

Subject:

A Proposal to Build a Library, a Computer Lab and Procurement of Books for Deprived Children in Awate Traditional Area Schools.

Purpose:

To propose a solution to a problem that has plagued our area for decades if not a century. The problem is that Awate Traditional area is located in one of the under developed areas in the Volta region of The Republic of GHANA. This area is a scenic historical landmark that has been demarcated and reserved for construction of modern harbour, a dam for electrification projects and other large scale agricultural projects during Prime Minister Dr. Kwame Nkrumah's regime in the 1950's. The Awate Traditional area is a strategic landmark along the Volta River bank endowed with many natural resources and fertile land suitable for all kinds of crop cultivation. A number of development projects were outlined by the Ghanaian government to develop the landmark and to ensure availability of employment for the people living in the district and surrounding areas. None of the proposed development projects materialized because local government project evaluations team came and assessed this area time upon time, again and again for years, and the end result is, resources allocated will be diverted to the unknown for so many decades now. Political leaders keep on diverting development projects to where it will benefit them individually not necessary where the project was supposed to be located for efficiency, performance and the benefit of the local people. Such is the trend in most under developed countries. The lack of development of social amenities and employment resulted in extreme object poverty of the adult population which basically transfers to or inherited by the succeeding children.

Educational supplies like text books, teaching materials for teachers, computers, and modern teaching facility, if the schools have some at all are outdated. The school system needs chairs, tables, and other necessary equipment for a basic classroom setting. Computers and software programs are something that the schools and its administrators have been hearing about and have no means of acquiring. I, Togbe Deitse VII, (King Deitse VII), the head of all chiefs of Awate Traditional Council, kindly propose to individuals, the international community and non-profit organizations to assist us in bringing quality education and necessary basic amenities to children in our traditional area.

We have been able to secure electricity to the area through the British government electrification project to rural areas so school children now have light to read and to do homework after school. The area has been looking forward to local government intervention and other government subsidies for so long, and in many cases this expectation never materialized. We have taken it upon ourselves to undertake every development project to assist the children in the traditional area to become successful unlike the predecessor adult parents.

Unfortunately this problem of lack of basic education and job training has hampered the youths for so long that there are not many adults that are in the position to offer a minimum help in terms of money and other kinds of provisions. Most of the adult parents need help themselves because they lacked the necessary education and training during their time as youths.

The present source of income of these people depends solely on peasant farming. There is a vast fertile land along the Volta River bank where the people live but the resources and equipment to cultivate and to engage in large scale farming and even fish farming are lacking. These accumulated problems over the years rendered the inhabitants to live poorly in abundance of rich natural resources that could have been utilized effectively for the development of our traditional area and the district.

The Problem:

Classrooms, Books and Technology.

Currently, the building structure we have for classrooms is not big enough to accommodate the number of primary, middle and junior high school students. I am one of the products of the old Roman Catholic Primary School in this traditional area so many years ago. Unfortunately, the building structure that was used as primary school to educate some of us has deteriorated to such level that it is no longer in use or in existence. Especially the primary and middle schools do not have adequate structure we can call a school but we try as much as possible to manage them so that at least each child can have a basic primary to middle school level education. The scanty resources we have are directed towards the higher level junior high school so that they can graduate from this junior high school and then apply to other high schools somewhere in the region or in the country. There are currently 30-35 students in each of the three junior high school classrooms. We definitely need expansion to the building structure to accommodate all students.

The local school does not have an updated course work subject textbooks, exercise books, computers, software and typing tutorial software and other technological teaching resources for our teachers. The textbooks that the community purchased for students are the same books being used or shared among the students for so many years. Another problem with these textbooks is that the information is very basic. The books do not include information about higher level courses that will ensure students success and competition with their peers in the same level of education. This problem limits even the most brilliant students from exploring more and fully maximizing their naturally gifted potentials as students.

A Solution to the Problem:

The expansion of the school building, purchase of new textbooks, computers and software will benefit all of our students. I propose that individuals of Awate Traditional council, Non-profit Organizations, Educational foundations, International NGO's assist us in purchasing or donating textbooks, computers, chairs, tables, other school materials, software, and money to solve this escalating problem. I, Togbe Deitse VII, 'King Deitse VII', am a teacher here in the United States of America and I have been teaching mathematics, computer applications and computer science in community colleges for the past seven years. I know about when a classroom lacks the necessary resources for teaching, teacher desperation, frustration and disappointment we encounter in teaching our young students in the classrooms.

Costs Analysis:

The costs of expansion, purchasing computers, new textbooks and software are shown below.

Building Expansion	\$50,000
Text Books	Any Amount/Computers
Educational Software	Any Amount
Teacher's Classroom Resources Kit	Any Amount
Musical Instruments/Marching band	Donate Instruments: Old or New
We do not solely rely on money alone but also donation of tangible items.	

Conclusion: In conclusion, I believe it would be a great benefit to our school for you to approve this proposal to expand or build a classroom structure for our schools, teacher resource kits, order textbooks, computers, tables, chairs and software for the proposed computer lab. The students at the middle school level really need a program to use so they can learn how to type and to attain basic proficiency in computer technology. Computer technology and typing are an essential part of our modern education because almost all courses involve some level of computer knowledge and keyboard proficiency. Purchasing these items or software programs will ensure that graduates of this school have the least technology proficiency needed to help themselves in private businesses or in the public service arena.

Procurement of computers and software programs, text books, extension of the primary and middle schools infrastructure, tables and chairs, and other basic necessary teaching material will also ensure that the school system has adequate teaching and learning materials needed to educate these children. My mission is to educate our children using modern teaching methods and technology so that they will not lack basic technology skills needed to be successful in their future careers. I really hope that this proposal for assistance in helping our school system will be accepted and approved by individual contributors, educational foundations, international organizations, non-governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and all kind donors whom we are pleading to for help. We are grateful for your kind donation and generosity in helping our local schools.

Your donation would be appropriately recognized through appreciation ceremony in conjunction with national television news and also effective publication in documentaries and editorials.

We encourage donations through our secure Paypal Account on our Webpage or Mail to:

The Deitse Foundation

8 Hancock Street
Worcester, MA 01610
U.S.A.

Sincerely;



Togbui Deitse VII (Ken Fiakofi, Ph.D)