

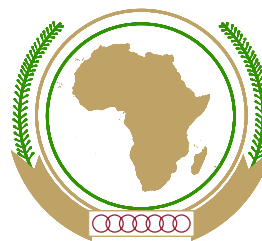
# UNAMID POLICE COMPONENT OF TAWILLA TEAM SITE HANDS OVER NEWLY REFURBISHED SECONDARY SCHOOL TO THE COMMUNITY



U N A M I D P O L I C E

## STORY OF THE WEEK

08-07-2018



AFRICAN UNION - UNITED NATIONS HYBRID OPERATION IN DARFUR

# QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“Education is one of the greatest equalizers. In order to ensure equal opportunities for everyone irrespective of race, gender or social class, equal access to education is necessary”.*

## UNAMID POLICE COMPONENT OF TAWILLA TEAM SITE HANDS OVER NEWLY REFURBISHED SECONDARY SCHOOL TO THE COMMUNITY

UNAMID Police Component of Tawilla Team Site (TS) in Sector North refurbished the community’s only Secondary School for Boys, which remained in dilapidated condition following years of conflict. The newly rebuilt school buildings rekindled the hopes of thousands of people in peace and progress. It garnered the trust and faith of the Tawilla community in UNAMID.

As the community rebuilds their lives salvaging from the little that remained after the War, the dilapidated school stood as a grim reminder of the carnage that once grappled the land. The walls of the classrooms and offices bore bullet holes with no roofs overhead and the walls stood precariously close to collapse. Yet the resilient Tawilla community out of necessities continued using the ruins to educate their children.



Tawilla Secondary School for Boys' was once a center of learning with a capacity of 500 students. It is located 5 Km North of Tawilla TS, which benefited about 250000 members of the communities in Tawilla and IDPs from five Camps.

Considering the condition of the school, the two German Individual Police Officers (IPOs) Mr. Toni Kirchmair and Heiko Lammertz of Tawilla TS solicited a fund of USD 11000.00 from Lachen Helfen, a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in Germany, through German Embassy in Khartoum to rehabilitate the school. "Lachen Helfen" in German means "help to laugh" or to bring back smiles to children in war and crisis stiken areas. The NGO was founded by soldiers and policemen of Germany for humanitarian assistance in post conflict areas.



With this fund, the community undertook the project in March 2018 and renovated all the eight buildings within a span of three months with dedicated support from teachers, Community Leaders, parents and the community.



In a colorful ceremony, Tawilla TS handed over the newly renovated Tawilla Secondary School for Boys to the school authority and community on 19th June 2018. About 700 people from IDP camps and neighbouring communities comprising of community leaders, teachers, students, parents and members of the community gathered to witness the ceremony. Education Minister of North Darfur, Ms. Munira Abdulrahman graced the ceremony as the guest of honour. While Locality Commissioner Mr. Adam Jadeed, Head of Secondary Schools of North Darfur, representatives from SPF and RSF were in attendance. TS Commander, Heads of substantive units and IPOs also attended the ceremony. The event, which was organized by the community and the Locality Commissioner, was marked with outstanding cultural performance by the women of Tawilla.



The project also included the construction of six new toilets, perimeter wall and donation of furniture. In an sincere attempt to update the children with the latest technology, 10 laptops and 10 e-books were also donated with the follow-up support to train the teachers in computer applications. In addition, the school, which has never seen electricity since its inception about half a century ago, has now solar power that covers all offices and classrooms.



Before



After



During the ceremony, Tawilla TS Commander Mr. Wael Alnusairat welcomed the gathering and expressed his deep appreciation for the successful completion of the project. He said, this project is an evidence and culmination of cordial relationship between UNAMID, Government agencies and the community. In addition, he conveyed the expectation of UNAMID that the School would serve to provide a safe and positive learning environment for the children of Tawilla community.

It is suffice to say that the center of learning contribute towards transform young minds and shape them into a future leaders and ambassadors of peace and progress in the country. The ceremony also provided the oppurtunity for the UNAMID Police Component the acknowledge the exemplerary contributions of the community members who worked hard to make this project a grand success.



The Locality Commissioner Mr. Adam Jadeed in his address said, “The community of Tawilla has no words to describe their happiness and gratitude to UNAMID at this hour for blessing them with such a support. It is a symbol and vision to a better future especially to the children as the future leaders of the country.” He added that there is no better support from UNAMID than the educational support. He expressed his gratitude to the donor agency and also highlighted his deepest appreciation to UNAMID for the support and the continued effort in preventing conflict and sustaining peace in Darfur.



The Minister of Education, Ms. Munira Abdulrahman also attended the hand-over ceremony. In her address, she said, “The school is a symbol of peace and such contribution is an evidence of UNAMID’s relentless effort to help the people bring peace in Darfur”. She emphasized on the importance of education for the vulnerable children reiterating the efforts in ensuring that every child must have the opportunity to for education. She urged parents and the teachers to make best use of the facilities that UNAMID has bestowed upon them”.



The IPO from Germany Mr. Heiko Lammertz said, “Children are the future of this country, so we need to raise their chances as education is the gateway to better future”. Positive environment is necessary in creating more conducive to learning and achieve success in the global society. This landmark event of handing over of the fully furnished school was symbolic, in that it renewed hope and aspiration of the IDPs and the community members.



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