

My Secondary School experiences in Zaria

My name is Wenetilako David, I am a third year student in the senior secondary school level and I am a student of Saint Bartholomew's school. I had several experiences here in Zaria from the first day I came till date.

First of all, in the course of my day to day activities, I came in contact with a lot of people both in school and outside the school. I also met some friends outside the school, in the church. While some were introduced to me by my friends I had from the village, others I met in school myself. And the best friend I have now is Iliya Haruna who is a class mate of mine. We share ideas and all that we have. Before I came to boarding school, I was used to do things all by myself, such as bathing and eating. So throughout my first week in this school, I was too shy. I didn't like taking my bath with the rest of the students and I also didn't like eating on one table with people I didn't know. During that time, things were difficult, but after some time, I became used to the system. The school authority came to know that some of my class mates were of bad character, very stubborn and disobedient. Those of them assigned as acting prefects were replaced with some other students thought to be more suited for the position. My friend, who is the acting game captain, was not substituted, but I was lucky to be among the substitutes. Those who were substituted, together with their friends, were not happy about me becoming a prefect, and especially the prefect of their own hostel. For that reason, they are giving me a tough time. It is at this stage that I have known the difficulty of leadership, but the good thing is that it made me to become popular.

Although the school I am in is not located in the main Zaria city, but in the outskirts, I still have some experience of city life. Here in Zaria, there are amenities like good roads, electricity, pipe borne water, etc., unlike the situation in our local villages. In the city, human relationships are very poor, because no one cares about the others. The majority of people come from different backgrounds, while in the village, most people are related in one way or the other and they care for each other.

After my secondary school education, I would like to continue with higher institution and, if possible, join the military, that is the Nigerian Defence Academy in Kaduna. If I shall remain a civilian, however, I would like to study mechanical engineering. I wish to become a military man because that has been my dream since I was nine years old and I even joined Boys' Brigade since then till date. I also want to be a military man not for my personal interest but for my nation and the entire world, especially looking at the aspect of peace and unity. To be a mechanical engineer is my second option and I chose it recently when I started studying physics.

Finally, I am using this opportunity to sincerely appreciate the Swiss sponsors who made my scholarship possible. I am very grateful and I pray that God will bless you. I also wish to be opportune to see one of you someday. I hope my dreams will come true. Thank you.

DAVID WENETILAKO, January 2013