

SPECIAL REPORT

PARISH EDUCATION DAY 2020 & HEKIMA HOUSE

Hekima House is celebrating 10 Years of activity. Our Parish started it in 2010, through the School Support Program. The Community of Students living behind the Parish Church, in the facilities of Hekima House, has been towards these years a special opportunity to boys and girls studying at OI Moran High School for enhancing their commitment in education and receiving an experience of Christian life as well.

The Parish Education Day 2020 will be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Hekima House, on Saturday 21st March. We dedicate this edition of The Echo mainly to Hekima House, to the celebration of the Parish Education Day, and to some memories of this first decade.

21 March 2020: Parish Education Day

CELEBRATING HEKIMA

PARISH EDUCATION DAY 2020 & 10th Anniversary of Hekima House

Promoted by the School Support Program of the Parish.

Date & Venue:

Saturday 21st March, Hekima House ground.

Program:

- 10.00am: Thanksgiving Mass presided over by Rev. Fr. Samuel Amugori, former Director of the Education Office of the Catholic Diocese of Nyahururu.
- 12.30pm: Entertainments & Acknowledgments
- 02.00pm: Lunch

Participants:

- SSP Committee
- Hekima House Students & Staff
- Tumaini Academy Pupils & Teachers

Invited:

- Parish Church Leaders
- Hekima Parents
- Hekima Former Students
- Hekima Former Staff Members
- SSP Sponsored Students
- Representatives of Students & Teachers from OI Moran High School and from Mithuri Secondary School
- Authorities & Friends.

H-Day: *The Feast Day of Hekima is on 25th March, Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord to Our Lady, Anniversary of the Inauguration of the House, by Bishop Luigi Paiaro, in year 2010. This year will be celebrated on 21st March.*

2010-2020

10 YEARS



Motto:

“Hekima
ameijenga
nyumba
yake”

(Pv 9:1)

Logo:

The Archangel
Gabriel
announcing
the Incarnation
of the Lord Jesus,
Wisdom of God.

History: 10 Years Ago...

HOW HEKIMA STARTED

By Fr. Giacomo Basso

Hekima House was not in our plans as a Parish, but it opened the gates for the first time in September 2009 for a pioneering group of 12 students. It was officially inaugurated in March 2010.

At that time, OI Moran Day Secondary School had started developing faster. The number of students was increasing, thanks also to the free primary education program implemented by the Government of President Kibaki since year 2003, which allowed many pupils to complete primary school. Furthermore, OI Moran Secondary was serving a large territory. In the area of our Parish there were only Mithuri Secondary and OI Moran Secondary School. Despite of being a day school, OI Moran Secondary was fetching students even from Survey, Magadi, Lounyek.

In 2009, Principal John Mwangi shared with me the need of putting up new classrooms for the increasing number of students. By then, there were only the first building of four classrooms, one laboratory accommodating an administration office too, and few others temporary structures (staff room, kitchen, toilets).

At the same time, another major need was upcoming. The students coming from the furthest villages were covering very long distances every day, wasting energy and time necessary for their studies. Security was not good at all. Other students were residing at OI Moran town in precarious conditions. Especially for the girls, staying in town was even a threat. But the drop which made the glass overflow was the case of a girl from Magadi village, who got attempted with sexual abuse as she was coming to school early in the morning. Parents and teachers were afraid, the resources were limited.

One day, Principal Mwangi and I were discussing on how we could use the little funds available: either for adding new classrooms, or for building a dormitory which could offer safe accommodation to students coming from far. There we got an idea. I told Mr. Mwangi: “OI Moran Secondary is a Day School, let us use the school funds for new classrooms first. We could rather arrange some boarding facilities at the Parish, using the building behind the Fathers’ House as a hostel under our management. For some time it might help”.

We were talking about the four classrooms built long time before by Archbishop of Nyeri Gatimu, with the purpose of opening a Girls Secondary School at OI Moran. Since that school had never started, the facilities were used by the Parish as a store, and as a workshop by Githima Spinners women group. An additional wing was built later, in order to open a Nursery school, which again never took off. In 2009, Githima Spinners moved from the Parish to their new workshop in town, offered by Fr. John Volpato who had been transferred to Italy in December 2008. That is how those building were left idle, and how we got the idea of utilizing them for the original educational purpose.

The Principal liked the idea. Initially, I was a bit worried about that idea, because of my little experience. I had been in Kenya only for two years, since 2007, and a Parish Priest only for few months. However, it was time to do something. I shared the idea with Bishop Luigi Paiaro, with Fr. John Volpato, and also with Fr. Sandro Borsa who knew very well the situation of our area having been a Parish Priest when OI Moran was still under Kinamba Parish. They encouraged me to undertake the project.

Works of renovation started in March 2009. The old wing needed some deep renovation, the roof had to be re-made. We had to build a new store too, and move the stock from those facilities.

In July of the same year, I casually met Bishop Luigi. He asked me only one question, abruptly: “So Father, have you opened your students hostel or not yet?”. “We are working on that, Bishop”, I replied. He told me again: “Let’s move on Father: do it, do it!”. I was surprised: I did not expect Bishop to be so concerned about that. That question actually encouraged me.

In September 2009, at the beginning of third term, we opened Hekima House with a pioneering group of 12 Form 4 students. The tentative activity turned to be very positive. In January 2010, we received the first group of 40 students. The students were assisted by Mrs. Serah Wambui as the first matron, Mr. George Kariuki first Patron, and by Mr. Peterson Muthua as the secretary of the School Support Program.

On 25th March 2010, Feast of the Annunciation, Bishop Luigi came to bless and inaugurate the new Students Hostel. Fr. Sandro told me: “Bishop Gatimu must be celebrating in heaven this gracious day: he had always wanted this place to be for education”.

But what is Hekima House? Hekima is a community of students, not just a building. For 10 years, Hekima has been hosting up to 45 boys and 55 girls per year, in excellent cooperation with OI Moran High School. It has also been a wonderful opportunity to our Parish: a community of Students living at the Parish Centre is a unique chance of apostolate.

This year we celebrate 10 years of Hekima. Hekima House has been made a beautiful place by hundreds of boys and girls who have come and left, gone to higher levels of education, or to work. I wish that the extra education they received at Hekima, may always help them on the journey of their blessed life.

This anniversary is the good chance for thanking God and for appreciating many people who have worked for it: parents, patrons & matrons, sisters, and our students. God bless Hekima and its future!

The Community of Students Today

HEKIMA HOUSE 2020

STUDENTS: 56 Boys, 50 Girls, Total of 106 Students.

STAFF: Manager & Director: FR. GIACOMO BASSO; First Patron: PETER KARARI; First Matron: JOYCE NDIRITU; Second Patron: FRANCIS NJENGA; Second Matron: TERESIA NG’ANG’A; Housekeeping: SIMON NJOROGE, JAMES KAMUGWI, SUSAN NAKARINGA.

PREFECTS: Head Boy: MICHAEL N. GITURO; Head Girl: ESTHER M. KAGAI; Dorms Boys: LOPEZ B. CHOELI, EDMUND K. KIPAU; Dorms Girls: SUSAN A. AKIDOR, MARIA W. KURIA; Entertainments & Games: JORAM N. LOSUSUI, SUSAN W. MUTHUMBI; Dining Hall: RAPHAEL C. KIMERE, MARY W. WACHIRA; Liturgy: GEDEON E. EROT, EVELYN C. KOMEN; Time Keepers: SOLOMON L. LOKWE, ROSELINE I. ELELE.

Parish Finance Council

MICHANGO YA MWAKA 2020

Hapa chini mnaweza kusoma mpango wa michango ya mwaka huu, ulivyotangazwa kwa Parish Assembly: KSh 450,000 kwa Jimbo, na Ksh 180,000 ya mradi wa maendeleo ya Jimbo. Kuna pia michango mingine kwa ajili ya Seminari na PMC ya Jimbo ambayo tutachangia kwa njia tofauti na michango ya Makanisa Madogo.

	Local Church	Bal.2019	Amount	Total
1	Kabati	0	90,000	90,000
2	Mithuri	0	85,000	85,000
3	Minjore	70,412	65,000	135,412
4	Githima	0	90,000	90,000
5	Gituamba	1,500	1,500	3,000
6	OI Motunyi	0	1,500	1,500
7	Kahuho	24,904	28,000	52,904
8	Mbombo	0	28,000	28,000
9	OI Moran	0	150,000	150,000
10	Ngare Narok	0	8,000	8,000
11	Miharati	0	25,000	25,000
12	Survey	3,600	10,000	13,600
13	Magadi	0	23,000	23,000
14	Posta	850	6,000	6,850
15	Nagum	0	1,500	1,500
16	Dam Mbili	3,800	3,500	7,300
17	Lounyek	4,550	8,000	12,550
18	Ndunyuriwo	0	6,000	6,000
	TOTAL	630,000	109,616	739,616