

# THE LANDIRANI TRUST

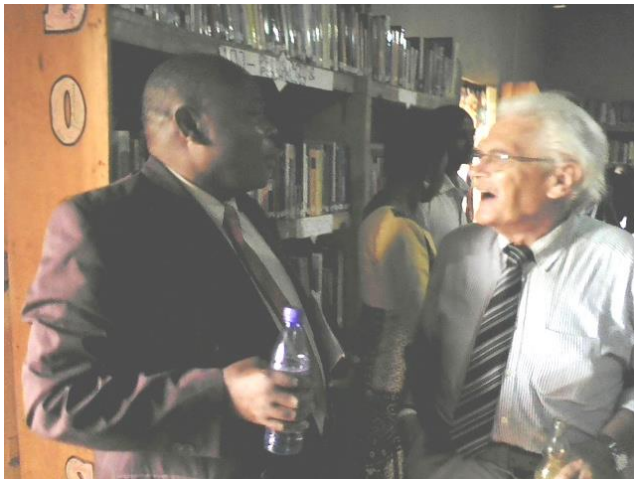
*Creating Lasting Change*

## BRIEF REPORT ON THE OPENING OF M'TEZA COMMUNITY LIBRARY, 01/02/17



On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 the doors of M'teza Community Library at Landirani Trust's Sam's Village in Lilongwe rural North-West, were officially opened to the public. This means that the communities around the over 400square km of Traditional Authorities M'bang'ombe, Mtema, Chitukula, Kayembe (Dowa district) and Mkukula (Dowa district) can fully access diverse books for their knowledge and personal development.

The Library is stocked with over 6000 books on various topics and is the first of its kind in the whole Lilongwe rural and the most part of Dowa. With the official opening, students and teachers from the 26 primary schools, 2 Secondary schools and the communities in general will be able to borrow a maximum of 3 books at a time for a period of 2 weeks. Rules have been put in place to manage the membership and usage of the books.

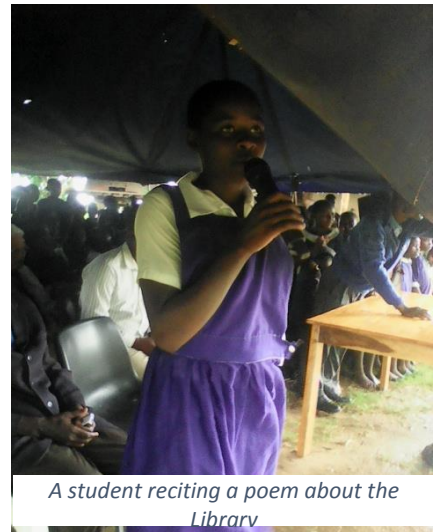


*Mr. Somba and Jeremy Thorn in the Library*

Mr. V.D. Somba (Deputy National Librarian, National Library Services) was the guest of honour and he was very relevant to the function as he spoke from an informed point as a Librarian. He commended Landirani for such an initiative as he emphasised that reading was the key to any human development and Libraries are the source of reading materials. He further encouraged the students and the community members present to

make use of the Library as it would be useless without people patronizing it and reading the books. He then pledged support of supply of some books from the National Library to M'teza Community Library. After entering the Library he noticed that there was no what he called MALAWIANA corner (where books written by Malawians would be displayed) and he pledged to furnish M'teza Library with such books.

The other guests were the Hon. MP Chrissy Tembo, Traditional Authority M'bang'ombe, Councillor Peter Chikuse, GVH Chigonthi,



*A student reciting a poem about the Library*

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representative from the Ministry of Education and a representative from the National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE). Zodiak and Nations Publications media houses covered the function. All the speakers stressed on the need for taking care of the books when borrowed. Through the TA, NICE asked for space in the Library to put civic education materials like the Malawi Constitution and other relevant materials. Students from Bowa, M'teza and M'bang'ombe Primary schools came in their large numbers, a few from the two secondary schools within the area came as well.

The ceremony started at 2:00 p.m. with a tour of Sam's Village to make the guests appreciate the context in within which M'teza Library was built. Though very heavy rains poured half way through the function, the launch was still a success.



*Young brains excited about the Library*



*The M'teza Librarian briefing the gathering*



*The students came all out*



*Sam's Tour led by George, in black jacket*



*GVH Chigonhi addressing the people*

