

KUCETEKELA FOUNDATION

Student Profile

Name: **Abram Chima**

Gender: Male

Date of birth: 9th January 1993

Place of birth: Lusaka, Zambia

Mother: Ronica Phiri

Profession: House maid

Father: Trywell Chima

Profession: Bricklayer
Young Tsjiang Company

Primary School: Chibelo Basic School

Secondary School: **Leopards Hill Secondary School**

2010 Level: **Grade 11**



Family Background:

Mr. Trywell Chima, Abram's father, started his education at Chibelo Basic School in 1967 and completed Grade Seven in 1982. He passed Grade 7 but did not continue to secondary school due to lack of funds.

He started work as a landscaper with Salisbury Company in 1985. He only worked there for two years then he joined a security company where he worked from 1988 through 2003. He then became a bricklayer with the Young Tsjiang Company in the Chelstone area of Lusaka.

Abram is the oldest of five children. All five children live with their parents in the Kalikiliki compound in Lusaka. Abram's mother works as a housemaid in a nearby area. Abram's parents struggle to meet the financial needs of their family and would not have enough money to continue Abram's education into secondary school if it were not for the KF scholarship program.

Abram's Educational Background:

Primary – Chibelo Basic School

Abram did his primary education from Grade 1 through 7 at Chibelo Basic School, just as his father did. His performance steadily and impressively improved over the years. In Grade 1, Abram held the 12th position in class, and in Grade 2 he was number 16. Starting with Grade 3, Abram improved his standing and by

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Grade 6, he earned the top academic position in his class. In Grade 7, Abram again earned the top position in his class and continues his high achievement.

Abram's favorite subjects were English and Mathematics, however, he earned his highest grades in Social Studies.

At Leopards Hill Secondary School

Grade 8

Abram entered Grade 8 with a determined attitude to do his very best. At the end of the year he was awarded four certificates for excellence in environmental science, religious education, office practice and geography for being the second best student in the class. His favorite subjects were religious education and office practice, which provide a reason for his brilliant performance. Abram continues to make improvements in the other subjects such as mathematics and English.

Grade 9

In grade 9 Abram's favorite subject changed to science. He worked particularly hard to improve his results in geography, history and French. As Abram continued to work hard he also continued to maintain his standing in the class, earning the second position consistently. He felt he could achieve the first position, and this became one of his goals. At the 2008 awards ceremony, Abram achieved awards for first position in several subjects and earned the overall best student award in Grade 9. He obtained the second position in the Grade 9 National Results at the school and as a result he won a partial scholarship for two years given by Leopards Hill School.

Grade 10

In Grade 10 Abram has continued his record of outstanding academic achievement and leadership amongst his classmates. He was chosen to be a prefect by the teachers at Leopards Hill, a position of leadership that requires him to take charge amongst his classmates. Abram believes he was chosen because his teachers recognized in him a commitment to his school and a positive attitude that helps him lead by example. As prefect, he is responsible for organizing events for the school. He has planned social night on the weekends, organizing an all school treasure hunt. He also has initiated a fundraiser to raise funds to support athletics. Finally, Abram is also in charge of supervising the Grade 12 class—taking attendance and making sure their uniforms are in order. He says while it was at first a challenge to inspect an older class that they respect him and listen. In terms of academics, while Mathematics and Science were Abram's favorite subjects this school year, he has become more committed to his English studies because he recognizes that English is an important tool for him in order to socialize and communicate with those he does not know.

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Grade 10 Academic Achievements:

- 1st Position in Mathematics
- 2nd Position in French and Environmental Science

Abram's Interests:

Extracurricular Interest

Abram belongs to the JETS club (advanced math and science after-school club) and took part in quiz competitions this past year at LISET, the Indian School. During the competition, with his classmates, he worked on a panel that constructed an automatic fan. While his team did not win the top prizes, his panel learned to work as a team to finish the task.

Abram is also a member of the Leopards Hill football team where he plays striker and is one of the top scorers on his team. He takes the sport very seriously and has pushed his school to organize more games with other teams because he believes the team need to be exposed to other schools to develop their skills. “I enjoy football because of the strategy and teamwork among players. I also enjoy it because of the pressure the opponents put on us. When there is too much pressure from the opponents, we relax and continue with our strategy and we will score in the end and win.”

Community Service

“In my community, I came up with a project with two of my friends that involved teaching young children how to read and write. These children come from poor families where their parents could not afford to take them to school. The amount of their parents’ monthly salaries was so little that they can barely manage to provide food for their children. From my own experience the children are academically promising, and I believe they can do it for as long as someone is willing to sponsor them. I gave all the children a test, and they all passed! Coming to myself, I was really impressed with their performance.”

Career Interest and Work Experience:

Abram aspires to be an electrical engineer because of his strength in math and the challenges of the profession itself. Abram thus did a week of work experience with a local engineering firm, Civiltrusts Consulting Engineering. During his visit, he was able to see just how busy civil engineers with multiple building projects are. He watched as they made plans for buildings and bridges, learning the theoretical side of the work that takes place in the office. This was complimented by site visits where he watched as the engineers, plans in hand, laid the foundation for an upcoming project. He saw how a project starts from the ground up and how the engineers are involved in every step up the process, from the designs to the crushing of the stones for cement blocks. Abram

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remarked, “I met people with different personalities, and you have to be able to work with all of them.”

Abram’s Role Model:

“Obama is my role model. I admire the way he addresses a crowd, even the way he walks with confidence.” Abram says he aspires to be like Obama—to act as a strong leader and inspire others with his voice.

What the teachers think of Abram:

Abram’s teachers in primary school said he was a good boy who liked school. Abram had noteworthy commitment to both class and school activities. He would get frustrated easily, but he was particularly fast in understanding concepts in class. He was a high-achieving, intelligent boy who was very deserving of a scholarship.

Abram’s Thoughts:

“I admire the passion of Kuetekela to sponsor us. KF has changed my life and my family. It was hard for them to raise money for my school fees. It has brought hope to my family that I will be educated, and I will try to work hard to support my other siblings. They look up to me. My young sister tells me, ‘I want to follow you to your school.’ I give her lessons and exercised in mathematics when I am home.

KF has exposed me to people of different backgrounds. It was hard when I first came to school because it was hard to socialize and speak English. I did not know how to make friends. Then, I made friends in class and then the dorms. I have improved in English.

I am enjoying my experience as a member of KF. I am learning to socialize with the many people I meet. The teachers are friendly and if you don’t understand something you can go to them in your personal time to get help. I also have a lot more time to study because of the prep classes. I am also improving in my vocabulary and that is because I can borrow books from the library. It is also nice that I am learning new languages like French and German. ”

For more information and pictures of the KF students, please visit the KF website.