

[Redacted]
Oct. 7, 2007

Don and Robin Fishback
[Redacted]

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Fishback:

First and foremost, I greet all of you with deep and sincere love and peace of Christ. Before I begin to proceed ahead with this letter, I wish to tell you who am I. My name is Kuol Akech Dut and I am 24 years old. Of course, I am one of the Lost Boys of Sudan. Also, I am one of the Sudanese Refugee Education Fund scholarship recipients. I have been schooling in Saint Paul, Minnesota since January 2005. I am now a junior at the University of Saint Thomas, majoring in both Philosophy and Theology. If all goes as planned, I will graduate in the spring of 2009. Besides that, I am a seminarian who is studying for the Catholic priesthood. If God wills me to be ordained priest, I would definitely, without delay, go back to Southern Sudan so that I can help our people realize not only God, but also in other essential areas like education and other related elements.

Now, it is time for me to unfold what I want to say herein. Dear benefactors, the essence of this letter is thanksgiving and admiration. I especially send you my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for your voluntary and generous contribution you've made so far on our behalf. You make us move forward academically. Your donation makes a huge difference in my academic life. For example, I would have been unable to pay off my technology fees and books if in fact the Sudanese Refugee Education Fund had not granted me a scholarship of \$750 this semester. In addition, your financial commitments, which come forth from your gentle and humble heart, give us solid academic perseverance and enthusiasm to attain our educational goals.

In other words, I am basically saying that your charitable financial goodwill lightens our forthcoming life and encourages us to refrain from our past life – a life which was full of nothing other than horrors, illiteracy, starvation, sufferings, confusion, anger, culpability, loneliness, spiritual desolation, anxieties, separation... just to name a few. But now, the history holds the contrary, for we're now investing ourselves into the real world. My fellow recipients and I are blessed to have you as a source of scholarship. Hence, I heartily praise and appreciate you for being our financial academic providers.

I will keep praying for you such that God will bless and keep you safe in whatsoever you do because you are Good Samaritans. Above all, I thank you very much for your generosity, compassion, and kindness.

Yours truly,



Kuol Akech Dut