

REPORT ON THE Y.O.U. CAMP

15TH- 20TH JULY 2008 AT KARAGWE HOTEL- KAYANGA

Y.O.U. stands for **Youth Of Unity** - which is the pilot project initiated by the youth of Danmission and E.L.CT- Karagwe Diocese. These two youth organizations want to start a partnership. In order to achieve this, the two organizations arranged a camp which was held at Karagwe Hotel from 15th to the 20th of July 2008. "Young People's Rights" was the theme of the workshop during the camp. The camp was jointly organized by the youth from Danmission and ELCT- Karagwe Diocese (KAD).

Sixteen youth from the KAD, five youth from Danmission and four people from the Diocesan Head Office attended the workshop. The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Enable the youth to gain awareness about different human rights issues.
- Show the youth the right approach to effectively fight for their rights.
- To increase the co-operation and cross cultural dialogue between Danmission and KAD Youth.

List of workshop participants

1. Youth Karagwe Diocese

Name	District/mission
Mwesige Laurent Elgoodness Emmanuel	Ngara Mission
Respina Natson Blasio Kibirizi	Ihembe District
Aneth Genyondo Ezra Erasto	Murongo District
Donastina Ephraim Irene Kengemu	Mabira District
Enock Thobias Merisa Magilane	Lukajange Distinct
Ruth Ndabigiranta	Kituntu District
Monica Kiiza Brighton Titus	Bweranyange District
Nelson Mabati Mary Ngaro	yerwa District

2. Youth Danmission

Ashley Zaneifard
Anja Neilsen
Thobias Holm
Leah Dahl Olesen
Bettina Alveen

3. Staff from the Diocesan Head Office

Rev. Savera Bishanga
 Sr. Regina Ntimba
 Rev. Anicet Maganya
 Melecksedek Iromba

Opening

The camp was opened by Rev. Dr. Bishop Benson Bagonza of the Karagwe Diocese, by a word of prayer and a speech. In addressing the youth the Bishop pointed out some of the violations that are committed as far as human rights are concerned. He stressed more on the rights of the youth by saying that "there is a tendency in many societies that presents Youth either as incomplete or as special beings...Youth are treated as tomorrow's people, the future nation and special reserve. This means, they are less important today or they do not completely exist today. When explaining events, youth are mentioned as a special category without proper justification of doing that. As the result freedom of expression, association and participation is limited among the youth."

Speaking on the right to live in safe and friendly environment, the bishop challenged the youth to develop a life style that does not exploit the environment.

The camp was a big success with youth coming together and learning together the Human Rights focusing on Youth and Children's rights. This enabled them to address the topic in their own local settings. Many presentations were done by both youth from Danmission and Karagwe through songs, short sketches and traditional dances which showed how human rights are violated. A good example was a short sketch which showed a man who decided to marry off his fourteen year old daughter to an old and rich man for the sake of getting money. The youth condemned the situation which denies the girl's right to education and freedom of choice.

Day 2:

On the second day there were presentations on Human Rights by the youth from Danmission. This made the youth realize that human rights are not violated in Karagwe only but also in other countries and that we should work together to fight for our rights. Then a lecture followed on human rights by a lawyer which gave the participants a technical and scientific knowledge about human rights.

Day 3:

Consequently on the third day the youth had an opportunity to get clear and correct information on HIV transmission and prevention. Combating stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS and to do away with gender discrimination at all levels was emphasized. The face to face talk with a person living with HIV/AIDS was so moving, that the youth could open up for discussion. "I'm HIV positive, I need to be loved and cared for" Savera Aron said, who has been HIV+ for 15 years. Humbly and honestly she thanked the ELCT-KAD for the assistance she has been receiving through ACP. After these informations one of

the participants by the name of Brighton Titus commented, that people living with AIDS need to be helped to cope with the disease and to live positively in spite of it.

In addition Youth from Danmission gave a lecture on Right Based Approach. This provided the participants with tools for identifying problems, their causes and how they can be solved. Moreover, the youth started to identify stakeholders and duty bearers – I don't know what this is. Do you mean: people in a position of responsibility? focusing on the problems in Karagwe. Then they started to work on project drafts.

The evening was a cultural evening where meal (the Nyambo traditional meal) and a traditional dance were prepared. Youth enjoyed themselves by sharing their different cultures.

Day 4:

On the fourth day the youth got an opportunity to visit Kyerwa District-MAYAJA Project which has to do with Community Development particularly empowering people to improve their standard of living. This fieldtrip served as a practical introduction to what can be done to curb Human Rights violations. At Kyerwa District Headquarters the youth planted three trees as the sign of unity.

Day 5:

On the fifth day the youth continued with the Game Plan (Project Management tool) where they made the concrete drafts on how to start working with the identified problems. The following are the problems that were primarily identified:

- i. HIV/AIDS,
- ii. Poverty,
- iii. Corruption,
- iv. Gender Discrimination and
- v. Environment.

They divided up into five groups and each group discussed one project. After the discussion each group presented their project.

Then through these presentations, every youth had at least the knowledge on how to start the project(s). In so doing; those youths who represent their District (each district two representatives) will be able to create and give out their plan when they go back to their Districts.

The following are the plans/ activities of each District that are to be done by the youth who attended the seminar.

District	An Activity
Ngara (Mission)	Organizing a group of twelve youths from each parish and teach them on Human Rights/ Youth Rights and HIV/AIDS. Through this the knowledge of these things will spread through the area of Ngara (Mission).
Ihembe	Conduct a meeting of all youths of Ihembe Parish and teach them about Youths Rights.
Murongo	Conduct a seminar, teach about Youths Rights and HIV/AIDS in their District and introduce the concept of Y.O.U to the youth in the District.
Mabira	Educate people about Human Rights, HIV/AIDS, and start a project on irrigation agriculture for those people who have vegetable gardens.
Lukajange	Conduct a meeting in each parish and teach on Human Rights/Youths Rights, introduce on what is going on between Karagwe Diocese and Danmission concerning Y.O.U
Kituntu	Educate people on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights
Bweranyange	Teach about HIV/AIDS and Human Rights during parent's meetings and meet with students/pupils at their respective schools.
Kyerwa	Organize a group and teach them about Human Rights, HIV/AIDS. Through this group the message about Human Rights will be spread throughout the District of Kyerwa. .
Danish Group	Make brochure, movie/film, and articles, conduct workshops for Danish youth on Human Rights and meet with Y's men (org) and congregation to tell them about the camp.

Note: All the listed activities have to be done within six months after the camp.

The last day of the camp all the participants attended the Sunday service. Five of them (from Denmark), two representatives from Karagwe (Kituntu Parish) and Rev. Savera attended the service in Runyaga Parish and the others attended the service at Kayanga Parish. It was amazing that the name Y.O.U also carries the theme of 2008 between Kituntu District and their partners in Germany. In their word of greeting Youth from Danmission stressed that UNITY IS POWER.

Then in the evening there was a farewell party - the 'Ufunuo Choir' of Kayanga Parish sung during the party. The message of their songs challenged the youth not to engage themselves in things that violates the rights of the people; instead they should raise their voice to speak for the voiceless in the church and community at large.

In his closing remarks, The Dean Rev. Phares Kakulima reminded the Youth to implement what they have learned during the camp and to take a lead in respecting human rights.

Conclusion

All in all the camp was most interesting. Especially the discussions on the different topics, such as Human Rights/Youth Rights, HIV/AIDS were helpful and sharing their views and experiences were valuable for the youth.

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