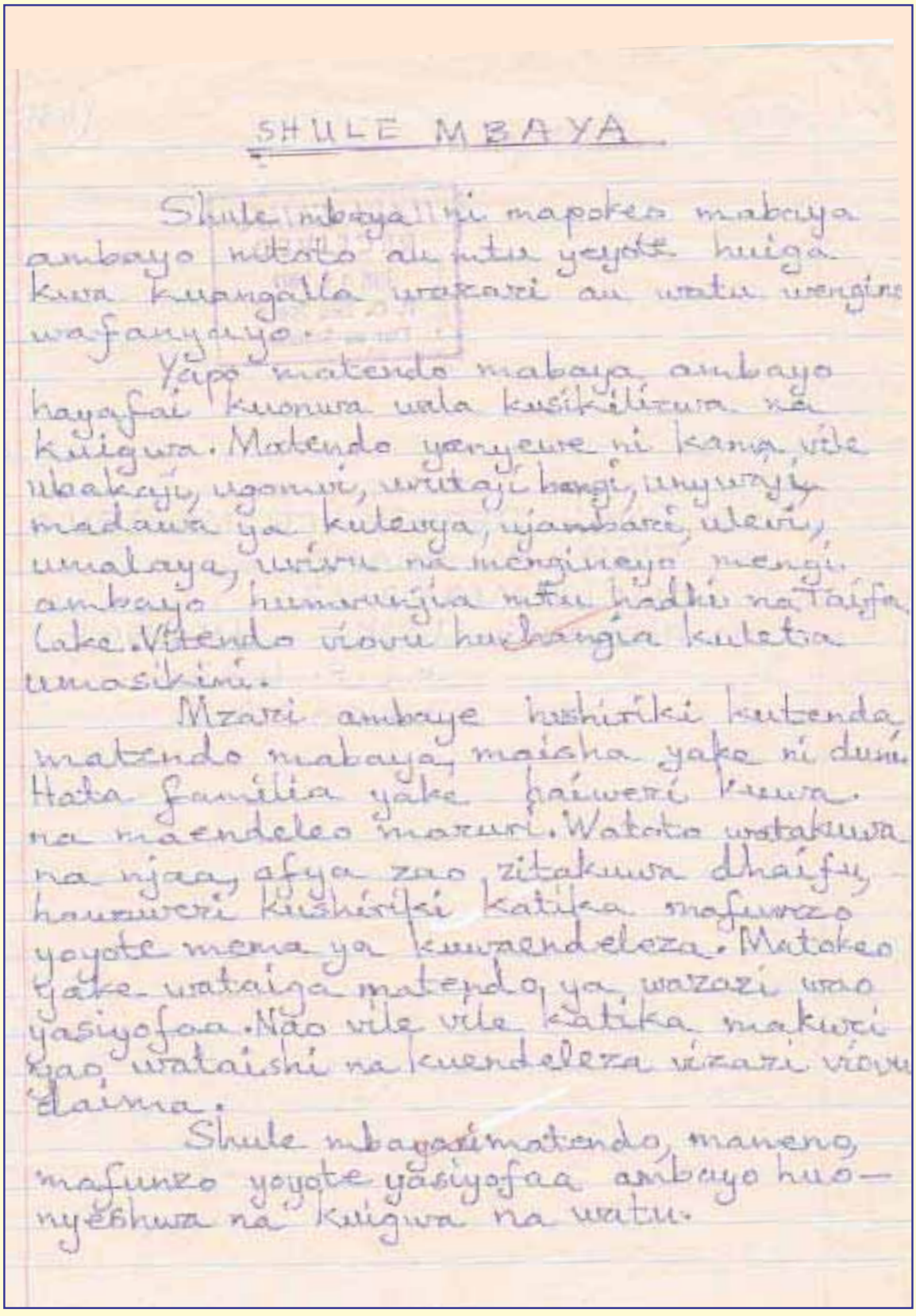
Binadamu huanza kujifunza akingali bado tumboni. Mara azaliwapo huendelea kujifunza kwa kusikia na kuona wazazi, mitaani, madarasani, vyuoni na sehemu zote atakazowera kufika.

Kadri binadamu anavyoishi ndivyo anavyojifunza mafunzo ambayo ni mazuri yatakayowezà kumpatia sifa nzuri na Taifa. Lake.

Matendo mazuri yanayofaa kuigwa ni kama vile kufanya kazi kwa bidii na kwa kutumia maarifa kupenda kujifunza, kuwa na upendo wa kuwasaidia wengine, kutashiriki kabika matendo mazuri yoyote kwa kuitunza familia na kupatia maadili mema ya kufaa majirani kwa kutoa kupigania Taifa, kujiendeleza na kupenda maendeleo.

Shule nzuri ni mahali pa matendo mazuri yanayofaa kusifidiziwa kuigwa, kuonwa ili kuwepo utii, heshima kwa walu na Taifa zima.

Deosdediti Mayagilo (12) Male
Isike Primary School, PO Box 433, Tabora



SHULE MBAYA

Shule mbaya ni mapoteo mabaya ambayo watoto au watu yeyote huiga kwa kupangalia wakari au watu wengine wafanyiyo.

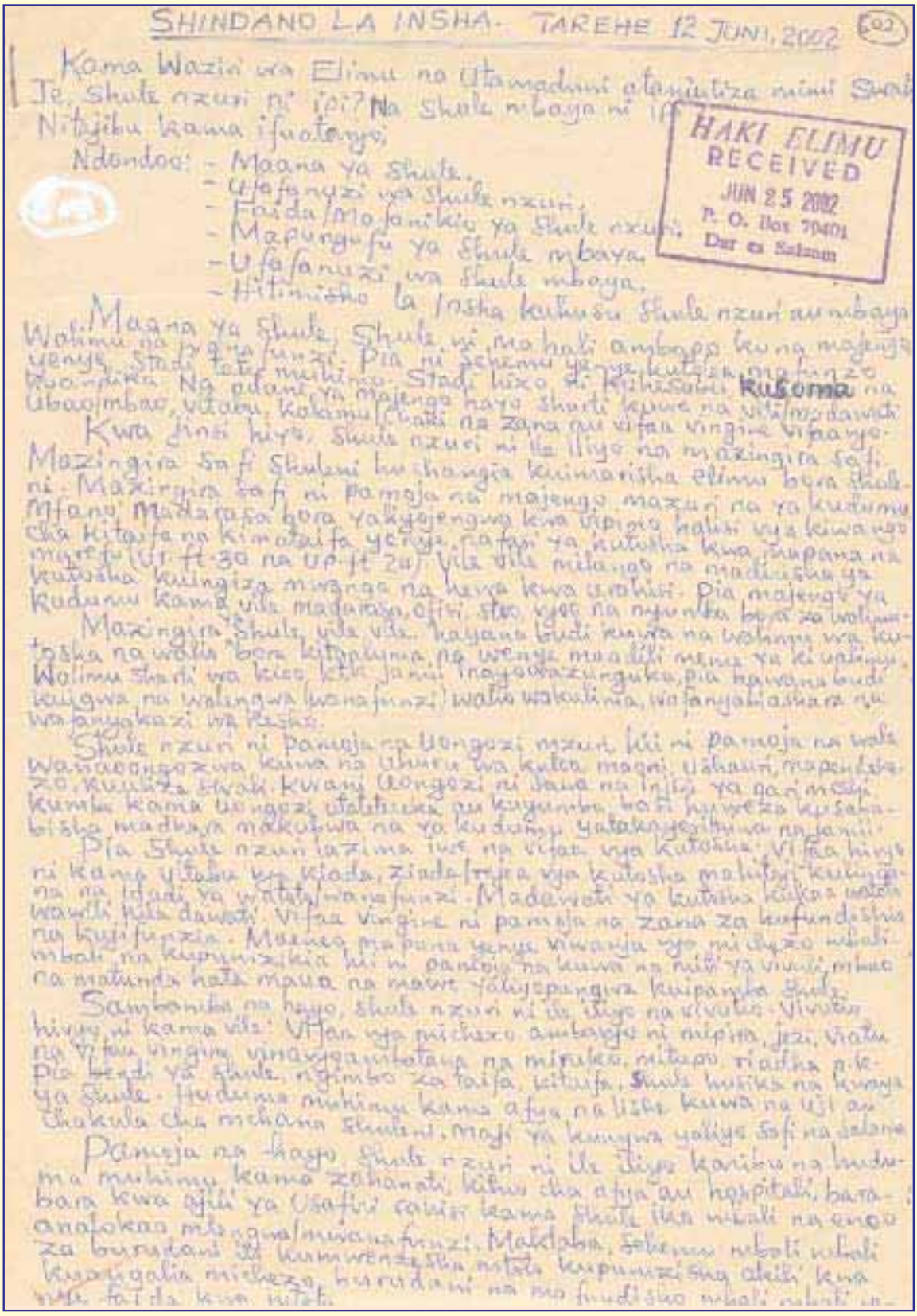
Yapo matendo mabaya ambayo hayafai kuonwa wala kusikilizwa na kuigwa. Matendo yenyewe ni kama vile wakaya, ugomvi, uritaji hangi, unywaji madawa ya kulewya, ujambazi, uleviu, umalaya, wizi na mengineyo mengi. ambayo humaanjia watu hadhi na Taifa Lake. Vitendo viovu huchangia kuleta umasikini.

Mzazi ambaye hashiriki kutenda matendo mabaya maisha yake ni duni. Hata familia yake haiweri kuwa na maendeleo mazuri. Watoto watakuwa na njaa, afya zao zitakuwa dhaifu, hawaweri kushirifi katika mafunzo yeyote mema ya kuwaendeleza. Matokeo yake wataiga matendo ya wazazi wao yasiyofaa. Nao vile vile katika maisha yao, watakuwa na kuendeleza vitendo viovu duniani.

Shule mbaya matendo, maneno, mafunzo yeyote yasiyofaa ambayo huonyeshwa na kuigwa na watu.

5. Marco P. Malima (23) Male
Shule ya Msingi Kafunjo, PO Box 308, Sengerema

Marco's essay explains the importance of infrastructure, and emphasizes the importance of good leadership and the relationships between parents, teachers and pupils.



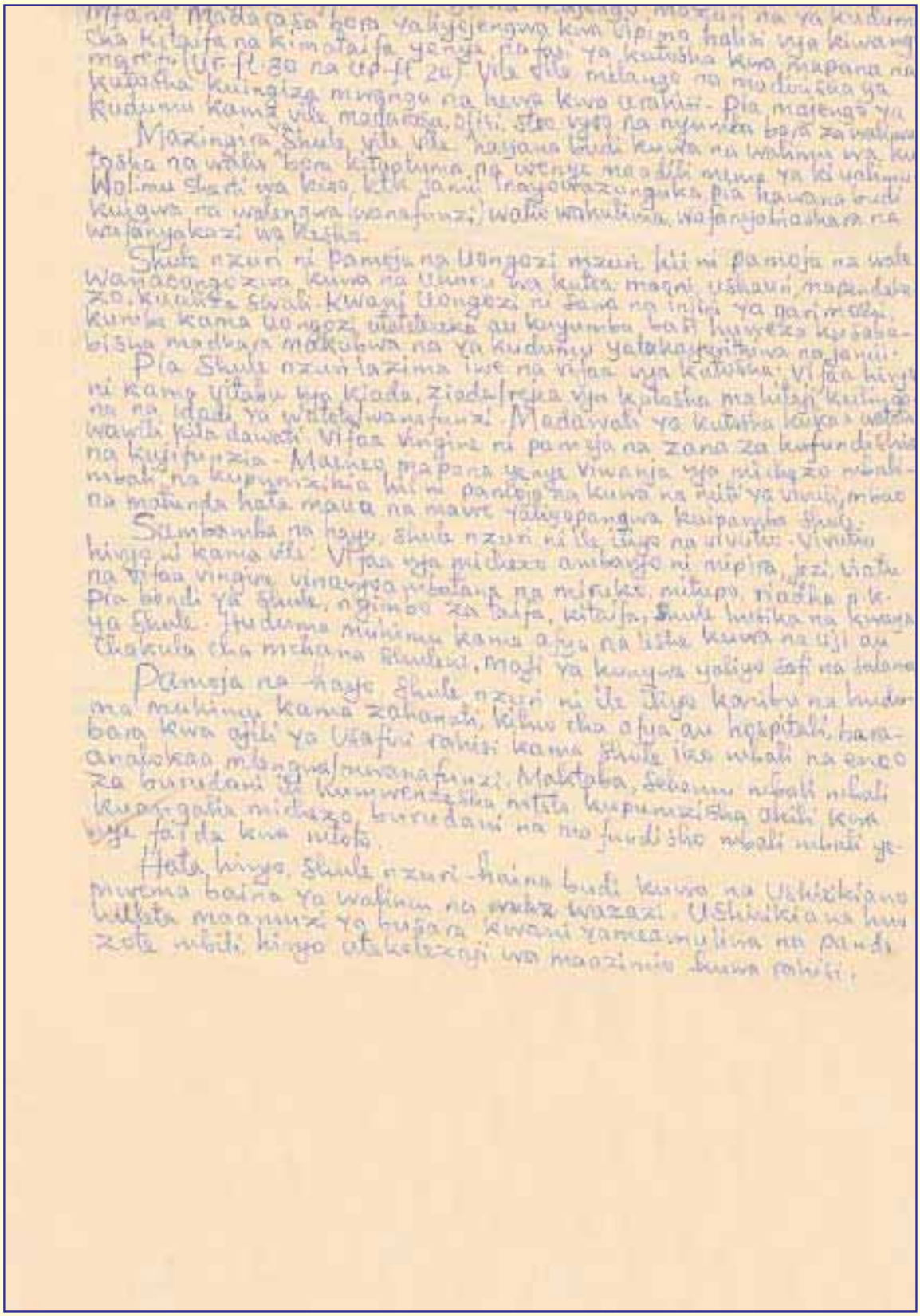
SHINDANO LA INSHA- TAREHE 12 JUNI, 2002

Kama Wazir wa Elimu na Utamaduni atauliza nini Sura
Je, Shule nzuri ni ipi? Na Shule mbaya ni ip
Nitajibu kama ifuatavyo;
Ndondoo: - Maana ya Shule.
- Ufafanuzi wa Shule nzuri.
- Faida/Mafanikio ya Shule nzuri.
- Mapungufu ya Shule mbaya.
- Ufafanuzi wa Shule mbaya.
- Hitimisho la Insha kuhusu Shule nzuri au mbaya

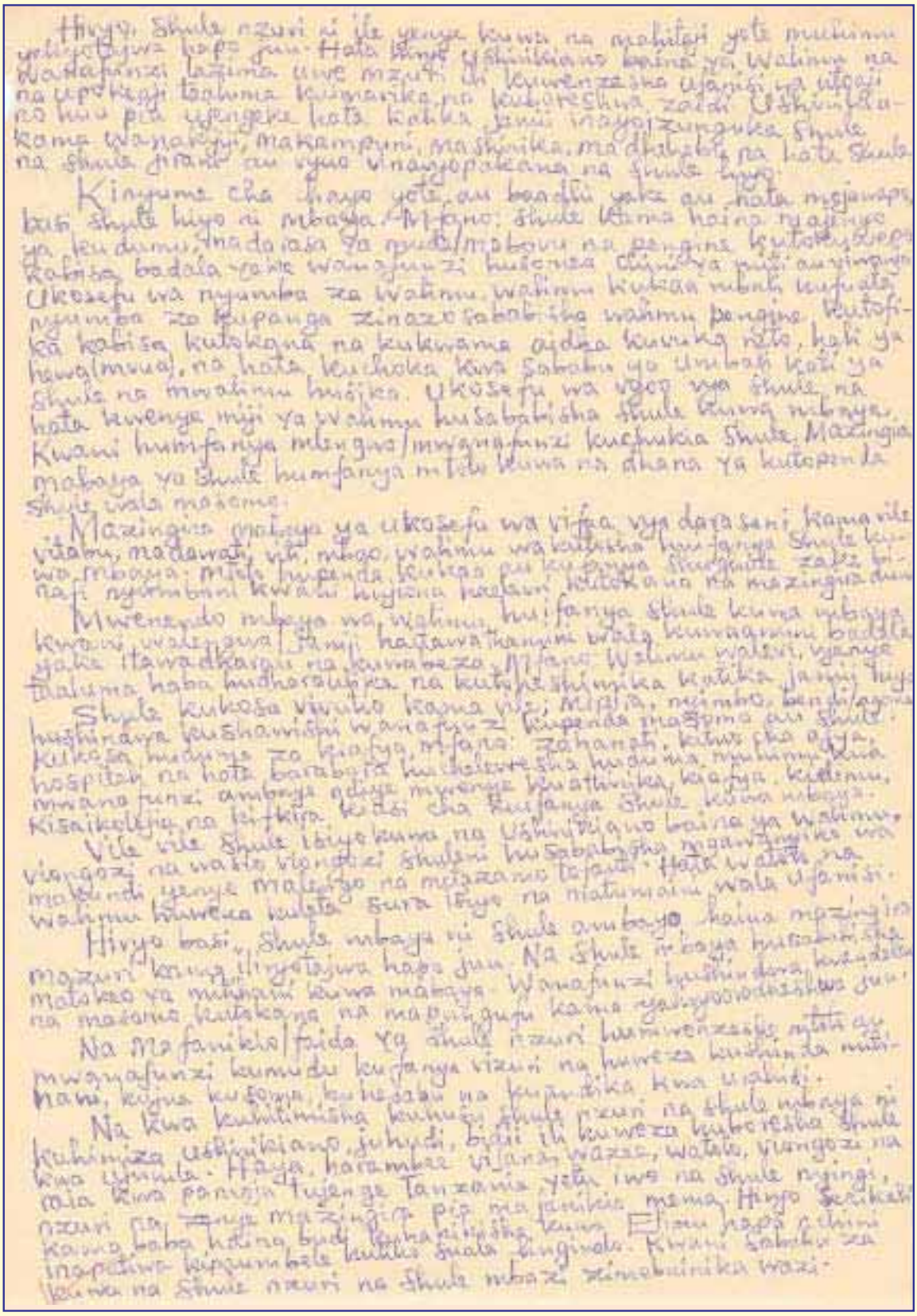
HAKI ELIMU
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JUN 25 2002
P. O. Box 79401
Dar es Salaam

Maana ya Shule, Shule ni mahali ambapo kuna majengo
Wolimu na pia wanafunzi. Pia ni sehemu ya ya kutolea mafunzo
wanafunzi. Na pdani ya majengo hayo shule kuwa na vifaa vingine vinavyo
Ubao mbao, vitabu, kalamu, chaki na zana nyingine vinavyo-
Kwa jinsi hiyo, Shule nzuri ni ile iliyo na mazingira safi.
Mazingira safi Shuleni huchangia kuimarisha elimu bora shule-
ni. Mazingira safi ni pamoja na majengo mazuri na ya kuvutia
Mfano: Madarasa bora yakiyojengwa kwa vipimo halisi vya kiwango
cha kitaifa na kimataifa yenye rafiki ya kutosha kwa mapana na
marefu (Ur ft-30 na Up ft 24) Vile vile matanao na madirisha ya
kutosha kuingiza mwanga na hewa kwa wahisi. Pia majengo ya
kudumu kama vile madarasa, ofisi, stoo, vyoo na nyumba bora za walimu-
taska na walio bora kitaalumu, na wenye maadili mema ya kiutaifa.
Walimu Shuli wa kiss kisi jamii inayowazunguka, pia hawana budi
kuigwa na walingwa (wanafunzi) wao wakuu wa, wafanyakazi na
wafanyakazi wa Shule.
Shule nzuri ni pamoja na Uongozi mzuri, Ili ni pamoja na wale
wanaoongoza kwa kuwa na Uhuru wa kutoa maoni, Ushauri, mapendeke-
zo, kukubali kwamba Uongozi ni kwa ajili ya maendeleo
kumbe kama Uongozi utakiuka au kuyumba, wao huweza kusaha-
bisha maendeleo makubwa na ya kudumu yatakayoletwa na jamii.
Pia Shule nzuri lazima iwe na vifaa vya kutosha. Vifaa hivyo
ni kama vitabu vya kiada, ziada/rejea vya kutosha mahiri, kuingia
na na Iqadi ya watoto/wanafunzi. Madawati ya kutosha kukaa wote
wawili bila dawati. Vifaa vingine ni pamoja na zana za kufundishia
na kujifunzia. Maana ya pana yenye kuanja vyo ni chaki
mbali na kupunguza ni pamoja na kuwa na nia ya vivuli, mbao
na matunda hata maua na nafasi yaliyopangiwa kuipanda Shule.
Sambamba na hayo, shule nzuri ni ile iliyo na vivutio. Vivutio
hivyo, ni kama vile: Vifaa vya michezo ambayo ni mpira, jezi, viatu
na vifaa vingine vinavyoambatana na mipira, nitepo, riadha n.k.
Pia Bendi ya Shule, ngoma za taifa, kitufe, Shule kuwa na kwaya
ya Shule. Ifundishe muhimu kama afya na lishe kuwa na ujuzi au
Chakula cha mchana Shuleni, maji ya kunywa yaliyo safi na salama
Pamoja na hayo, Shule nzuri ni ile iliyo karibu na huduma
muhimu kama zahanati, kituo cha afya au hospitali, barabara
bora kwa ajili ya Usafiri rahisi kama Shule iwe mbali na eneo
analokaa mtoto/mwanafunzi. Maktaba, Sehemu mbali mbali
za burudani ili kumwendeleza mtoto kupunguza uchi kwa
kupigalia michezo, burudani na na fundisho mbali mbali en-
wa faida kwa mtoto

Marco P. Malima (23) Male
Shule ya Msingi Kafunjo, PO Box 308, Sengerema



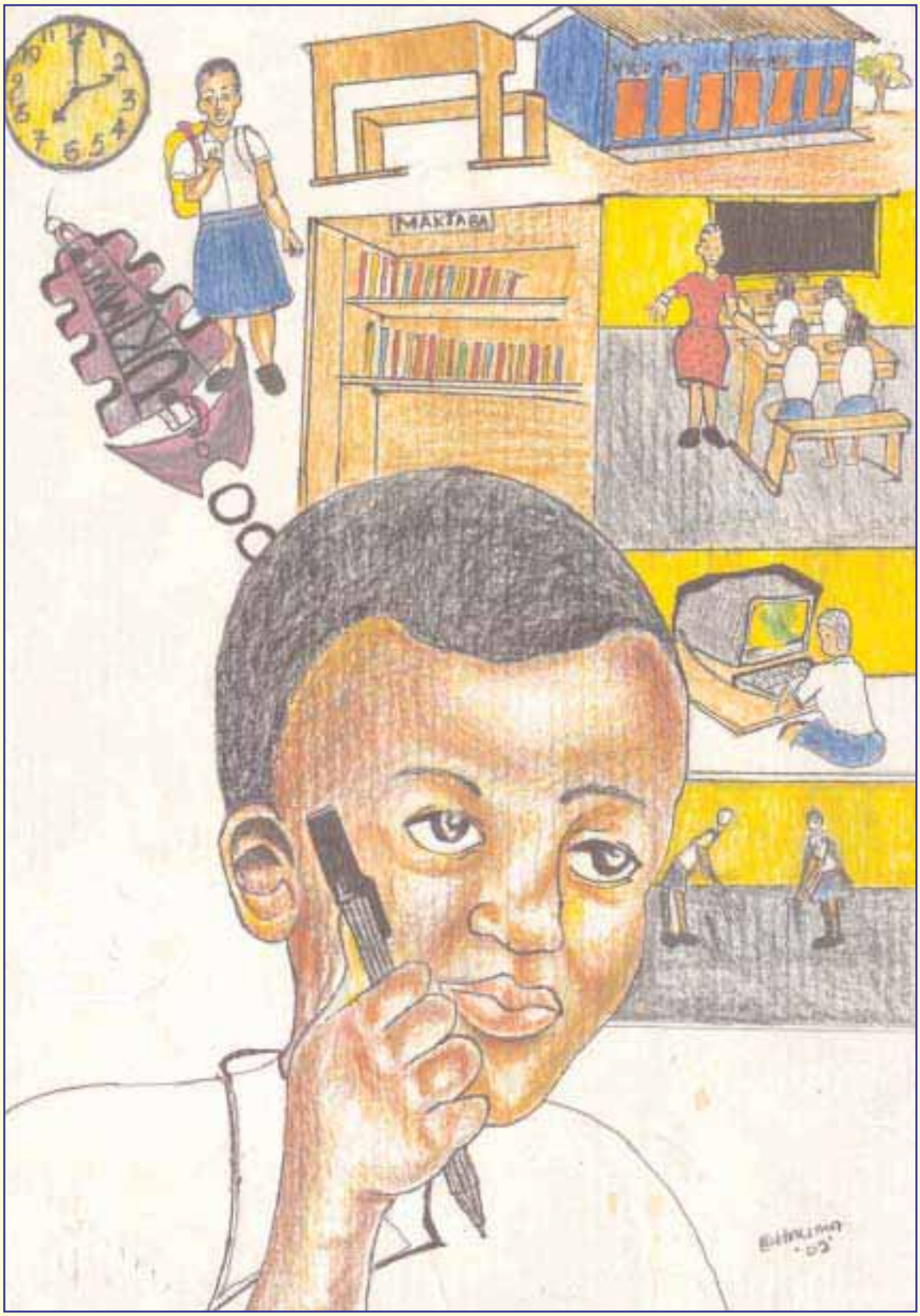
Marco P. Malima (23) Male
Shule ya Msingi Kafunjo, PO Box 308, Sengerema



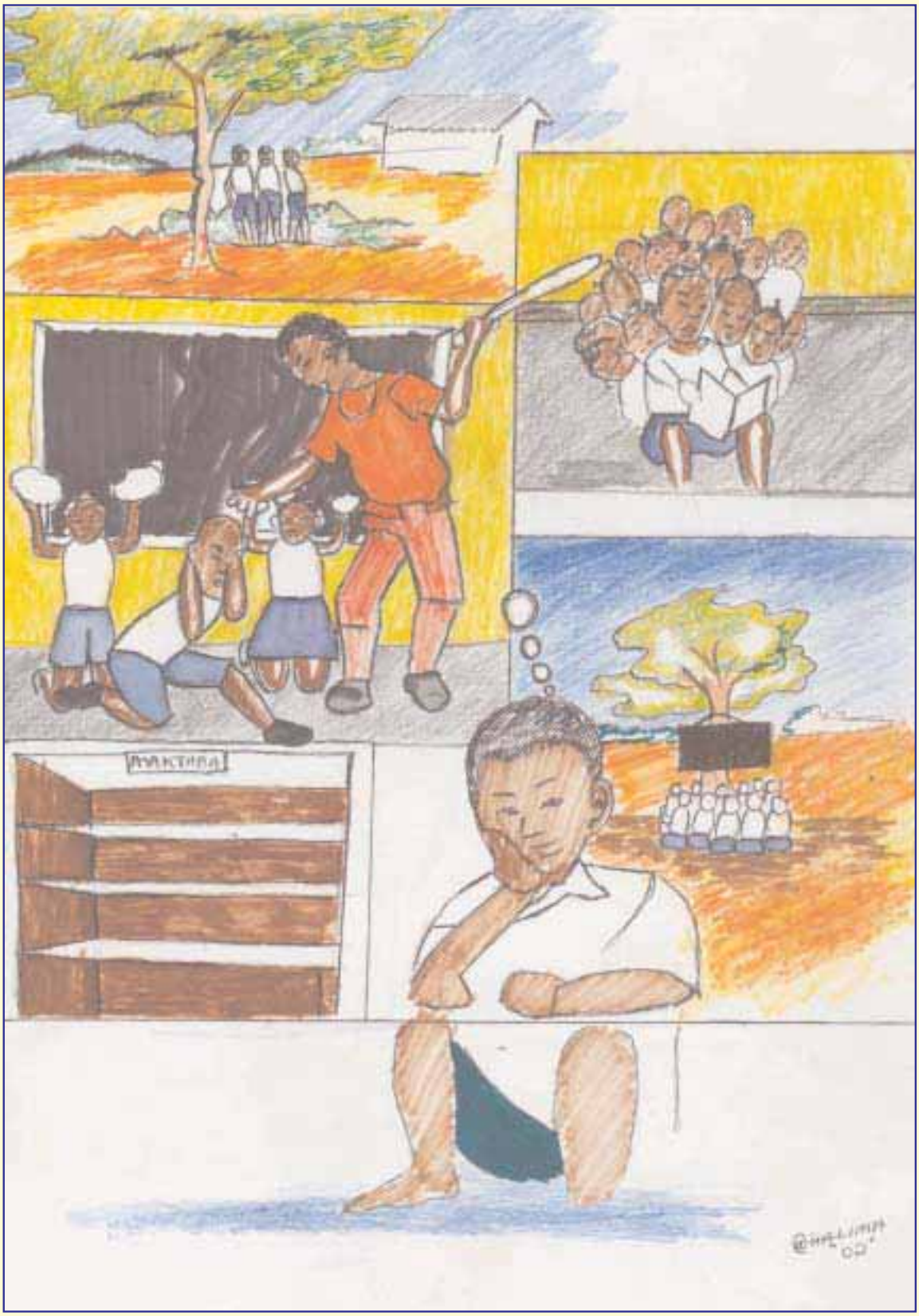
6. Halima Shaban Senkukus (17) Female

Al-Haramain Seminary Secondary School, P.O. Box 19961, Dar es Salaam

Halima makes the case that a good school is not something which comes only from the buildings, because it is the pupils and teachers that make up the heart of a school.

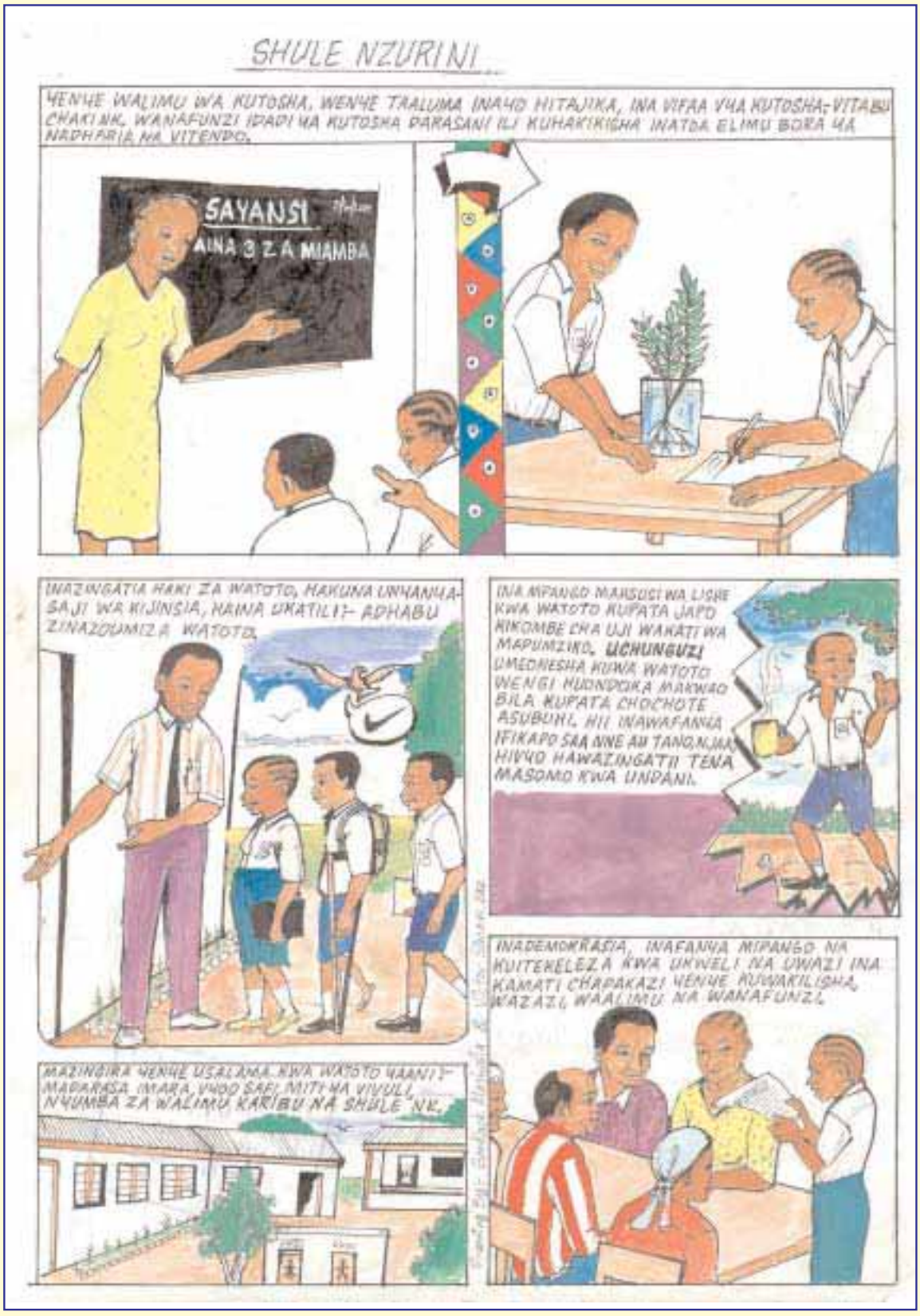


Halima Shaban Senkukus (17) Female
Al-Haramain Seminary Secondary School, P.O. Box 19961, Dar es Salaam

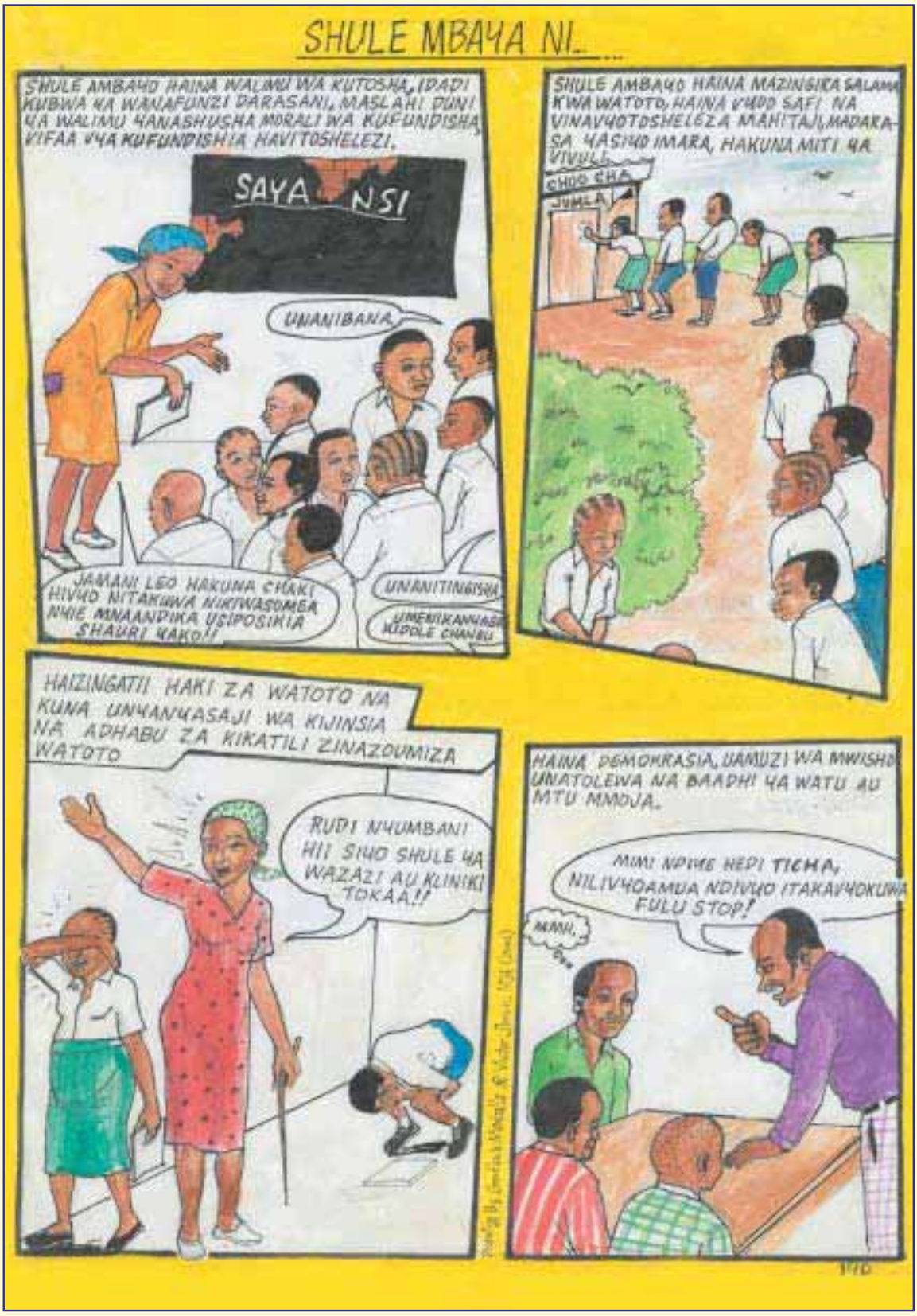


7. Victor Simon & Goodluck Mashalla
Drawing Group, PO Box 2940, Mwanza

Simon and Goodluck concentrated on the importance of equal rights and respect for the views of pupils in the running of their schools. They also express the impact that poor infrastructure can have on the quality of education.

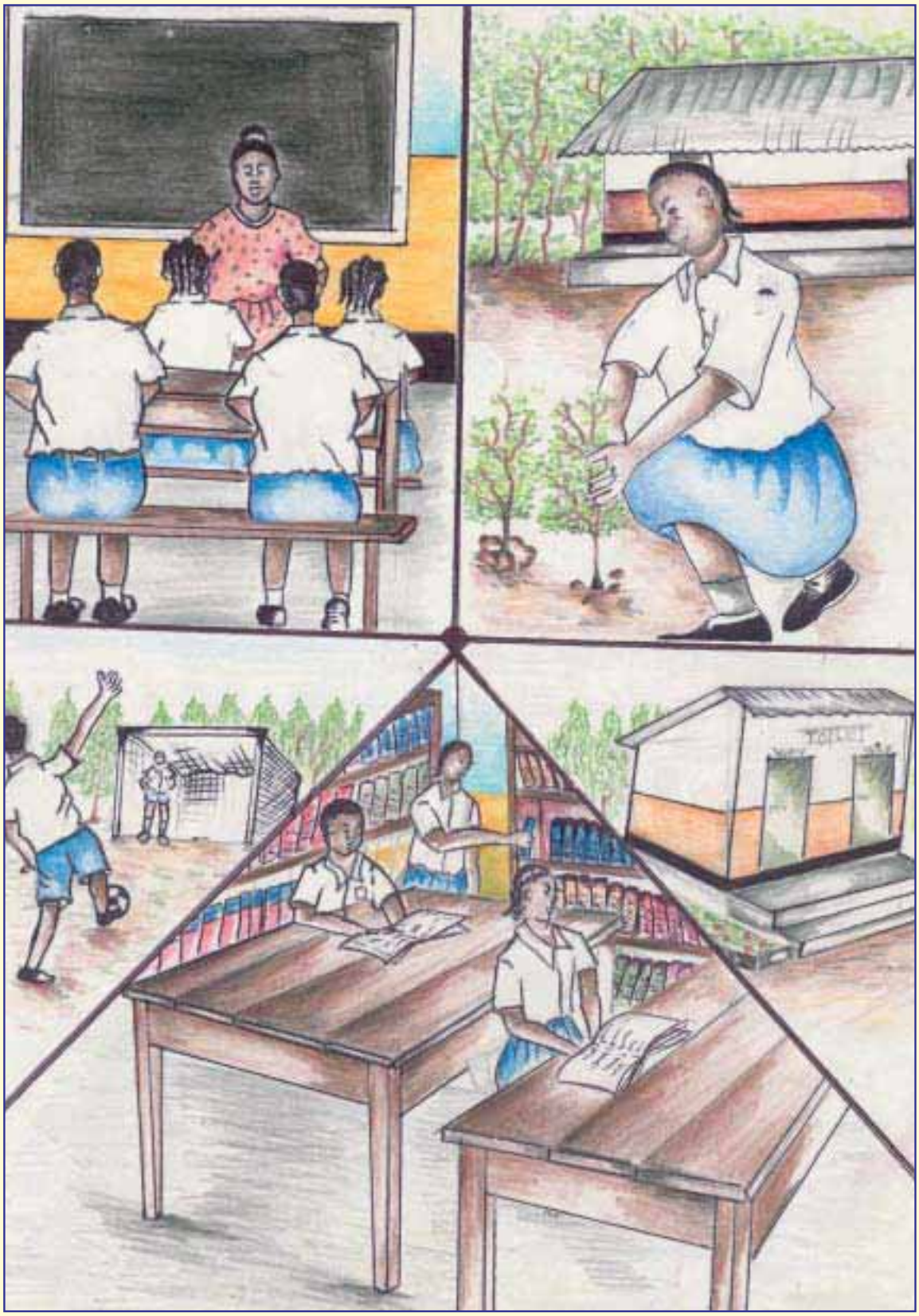


Victor Simon & Goodluck Mashalla
Drawing Group, PO Box 2940, Mwanza

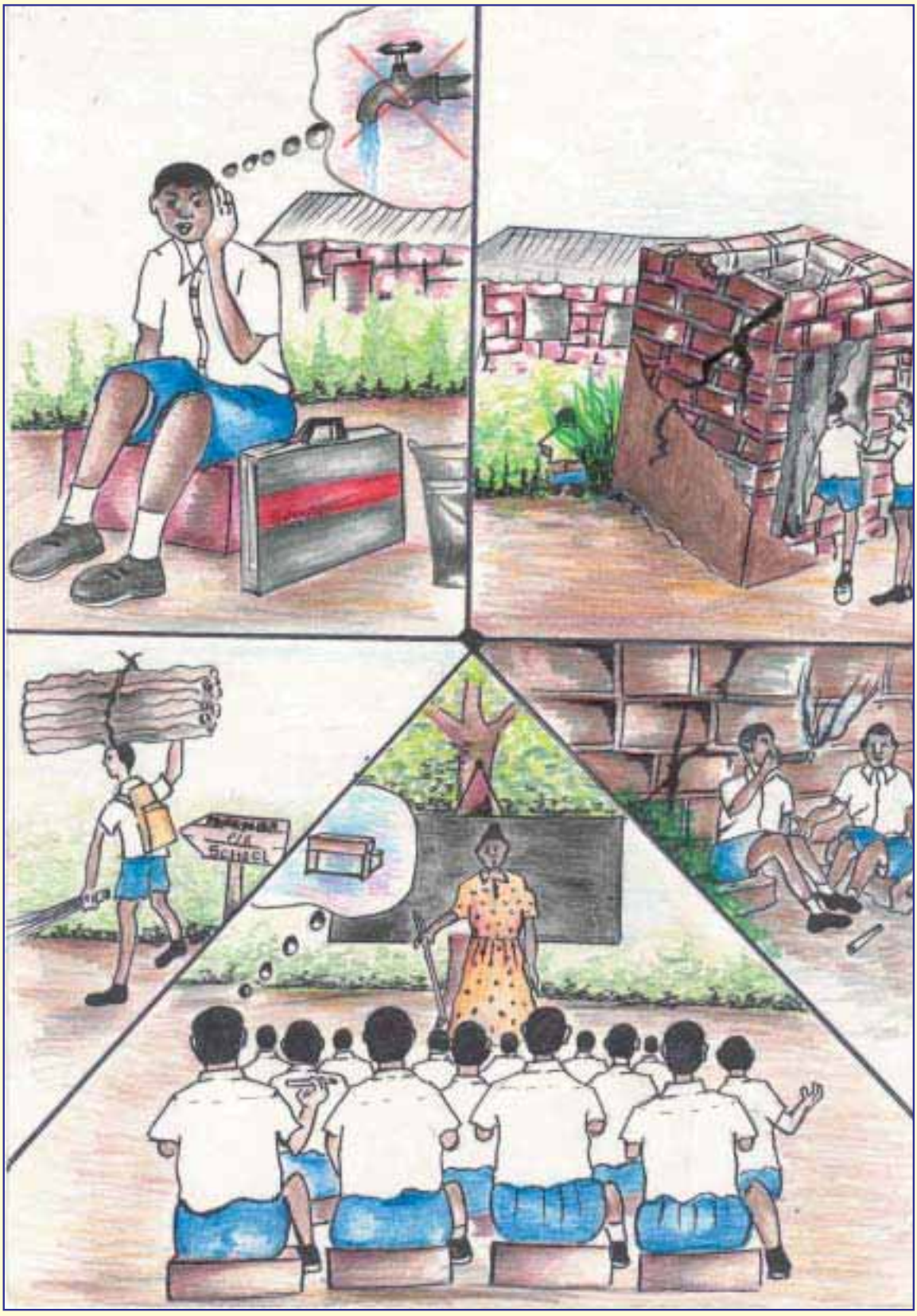


8. Henry Peter (15) Male
PO Box 79505, Dar es Salaam

Henry uses artwork to express his ideas. He highlights the impact that lack of infrastructure has on pupils. He also illustrated the importance of sports and libraries in education.

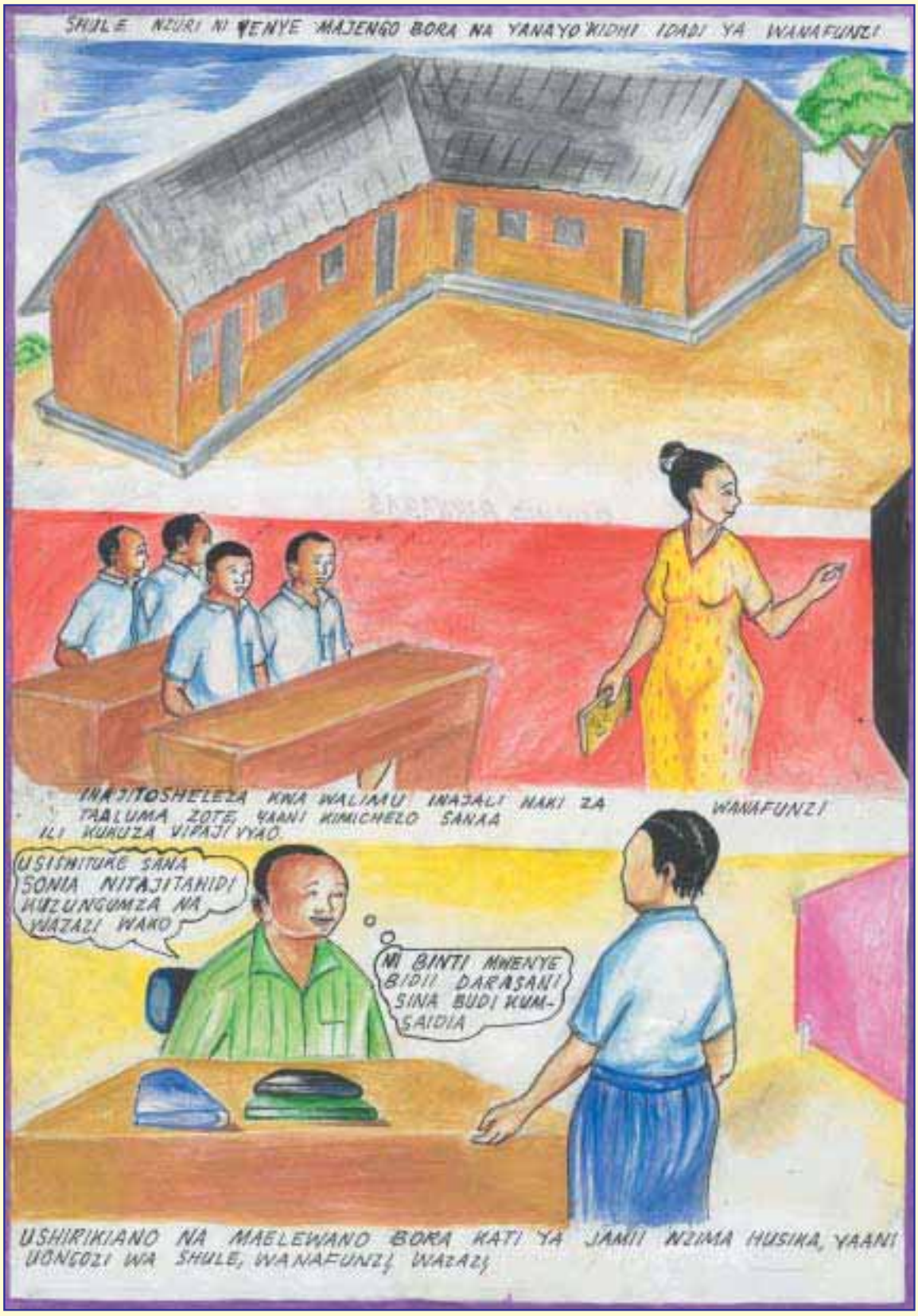


Henry Peter (15) Male
PO Box 79505, Dar es Salaam



9. Pauline Barnabas (16) Female
Pamba Secondary School, PO Box 632, Mwanza

Pauline uses her excellent drawing skills to communicate important issues facing schools today. In addition she uses humor to express difficult subjects.

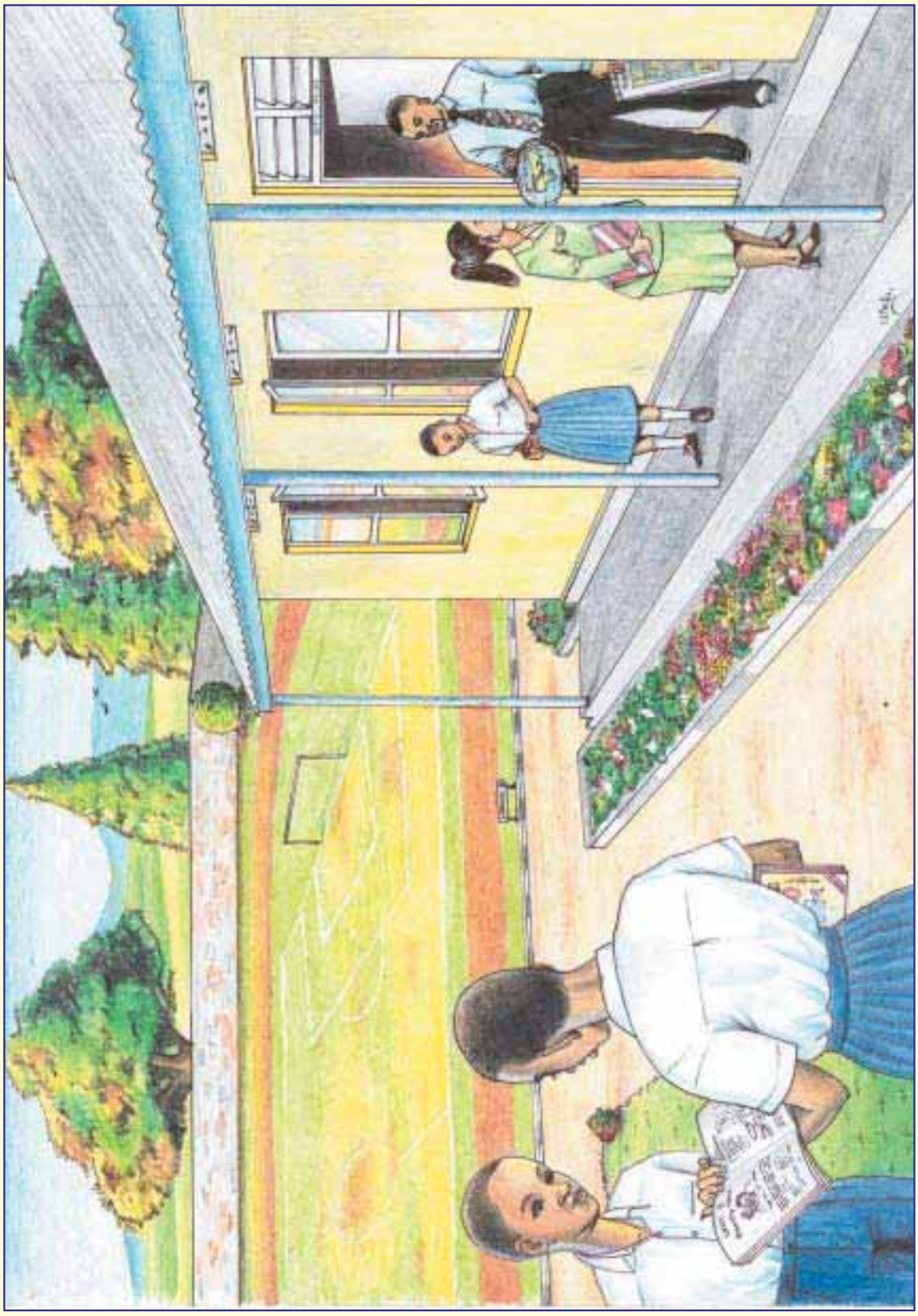


Pauline Barnabas (16) Female
Pamba Secondary School, PO Box 632, Mwanza



10. Ernest W. Biseko (28) Male
c/o Ramadham Mwendwa, PO Box 240, Mwanza

Ernest shows problems pupils face in a poor schooling environment. His good school drawing highlights how a good learning environment can encourage pupils to be open and free to share their ideas.

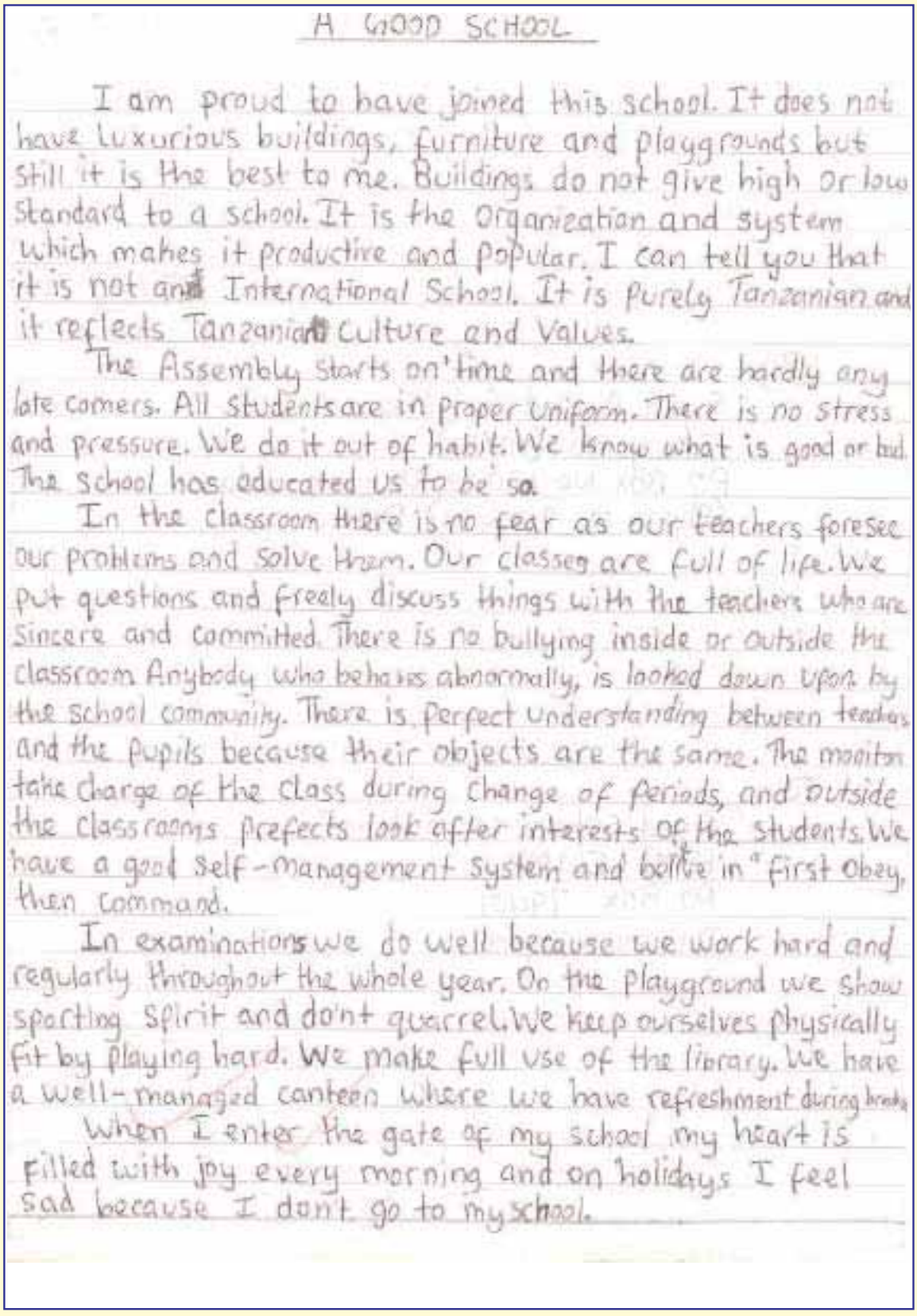


Ernest W. Biseko (28) Male
c/o Ramadham Mwendwa, PO Box 240, Mwanza



11. Syed Ahmed Ali Naqui (13) Male
P.O. Box 12003, Dar es Salaam

This essay is written in a wonderful style. Syed transports you into the schools he is visiting and gives you a strong feeling of the difference between a good and bad school.



A GOOD SCHOOL

I am proud to have joined this school. It does not have luxurious buildings, furniture and playgrounds but still it is the best to me. Buildings do not give high or low standard to a school. It is the organization and system which makes it productive and popular. I can tell you that it is not an International School. It is purely Tanzanian and it reflects Tanzanian culture and values.

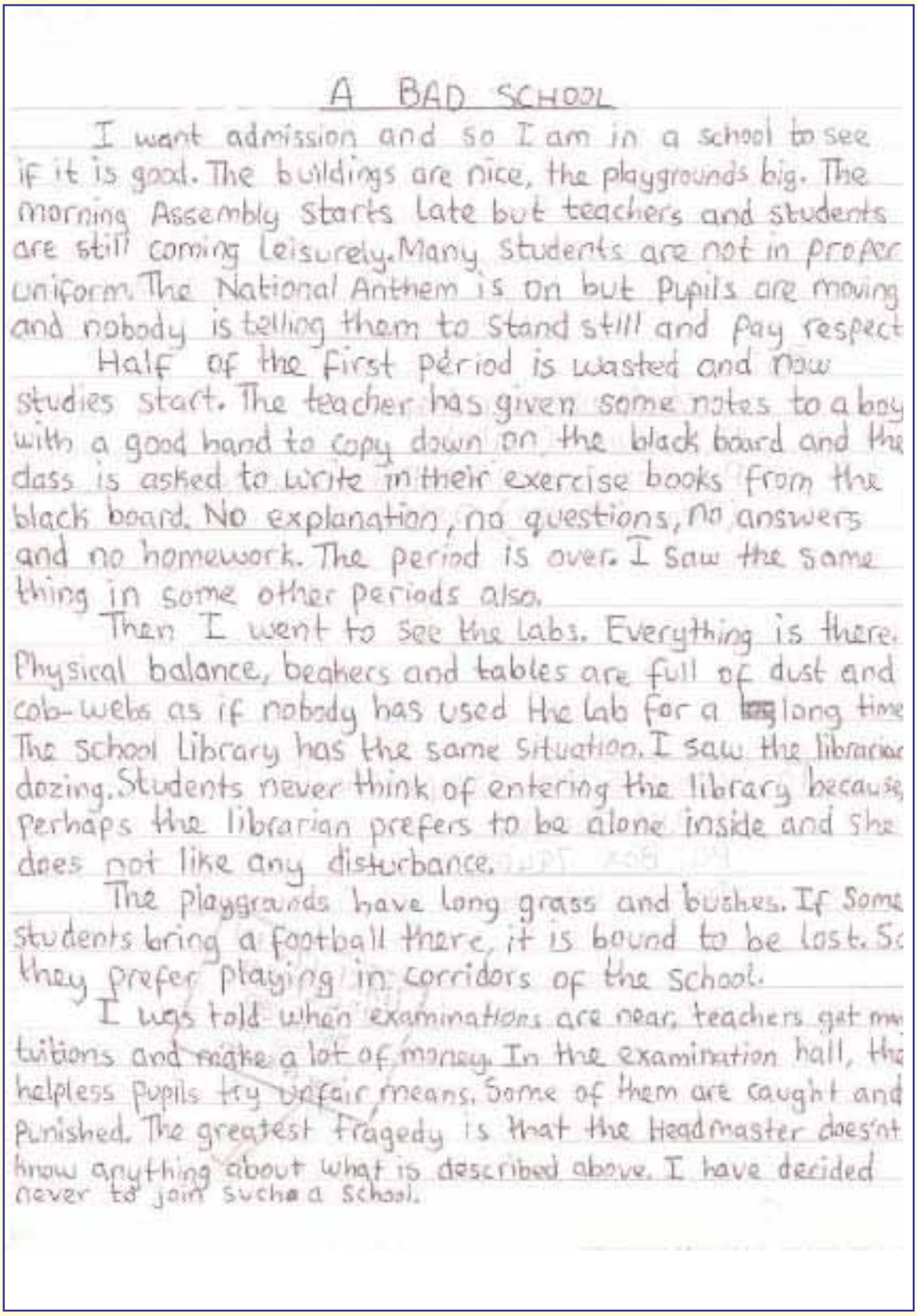
The Assembly starts on time and there are hardly any late comers. All students are in proper uniform. There is no stress and pressure. We do it out of habit. We know what is good or bad. The school has educated us to be so.

In the classroom there is no fear as our teachers foresee our problems and solve them. Our classes are full of life. We put questions and freely discuss things with the teachers who are sincere and committed. There is no bullying inside or outside the classroom. Anybody who behaves abnormally, is looked down upon by the school community. There is perfect understanding between teachers and the pupils because their objects are the same. The monitors take charge of the class during change of periods, and outside the classrooms prefects look after interests of the students. We have a good self-management system and belive in "first obey, then command.

In examinations we do well because we work hard and regularly throughout the whole year. On the playground we show sporting spirit and don't quarrel. We keep ourselves physically fit by playing hard. We make full use of the library. We have a well-managed canteen where we have refreshment during breaks.

When I enter the gate of my school my heart is filled with joy every morning and on holidays I feel sad because I don't go to my school.

Syed Ahmed Ali Naqui(13) Male
P.O. Box 12003, Dar es Salaam



A BAD SCHOOL

I want admission and so I am in a school to see if it is good. The buildings are nice, the playgrounds big. The morning Assembly starts late but teachers and students are still coming leisurely. Many students are not in proper uniform. The National Anthem is on but Pupils are moving and nobody is telling them to stand still and pay respect.

Half of the first period is wasted and now studies start. The teacher has given some notes to a boy with a good hand to copy down on the black board and the class is asked to write in their exercise books from the black board. No explanation, no questions, no answers and no homework. The period is over. I saw the same thing in some other periods also.

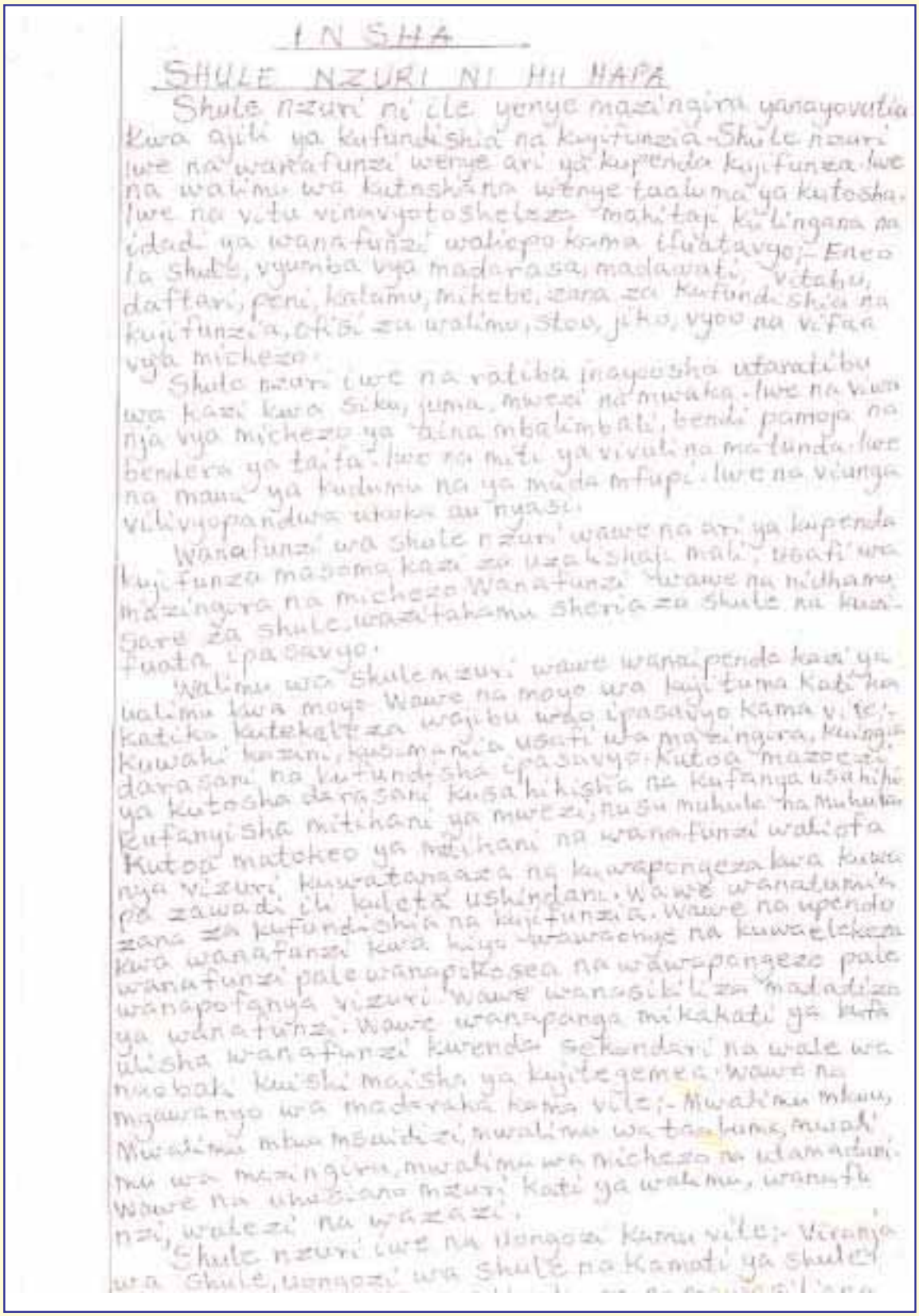
Then I went to see the labs. Everything is there. Physical balance, beakers and tables are full of dust and cob-webs as if nobody has used the lab for a long time. The school library has the same situation. I saw the librarian dozing. Students never think of entering the library because, perhaps the librarian prefers to be alone inside and she does not like any disturbance.

The playgrounds have long grass and bushes. If some students bring a football there, it is bound to be lost. So they prefer playing in corridors of the school.

I was told when examinations are near, teachers get many tuitions and make a lot of money. In the examination hall, the helpless pupils try unfair means. Some of them are caught and punished. The greatest tragedy is that the Headmaster doesn't know anything about what is described above. I have decided never to join such a school.

12. Mary Mrope (40) Female
P.O. Box 289, Songea

Mary writes about the fact that both teachers and pupils should be enthusiastic about being in school and the work that they are doing. School should be fun!



INSHA

SHULE NZURI NI HII HAPA

Shule nzuri ni ile yenye mazingira yanayovutia kwa ajili ya kufundishia na kujifunzia. Shule nzuri iwe na walimu wenye ari ya kupenda kufundisha. Iwe na walimu wa kutosha wenye taaluma ya kutosha. Iwe na vitu vinavyotosheleza mahitaji kulingana na idadi ya wanafunzi waliopo kama vitabu, vyumba vya madarasa, madawati, vitabu, daftari, peni, kalamu, mikebe, zana za kufundishia na kujifunzia, ofisi za walimu, stoo, jiko, vyoo na viwanja vya michezo.

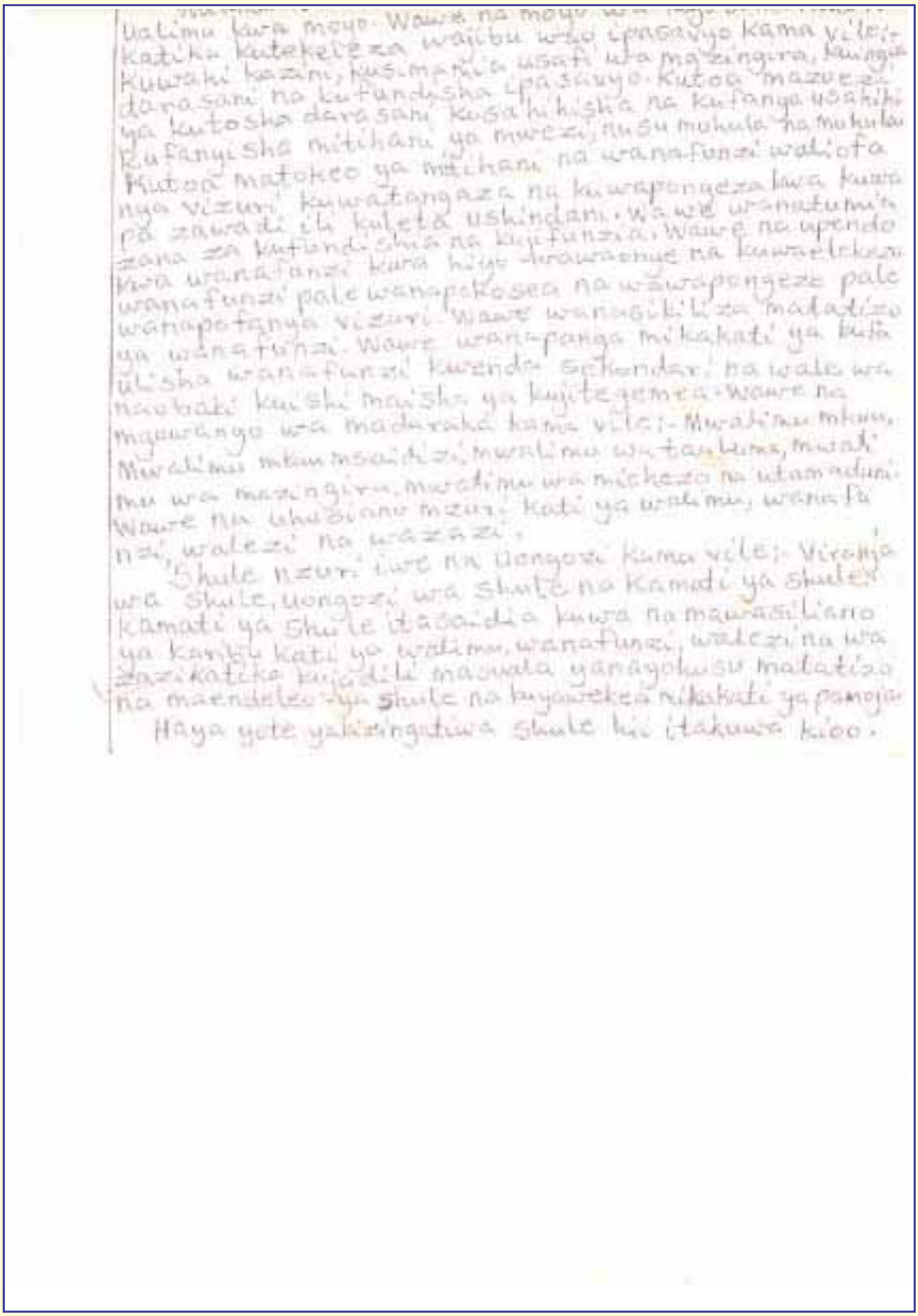
Shule nzuri iwe na ratiba inayoonesha utaratibu wa kazi kwa siku, juma, mwezi na mwaka. Iwe na vifaa vya michezo ya aina mbalimbali, bendi pamoja na bendera ya taifa. Iwe na miti ya vivuli na matunda. Iwe na maua ya kupamba na ya muda mfupi. Iwe na vyanga vilivyopandwa vizuri au nyasi.

Wanafunzi wa shule nzuri wawe na ari ya kupenda kujifunza masomo kazi za ziada shaji mali, usafi wa mazingira na michezo. Wanafunzi wawe na nidhamu, sheria za shule, wazitakamu sheria za shule na kuzifuata ipasavyo.

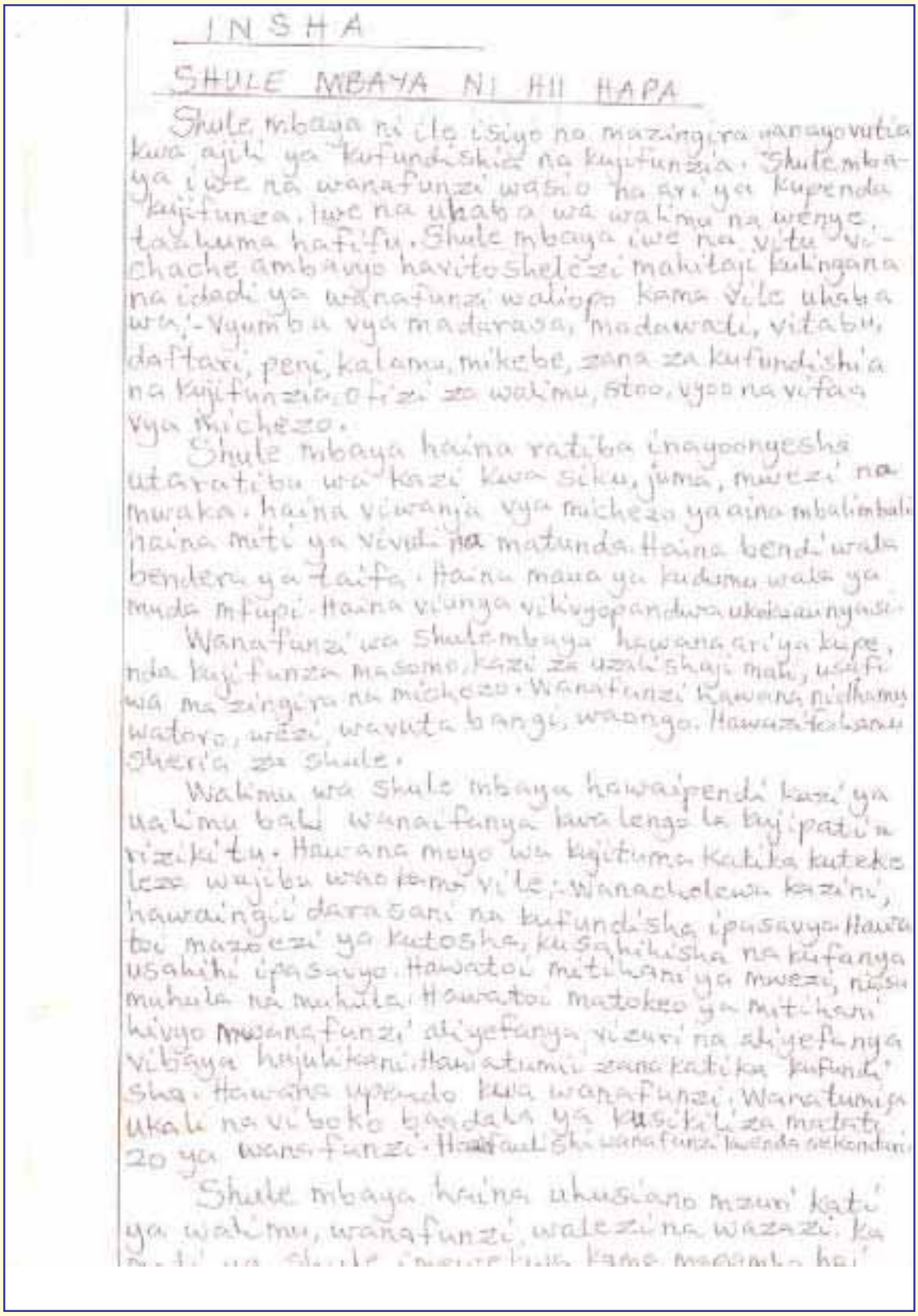
Walimu wa shule nzuri wawe wanapenda kazi yao kwa moyo. Wawe na moyo wa kujituma kabla na katika kutekeleza majukumu yao ipasavyo kama vile; kuwahi kazini, kusimamia usafi wa mazingira, kuingia darasani na kufundisha ipasavyo. Kutoa mazoezi ya kutosha darasani kusahihisha na kufanya usahihi. Kufanyisha mitihani ya mwezi, nusu muhula na muhula. Kutoa matokeo ya mitihani na wanafunzi wakiwa nje ya vizuri. Kuwatongoza na kuwapongeza kwa kuwa pia zawadi ili kuleta ushindani. Wawe wanatumia vizuri kwa wanafunzi kujifunzia. Wawe na upendo wanafunzi pale wanapokosea na wawapongeze pale wanapofanya vizuri. Wawe wanasikiliza malalizo ya wanafunzi. Wawe wanapanga mikakati ya kufaulisha wanafunzi kwenda sekondari na wale wa mchepuko kwisha mafisha ya kujitegemea. Wawe na mgawanyo wa madarasa kama vile; - Mwalimu mkuu, Mwalimu mtaaluma, mwalimu wa taaluma, mwalimu wa mazingira, mwalimu wa michezo na idara zote. Wawe na ushirikiano mzuri kati ya walimu, wanafunzi, wakezi na wazazi.

Shule nzuri iwe na uongozi kamili vile; - Viranja wa shule, uongozi wa shule na kamati ya shule.

Mary Mrope (40) Female
P.O. Box 289, Songea



Mary Mrope (40) Female
P.O. Box 289, Songea



INSHA

SHULE MBAYA NI HII HAPA

Shule mbaya ni ile isiyo na mazingira yanayovutia kwa ajili ya kufundishia na kujifunzia. Shule mbaya ni we na wanafunzi wasio na ari ya kupenda kujifunza, we na ukaba wa walimu na wenye tabiamu hafifu. Shule mbaya ni we na vitu vi-chache ambavyo havitoshelezi mahitaji kulingana na idadi ya wanafunzi waliopo kama vile ukaba wa; - Vyumba vya madarasa, madawati, vitabu, daftari, peni, kalamu, mikebe, zana za kufundishia na kujifunzia, ofisi za walimu, stoo, vyoo na vifaa vya michezo.

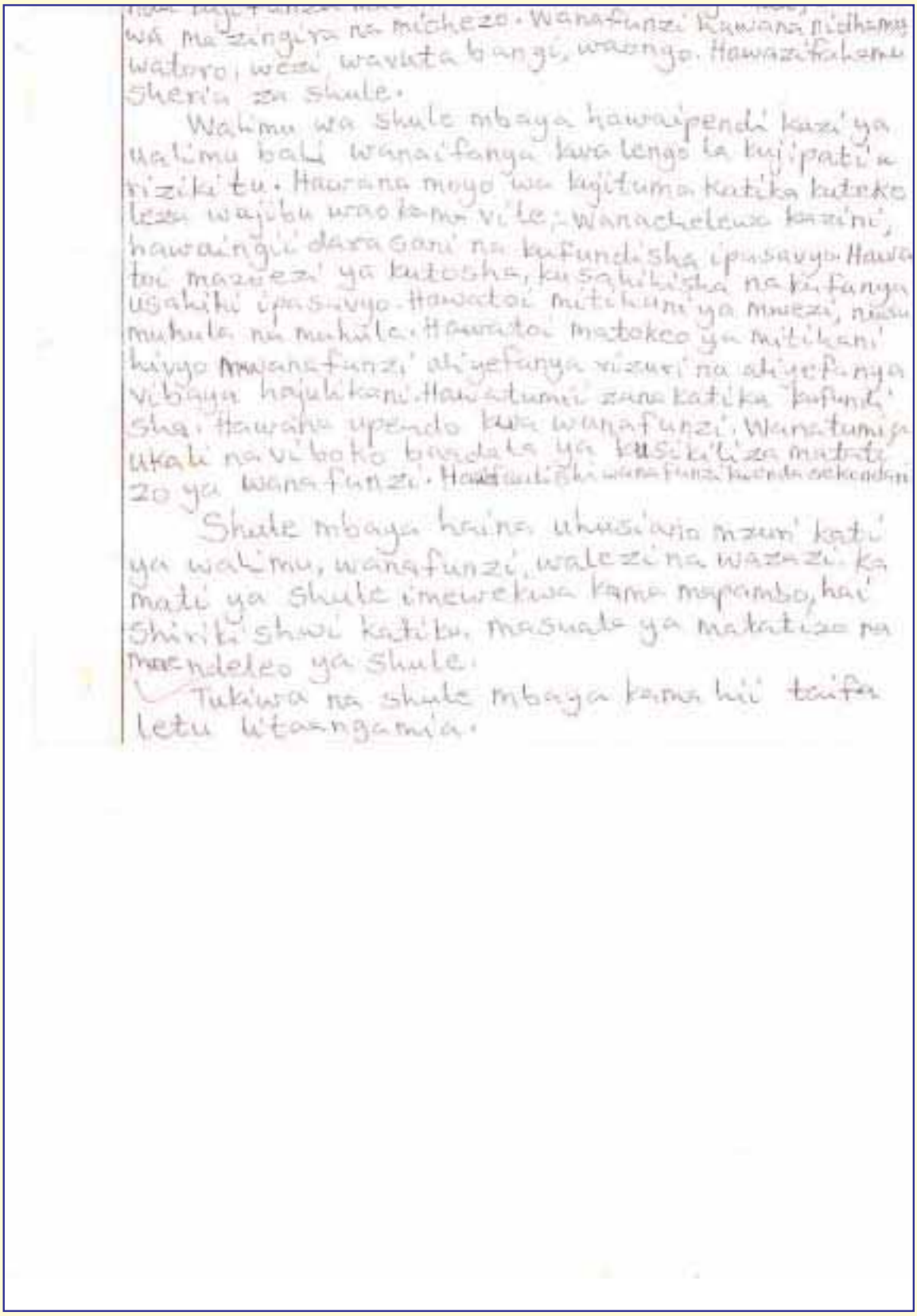
Shule mbaya haina ratiba inayoonyesha utaratibu wa kazi kwa siku, juma, mwezi na muaka. haina viwanja vya michezo ya aina mbalimbali haina miti ya vivuli na matunda. Haina bendera wala bendera ya taifa. Haina maua ya kuduma wala ya muda mfupi. Haina vifaa vikivyopandwa ukelezaji nyasi.

Wanafunzi wa Shule mbaya hawana ari ya kupe-nda kujifunza masomo, kazi za uzalishaji mali, usafi wa mazingira na michezo. Wanafunzi hawana nidhamu watovu, wezi, wavuta bangi, waongo. Hawazifahamu sheria za shule.

Walimu wa Shule mbaya hawaipendi kazi ya ualimu bali wanaifanya kwa lengo la kujipatia rizikiti yao. Hawana moyo wa kujituma. Kutika kuteke leza wajibu wao kama vile; - Wanachelewa kazini, hawaingii darasani na kufundisha ipasavyo. Hawa toi mazoezi ya kutosha, kusahihisha na kufanya usahihi ipasavyo. Hawatoi mitihani ya mwezi, nusu muhula na muhula. Hawatoi matokeo ya mitihani kwa wazazi/ wanafunzi ali yefanya vizuri na ali yefanya vibaya kujulikana. Hawa ziumii zana katika kufundi sha. Hawana upendo kwa wanafunzi. Wanatumia ukali na viboko kinyume ya kanuni za mwaka 20 ya wanafunzi. Hawafundishi wanafunzi wenda sekondari.

Shule mbaya haina uhusiano mzuri kati ya walimu, wanafunzi, wazazi na wazazi. Ka

Mary Mrope (40) Female
P.O. Box 289, Songea



wa Ma'zingira na michezo. Wanafunzi kawaida hawana nidhamu
watoro, wezi, wavuta bangi, waongo. Hawazifuati
sheria za shule.

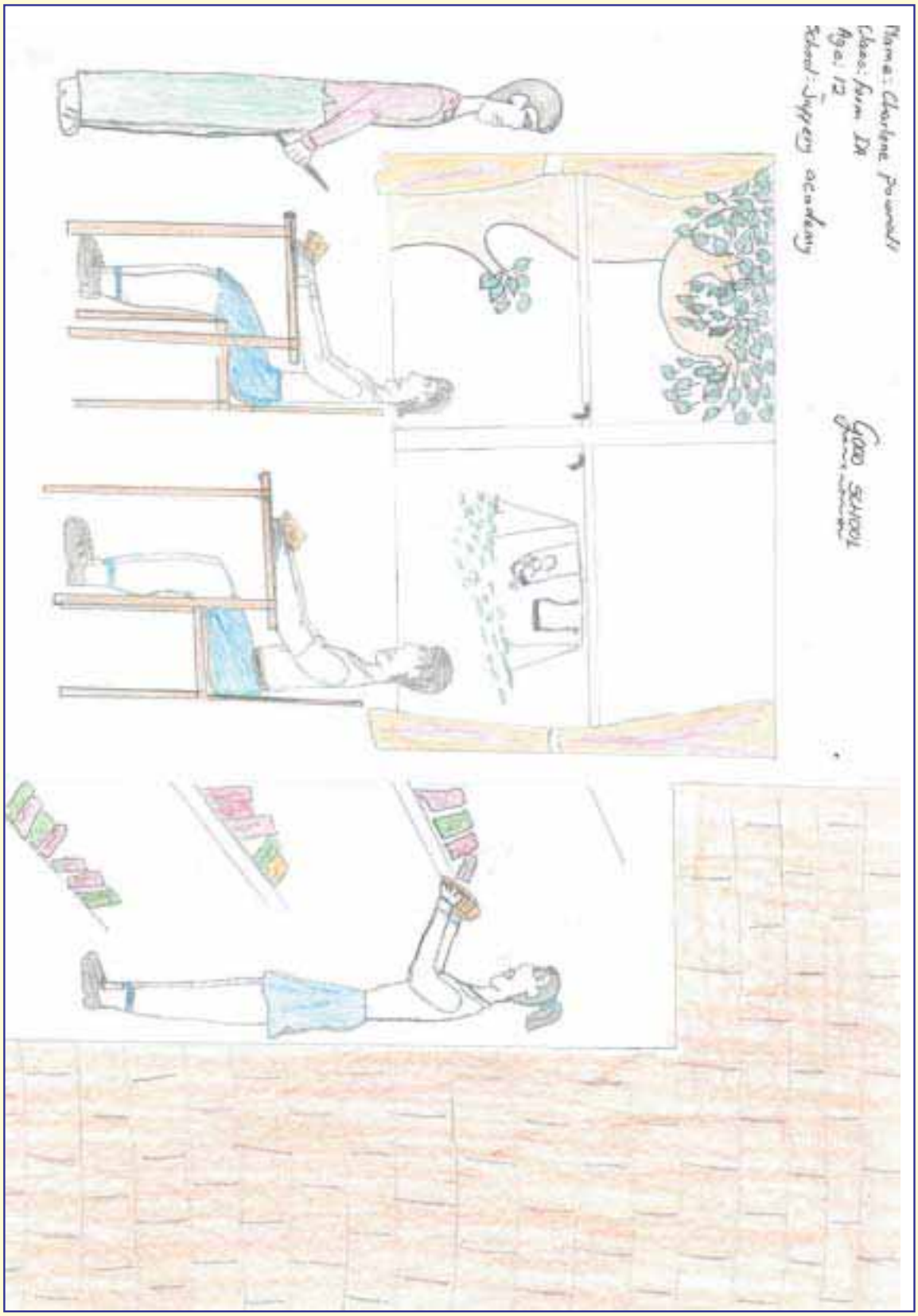
Walimu wa shule mbaya hawaipendi kazi ya
ualimu bali wanaifanya kwa lengo la kujipatia
rizki tu. Hawana moyo wa kujituma katika kutekeleza
wajibu wao kama vile; Wanachelewa kazini,
hawaingii darasani na kufundisha ipasavyo. Hawa
toi mazoezi ya kutosha, kusahihisha na kufanya
usahihi ipasavyo. Hawatoi mitihani ya mara, nusu
muhula na muhula. Hawatoi matokeo ya mitihani
kwa wanafunzi ili yefanya rejeo na ili yefanya
vibaya hajulikani. Hawatumii zana katika kufundi
sha. Hawaoni upendo kwa wanafunzi. Wanatumia
ukali na vibako bandala ya kusikiliza matata
zo ya wanafunzi. Hawathamini wanafunzi wenda sekondari

Shule mbaya haina uhusiano mzuri kati
ya walimu, wanafunzi, wazazi na wazazi. Ka
mati ya shule imewekwa kama mapambo, hai
shirikishwi katika masuala ya maendeleo ya
maendeleo ya shule.

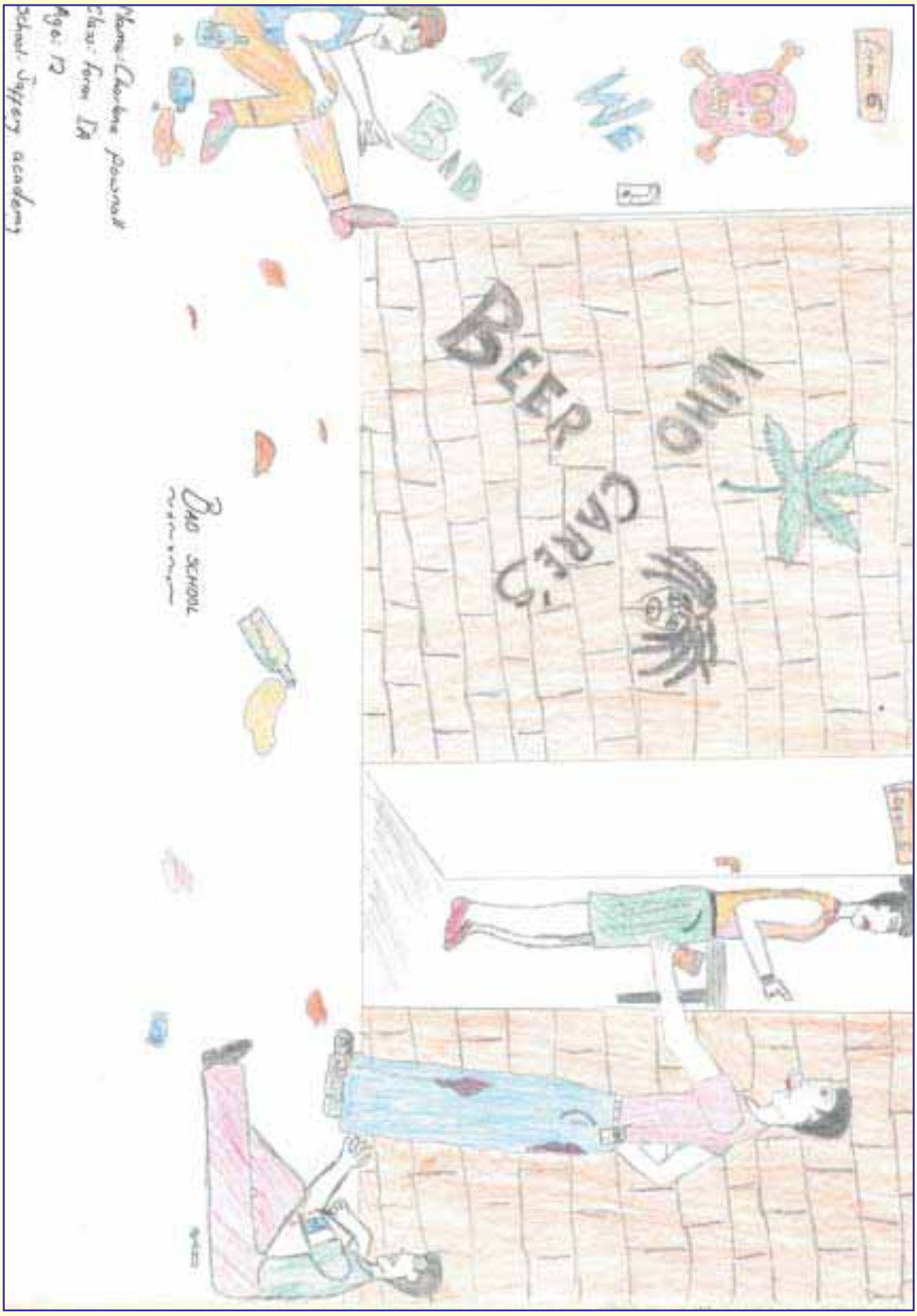
Tukiwa na shule mbaya kama hii taifa
letu litaangamia.

13. Charlene Pownall (12) Female
Jaffery Academy, Arusha

Charlene has shown a good representation of how outside influences affect the performance of pupils within schools. She also shows a good focus on how recreation can help children to learn better.

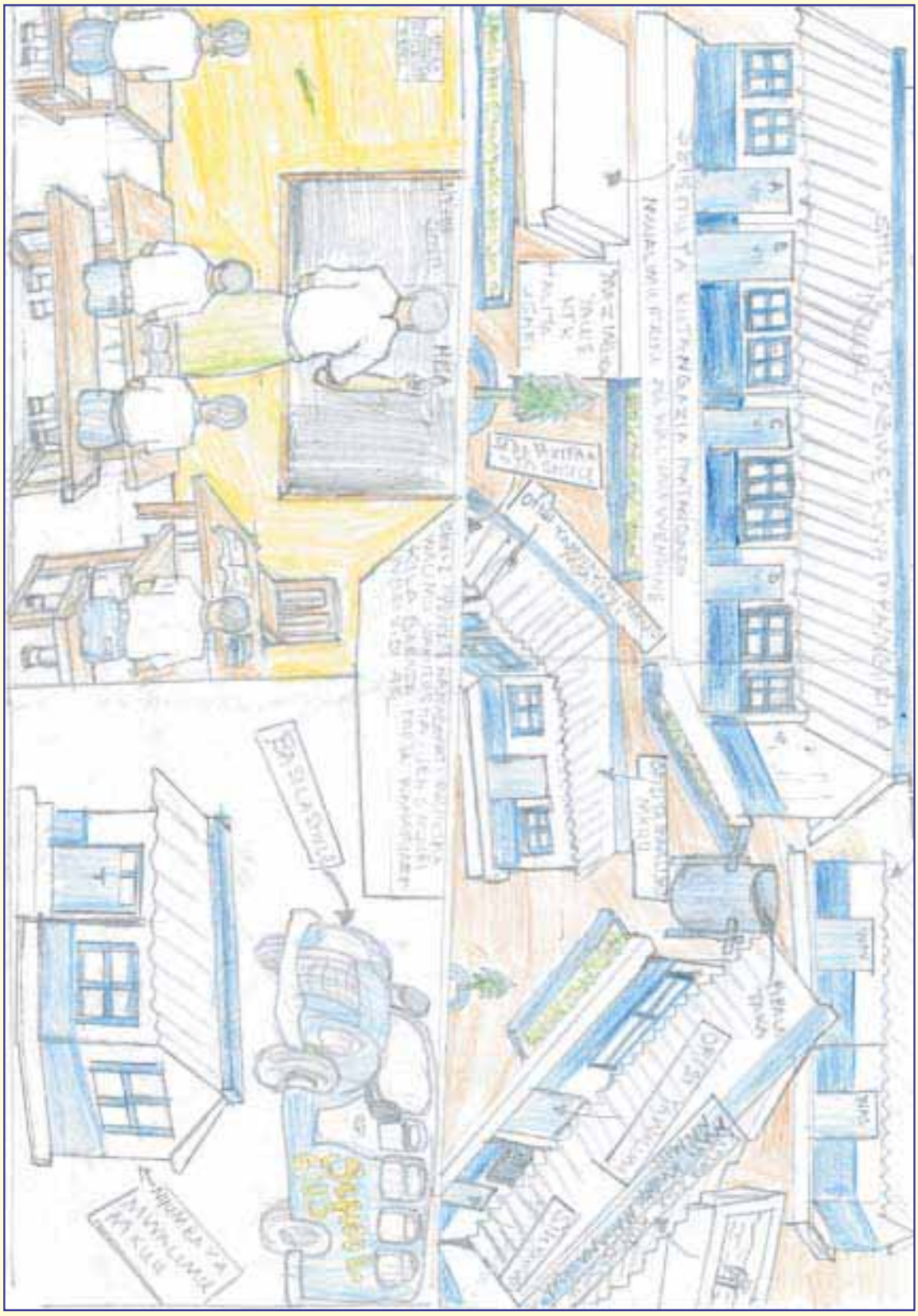


Charlene Pownall (12) Female
Jaffery Academy, Arusha

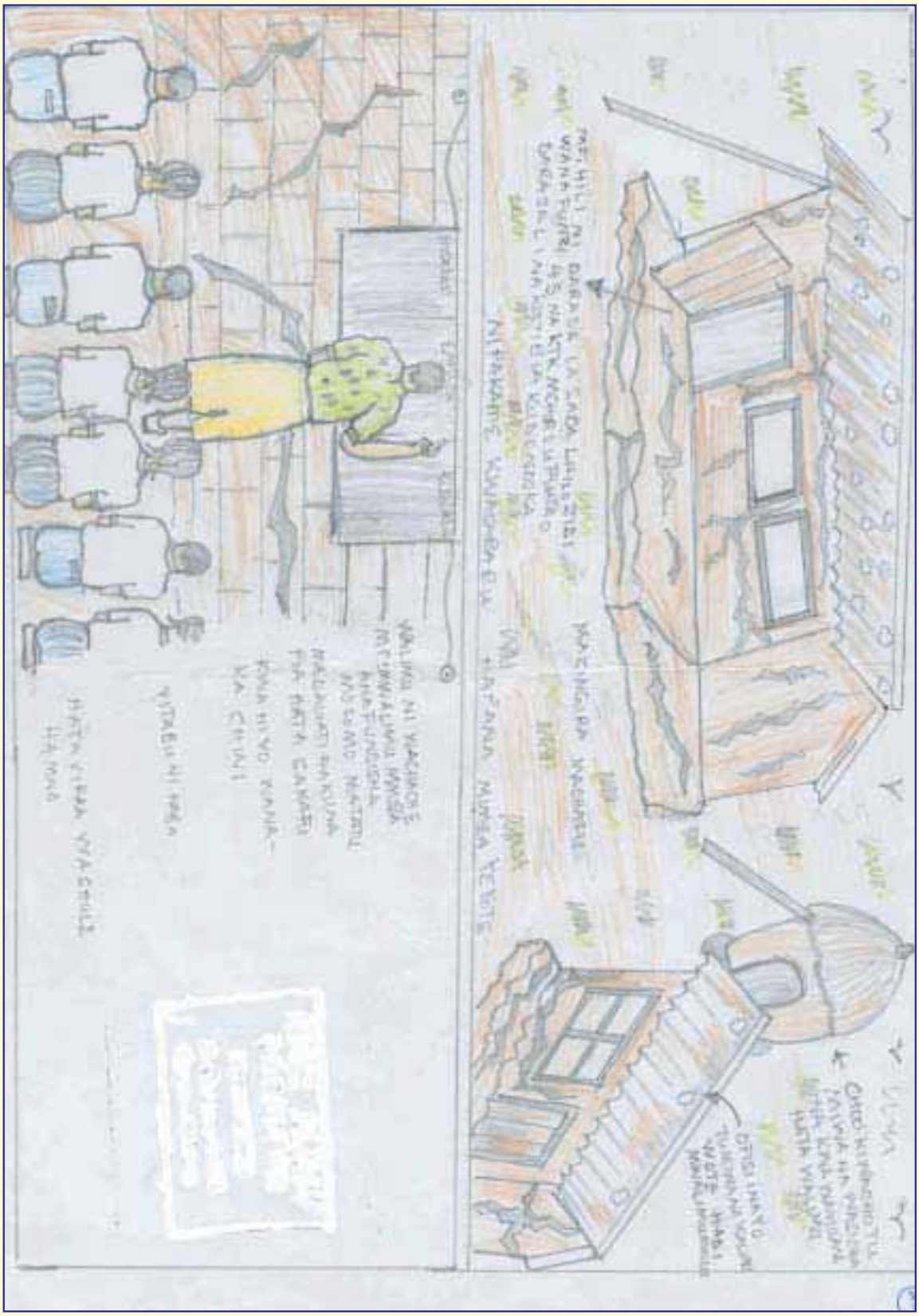


14. Mpoki Mwakitalu (12) Male
PO Box 236, Arusha

Mpoki has used his creativity to detail a bad school, in which buildings are falling apart and students are bored. As a viewer you can see the confusion of having teachers teaching more than one class at a time

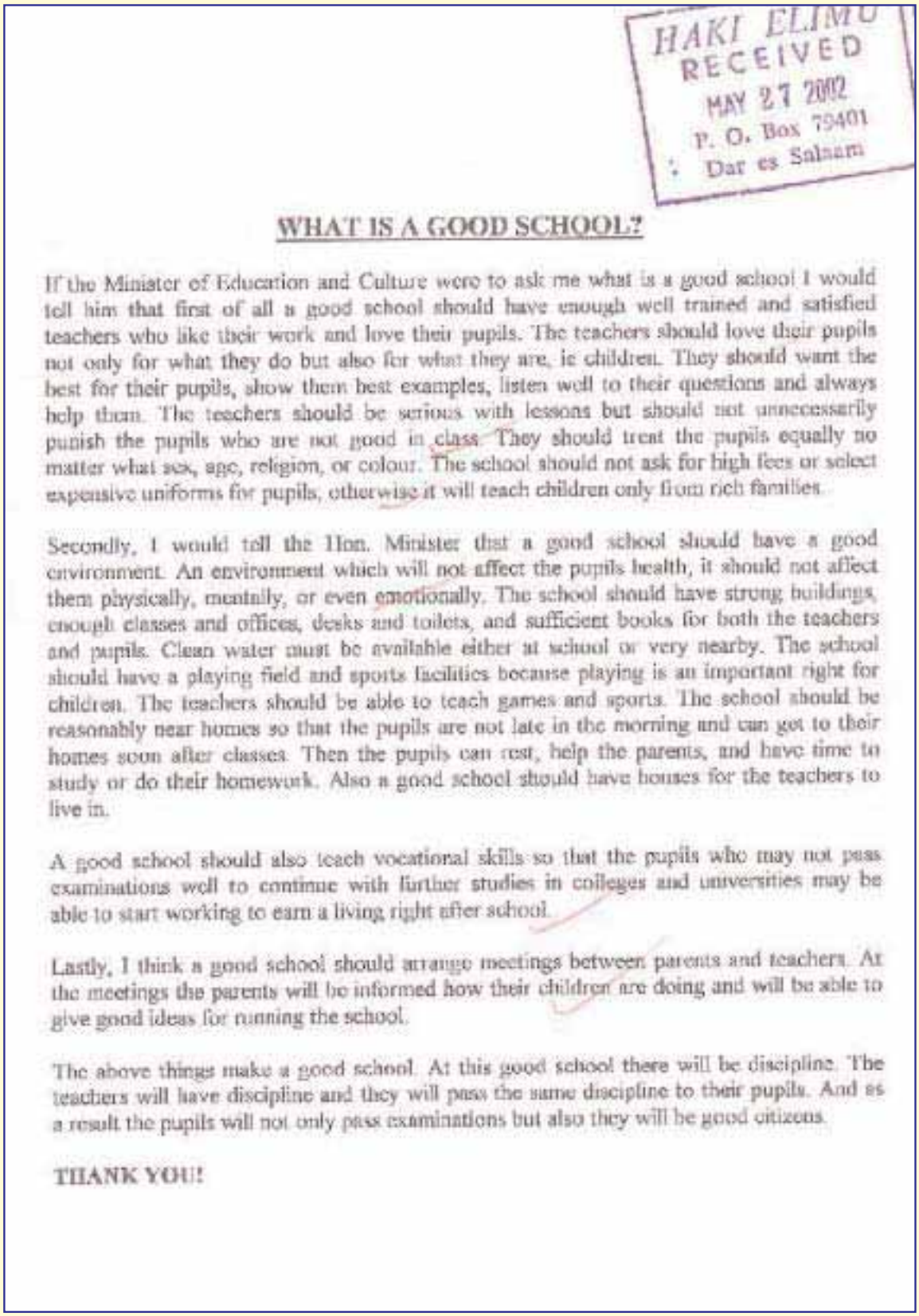


Mpoki Mwakitalu (12) Male
PO Box 236, Arusha



15. Asimwe Ruganyoisa (12) Female
P.O. Box 2650, Dar es Salaam

Asimwe expresses well the challenges facing teachers and the impact that their role has on pupils. She also talks about the impact of HIV/AIDS and the importance of educating young people on this subject.



HAKI ELIMU
RECEIVED
MAY 27 2002
P. O. Box 75401
Dar es Salaam

WHAT IS A GOOD SCHOOL?

If the Minister of Education and Culture were to ask me what is a good school I would tell him that first of all a good school should have enough well trained and satisfied teachers who like their work and love their pupils. The teachers should love their pupils not only for what they do but also for what they are, ie children. They should want the best for their pupils, show them best examples, listen well to their questions and always help them. The teachers should be serious with lessons but should not unnecessarily punish the pupils who are not good in class. They should treat the pupils equally no matter what sex, age, religion, or colour. The school should not ask for high fees or select expensive uniforms for pupils, otherwise it will teach children only from rich families.

Secondly, I would tell the Hon. Minister that a good school should have a good environment. An environment which will not affect the pupils health, it should not affect them physically, mentally, or even emotionally. The school should have strong buildings, enough classes and offices, desks and toilets, and sufficient books for both the teachers and pupils. Clean water must be available either at school or very nearby. The school should have a playing field and sports facilities because playing is an important right for children. The teachers should be able to teach games and sports. The school should be reasonably near homes so that the pupils are not late in the morning and can get to their homes soon after classes. Then the pupils can rest, help the parents, and have time to study or do their homework. Also a good school should have houses for the teachers to live in.

A good school should also teach vocational skills so that the pupils who may not pass examinations well to continue with further studies in colleges and universities may be able to start working to earn a living right after school.

Lastly, I think a good school should arrange meetings between parents and teachers. At the meetings the parents will be informed how their children are doing and will be able to give good ideas for running the school.

The above things make a good school. At this good school there will be discipline. The teachers will have discipline and they will pass the same discipline to their pupils. And as a result the pupils will not only pass examinations but also they will be good citizens.

THANK YOU!!

Asimwe Ruganyoisa (12) Female
P.O. Box 2650, Dar es Salaam

WHAT IS A BAD SCHOOL?

If the Minister of Education and Culture were to ask me what is a bad school I would tell him that a bad school is the complete opposite of a good school. A bad school has teachers who are not well trained and are always complaining almost about everything. The teachers are not paid well or on time and they spend a lot of time on their private businesses to help earn a better living, for example teachers force pupils to buy sweets, chewing gum or whatever they are selling in the classroom. A pupil who does not have money to buy the sweets is forced to take the sweets and then pay the following day. And if the pupil does not pay on the following day he/she gets beaten and if he/she refuses to buy or borrow the sweets he/she is beaten. The result is the pupils end up stealing money from their friends, relatives or parents so that they can pay the debts. Other teachers do business outside the school and the result is either they are very tired when it is class time or they very rarely come to school. Or the teacher enters a class and asks the pupil with good handwriting to write something on the blackboard for the other pupils to copy in their exercise books, just sits down waiting for the bell to ring, takes his/her things and gets out of the classroom without at least explaining to the pupils what is written on the blackboard. A bad school has careless teachers who do not love their pupils.

A bad school has dirty environment and is surrounded by things that are not proper for children. There are people who do drugs nearby the school or people who seduce especially the girls to do things that would affect their future. As a result the pupils may take drugs, or sell drugs or even steal money from parents in order to buy drugs. The girls may get pregnant and stop school or the pupils may get STDs or even AIDS.

A bad school does not have enough facilities. For example if the school has few classrooms and the pupils have to learn in the open under a tree. This is not good because staying under the sun for too long is not healthy. Or if there are not enough desks the pupils have to fight for the few desks available, usually the strong boys win and mostly girls sit on the floor. The girls do not concentrate in class because they spend most of the time making sure that they sit properly and they may fail the examinations. A bad school does not have enough separate toilets for the boys and for the girls. Also there is no clean water at the school or nearby. This may affect the health of the pupils.

A bad school is one that is built far from homes and the pupils have to walk long distances. When they reach school the pupils are already too tired to concentrate on lessons, the result is that pupils sleep in class. Or the pupils are very tired in the evening and cannot do homework or revision. Therefore the pupils cannot pass the examinations.

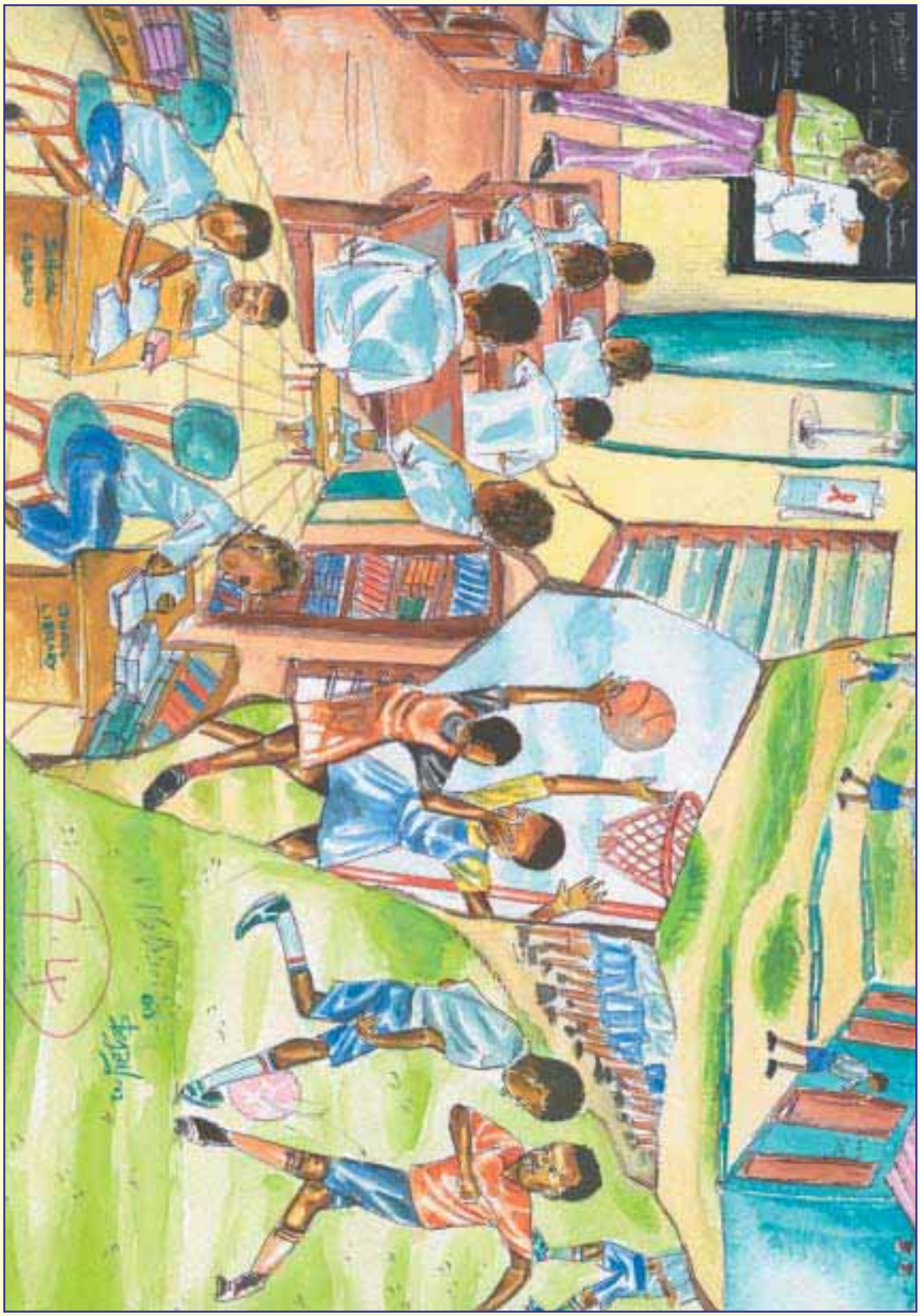
A bad school does not arrange meetings between parents and teachers. The parents are not told about the school and they do not get reports on their children.

Finally, there is no discipline at a bad school. The teachers and pupils do whatever they please and nobody cares! A bad school shows bad examples to the pupils who later on become bad citizens in our country.

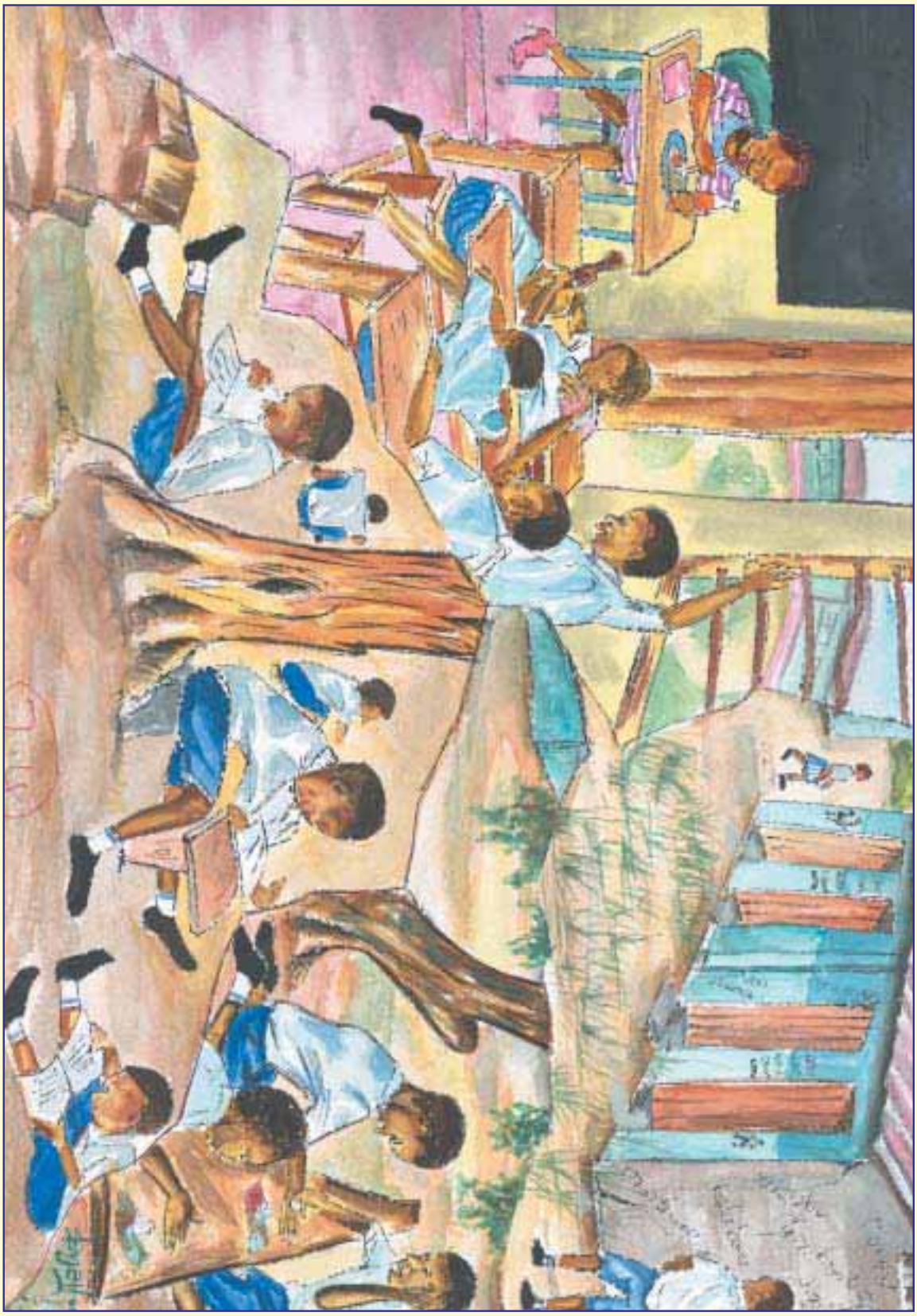
THANK YOU!

16. Ismail Yusuph (18) Male
PO Box 79505, Dar es Salaam

Ismail's drawing powerfully shows problems in school. The colors and layout are bright, exciting and eye catching.

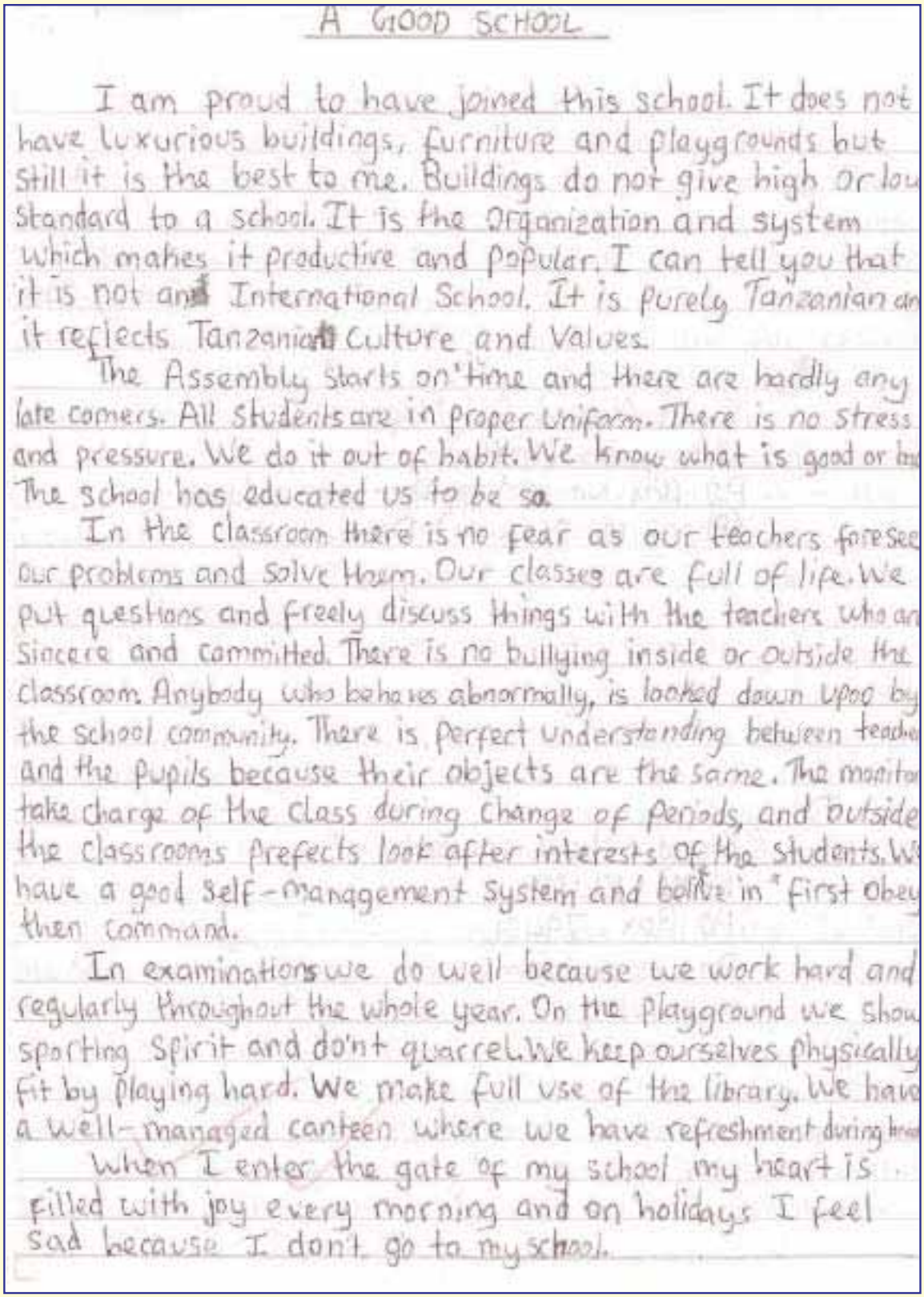


Ismail Yusuph (18) Male
PO Box 79505, Dar es Salaam



17. Deogratis M. Simba (31) Male
PO Box 4246, Dar es Salaam

Deogratis writes about the mental, spiritual, physical and social role that schools need to play in developing a child. Schools should teach children how to know their rights and encourage them to be curious and courageous, and to learn without fear.



A GOOD SCHOOL

I am proud to have joined this school. It does not have luxurious buildings, furniture and playgrounds but still it is the best to me. Buildings do not give high or low standard to a school. It is the organization and system which makes it productive and popular. I can tell you that it is not an International School. It is purely Tanzanian and it reflects Tanzanian Culture and Values.

The Assembly starts on time and there are hardly any late comers. All students are in proper Uniform. There is no stress and pressure. We do it out of habit. We know what is good or bad. The school has educated us to be so.

In the classroom there is no fear as our teachers foresee our problems and solve them. Our classes are full of life. We put questions and freely discuss things with the teachers who are sincere and committed. There is no bullying inside or outside the classroom. Anybody who behaves abnormally, is looked down upon by the school community. There is perfect understanding between teachers and the pupils because their objects are the same. The monitors take charge of the class during change of periods, and outside the classrooms prefects look after interests of the students. We have a good self-management system and belive in "first obey then command."

In examinations we do well because we work hard and regularly throughout the whole year. On the playground we show sporting spirit and don't quarrel. We keep ourselves physically fit by playing hard. We make full use of the library. We have a well-managed canteen where we have refreshment during breaks.

When I enter the gate of my school my heart is filled with joy every morning and on holidays I feel sad because I don't go to my school.

Deogratis M. Simba (31) Male
PO Box 4246, Dar es Salaam

A BAD SCHOOL

I want admission and so I am in a school to see if it is good. The buildings are nice, the playgrounds big. The morning Assembly starts late but teachers and students are still coming leisurely. Many students are not in proper uniform. The National Anthem is on but Pupils are moving and nobody is telling them to stand still and pay respect.

Half of the first period is wasted and now studies start. The teacher has given some notes to a boy with a good hand to copy down on the black board and the class is asked to write in their exercise books from the black board. No explanation, no questions, no answers and no homework. The period is over. I saw the same thing in some other periods also.

Then I went to see the labs. Everything is there. Physical balance, beakers and tables are full of dust and cob-webs as if nobody has used the lab for a long time. The school Library has the same situation. I saw the librarian dozing. Students never think of entering the library because perhaps the librarian prefers to be alone inside and she does not like any disturbance.

The playgrounds have long grass and bushes. If some students bring a football there, it is bound to be lost. So they prefer playing in corridors of the school.

I was told when examinations are near, teachers get many tuitions and make a lot of money. In the examination hall, the helpless pupils try unfair means. Some of them are caught and punished. The greatest tragedy is that the Headmaster doesn't know anything about what is described above. I have decided never to join such a school.

Annex: The Competition Process

Who Entered?

The response to the advert competition was enormous. A total of 1,074 essays and drawings were received from across Tanzania. Entries were received from children as young as five years old and adults aged 72 years. We also received group entries from established youth organisations and friends who came together to send us their views.

How was the Competition Assessed?

It was stressed that there are no 'right' or 'wrong' answers to the questions raised. We were looking for essays and drawings that were:

- creative
- well-written
- addressed issues relevant to the Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP)
- paid attention to issues of quality in education
- original in their ideas – had something different to say
- visually stimulating
- provoked discussion

Two external assessors with a background in education assessed the entries on the basis of these criteria. They assessed all the entries on a scale of 1-10 (10 being the highest mark), awarding points for relevance to the above categories.

Entries were divided into the following age group categories to ensure equal levels of assessment. In addition entries were also divided by gender and whether the entry was an essay or drawing.

CATEGORY	Essay		Drawing	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Age 12 or below	1	2	3	4
Age 13 – 16	5	6	7	8
Age 17 – 24	9	10	11	12
Age 25 and above	13	14	15	-
Group Entries (mixed age)	16		17	

This made a total of 17 categories (N.B. There were no entries in the Female 25 and above, drawing category). Once the entries had been assessed they were reviewed by HakiElimu staff to make sure that the assessment was consistent and fair.

Out of the 1074 entries the top five from each category were then selected. This identified 85 potential winning entries. HakiElimu staff then selected 2-3 entries in each category. This reduced the final shortlist to 39. A team of assessors from the Ministry of Education and Culture, teachers and HakiElimu then met to select the top ten winners. Each of these assessors individually reviewed the 39 short-listed finalists and nominated one from each category that they thought was the best. All the judges then met as a group to reach a consensus as to the single best entry for each category.

This then left a total of 17 finalists, from which the assessors selected the best 10 taking into account age, gender and type of entry. These were considered so that a broad range of winners were selected. The remaining 7 entries were nominated as 'Highly Commended'.


HakiElimu yatangaza washindi shindano la Mwambie Waziri wa Elimu!

'Shule Nzuri ni Ipi?' na 'Shule Mbaya ni Ipi?'

WASHINDI 10 BORA NI:

What Did the Winners Receive?

Each of the 10 winners received Tshs. 100,000/- for themselves and 100,000/- for a school of their choice. Each of the 7 highly commended entries received a HakiElimu T-shirt. All competition entrants (including winners and highly-commended) received one copy of the HakiElimu booklet 'Hii Ndio Elimu?/Is This Education?'

HakiElimu did not direct the way in which prize monies should be used. We did however, stress that prizes awarded to schools should be used in the spirit of the competition, i.e. that decisions on spending involve community participation and in particular pupil participation.