

*I was at school on Thursday, yesterday and today morning. I was with the day watchman Mr. Isaya who briefed of the situation since we closed.*

*Our school was not affected by the recent political clashes. However, the Ujamaa shopping center at the junction to school had several shops looted on 30th December. Some gangs attempted to attack the Shonda shopping center just outside the school compound on 30th night but they were chased by the residents and 5 of them killed. Since then there has been peace. A parent who runs a shop at Ujamaa lost all his stock. Mrs. Veronica Awour our treasurer's grocery shop was not affected just like other small businesses in Shonda.*

*Since I came I have met several parents who wanted to know when we are opening. I met 3 in the ferry today coming to shop for exercise books pencils for their children in Mombasa . I have not heard of any deaths or fleeing of parents or children from Shonda area.*

*However, the violence was very serious in Likoni area and some schools were very affected. Mt. Sinai Academy , just before Kona Mtongwe, lost 100 computers, all text books and beds immediately the results were announced. Several business premises in Likoni were burnt or looted especially those belonging to the Kikuyu community. Most of these people are now camping at the Likoni Catholic church.*

*We shall wait and see if some of these are our parents, when school opens on Monday.*

*We are also afraid that after the departure of most tourists from Mombasa , parents who work in hotels, taxis, and beach operators may lose their income. Many parents also depend on quarrying and selling stone bricks. It is going to be difficult to do this business given that most economic activities are at a stand still.*

*Before I left on 15 December, many had come to school seeking admission. When I arrived on Thursday, 4 of them came to my house to enquire about the opening. Some parents sent their children upcountry and some I met today told me they are making arrangements for their travel.*

*The watchman received about 20 parents during the holidays. I am looking forward to a good start and increased number of new students. We ordered for 15 desks and will be strict with admission fees to enable us meet our running expenses.*

*I am supposed to collect the results from the MEO's office on Monday 14th January.*

*All schools in Likoni plan to open on 14th January as per the government directive although there are fears about the planned political rallies next Wednesday to Friday.*

*Most of the teachers are back except Lizululu, Titus, Harisson, Nyongesa (caretaker) who are still in Western Kenya .*