

DENIS CHARLES MACHOKA LYIMO

HISTORY

Denis Charles Machoka Lyimo is the first born son of Claudia Isaack Mallya to Charles Machoka Lyimo.

Born in 1972, Claudia is an orphan since at the age of two years from Kimfuni Village, Kibosho-Umbwe, Moshi District, Kilimanjaro Region, who had nobody to pay for her education in the village; so she is illiterate. She lived oppressed in the village, shifting from one family to another as juvenile house girl until 1987 at the age of 15 years when she was lured by an older girl to come to town. She worked with various families as house girl receiving petty salary until 1971 when a cart puller Charles Machoka Lyimo walked into her life. On discovering that Claudia was pregnant, her mistress ordered her out of the house. She moved to live with Charles in a hired room. To Charles, Claudia gave birth to three children; Denis (1993), Irene (1996), and James Babuu (1999).

Charles Machoka Lyimo just like Claudia was also an illiterate cart puller boy in Kiboriloni, Moshi Municipality who fell deeply alcoholic and disappeared from home since 1999 and his whereabouts are known to date.

Denis had never attended school, not even kindergarten for lack of school fees. His mother unemployed turned to begging and seeking cheap daily labour trying to earn few shillings to bring up her children. The money earned was not even sufficient to pay for school fees for her children. At one time Denis' mother received donation for school fees. Denis was already 10 years old and according to the education law in Tanzania he couldn't be admitted in school class, standard one but standard four. But earlier he hadn't been to school enough to know to write and read! A Good Samaritan pleaded with Mwereni Primary School head teacher to admit Denis to standard one. After the first term in school, Denis was sent back because there was no more money to pay for school fees.

Denis stayed at home, doing nothing but trying to become a street boy until 2006 when a soft hearted Rebecka Dahlgren felt very sorry for the life style Denis would lead in future and decided to sponsor him in that year for primary school education. Rebecka Dahlgren was as student/volunteer at Agape Learning Center, neighbour to where Denis lives. Donation from Rebecka did not come by early, until 2007. Denis was admitted to Mnazi Primary School in class standard three, although against Tanzanian education law, and now (2008) he is in standard four like his sister Irene whose fees is being paid by KIWAKKUKI (Women Group in Kilimanjaro Against HIV/AIDS).

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