

A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION



We proudly introduce you to John Sembwa, our recent university graduate with a Bachelor of Education in Linguistics from Tumaini University, Makumira, Arusha -Tanzania. Now this is something to celebrate!

Born 28 years ago, John grew up in a poor family in the Dodoma region of central Tanzania. Having lost his father, he remained under the care of his mother, who then had to raise John and his two siblings alone. She struggled to put enough food on the table for her kids to survive, and she could hardly manage life as a single parent. As a mother who deeply understood the value of education, she somehow managed to help pay school fees in order for John to complete his secondary education in 2009.

Unfortunately, this was almost the end of the road for John's dreams of higher education. Having done all she possibly could, his mother could no longer find a way to pay for any further schooling. This is where Huruma Women Group (HWG), our local partner in the Dodoma region who implements the MVC education support program, enters the picture and saves the day. John recalls: ***"I can't forget the day Mzee Msingwa, a village chair came to my home on a bicycle bringing good news for me! Huruma Women Group (HWG) has heard your cry and wants to help you go for your advanced education studies, don't worry my grandson"***.

In 2010, John was enrolled in the SATF education support program to receive funding for advanced secondary education. From this point on, nothing but triumph followed. With our partner providing close support and guidance, John successfully completed his advanced secondary education and studied at university for three years, and on 28 November 2015, John graduated with a B.A. Education in Linguistics!

John proudly says, ***"...I am now married and a teacher at Joshua School, Arusha. With all my Heart, I thank you so much SATF and HWG for everything you have done to take me where I am today"***.

John is proud, his family is proud, HWG is proud and we are over the moon to have had a hand in his success. It is not only John's achievement, but an achievement for all SATF beneficiaries to look to an accomplished degree holder and say to themselves, "Perhaps it will be my university graduation everyone is celebrating one day." We can only hope to deliver more stories such as this.