

The Inauguration of the new classroom Buildings at St. Barnabas Primary School (7 September 2023)

2023/9/7

On September 7, 2023, Ambassador Nishimaki attended the official handover ceremony of a school building completed under the Japanese Government's FY2021 "Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP)" for the Republic of Namibia, "The Project for Construction of Classrooms and a Library in St. Barnabas Primary School, Katutura East Constituency, Khomas Region" (grant amount: 68,043 USD), where he delivered a speech and handed over the school building to the Namibian Government.

The school was built during the era of South Africa's occupation. And the Founding President of Namibia, H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma, learned at the night school in the St. Barnabas Primary School.

This project will contribute to improving the educational environment of St. Barnabas Primary School by constructing a new school building (2 spacious classrooms, 1 store room) and a library building. With the construction of the classroom building, 25 students who had been studying in temporary classrooms in the parking lot and 16 students who had been borrowing the computer room due to lack of classrooms can now study in appropriate classrooms. In addition, the construction of the library building will enable all 940 students to use the library, which is expected to contribute to the improvement of their reading skills and therefore enhance their academic performance.

The ceremony was attended by Hon. Prof. Peter H. Katjavivi, the Speaker of the National Assembly, he taught at the school as qualified teacher, Hon. Faustina Caley, Deputy Minister of Education, Arts, and Culture, Hon. Nathalia /Goagoses, Deputy Minister of Urban and Rural Development, Hon. Laura McLoad, Governor of Khomas Region, and other education and school officials, and was also graced by a traditional dance performance by the learners.

In his speech, Ambassador Nishimaki highlighted the purpose of the Japanese government's support to the education sector, which he hopes will be "a cornerstone for the future of Namibia," as well as the status of this support.

Hon. Caley, Vice Minister of Education, Arts, and Culture, expressed the concerning lack of classrooms in Namibian schools and expressed her appreciation for the Japanese government's support for these construction of classrooms.



Speech by Ambassador Nishimaki



Completed Classroom



Completed Library



The flags of both Namibia and Japan painted on the completed library building. It is accompanied by a statement that the support was provided by the Japanese government.