

MENTORSHIOP ESSAY

Who are AKAD group Africa ?. This question was difficult for me to answer after only coming across a facebook event for admissions and scholarships by AKAD. I then decided to take the bold move and attend the event as i have been for scholarships for months now. After a long day of wonderfull sessions this is my definition of AKAD group, there is alot that i can say about AKAD but am going to wrap it all up into this simple sentence, AKAD group is a family of individuals who have made what seemed impossible become possible and help young minds with great dreams and visions for the future attain their goals.

My name is Ian Odhiambo, I completed highschool last year and i have had dreams to study abroad for as long as i can remember. After being asked the question why i am worth 15 million i discovered a whole different new personality of myself. The new courageous, ambitious, visionary and determined me was brought out at the AKAD event thanks to Dr Weche. I did not know that i could actually stand before a group of people and communicate my mind, i really appreciate Dr Weche for that challenge which acted as an eye opener to me.

The event started with an awesome introductory speech courtesy of Dr Weche who made us feel at home from the very begining. I found this guy to be very fascinating, if you meet along the streets of Nairobi he looks like any ordinary aged guy thanking God for all the years he has seen him through. After curiously digging around his profile i was astonished by this amazing guy. Having studied dispute resolution, theology, financial management, leadership and management, business administration, accounting and veterinary medicine in different countries around the world i wonder what he is planing to study next. He shared with us an awesome introduction about AKAD and gave us examples of the young men and women who had made huge strides in life thanks to AKAD group. At that moment i could actually picture myself as one of this great individuals. Dr Weche challenged me to explore a new version of me that i never knew existed. Through him i have managed to gain alot of confidence in myself and have a heart strong enough to brave the storms ahead.

The next session was conducted by non other than lovely Dr Angela Gichaga, when her profile was read i was expecting someone on her middle or late sixties. The number of achivements she had was tromendous, she had done so much in a span of very limited time if you'd ask me. This left me asking myself one question as i sat in that chair, What drives someone to want to make such impossible possible?. I guess she'll have to answer me that question the next time i meet her God willing. Her session was fantastic with all the jokes she had to spice it up. She had this funny smilly face on her that seemed to suggest " am the most approachable person you've ever met" . I found her session to be very educative as she also derived most of her examples from real life situations. Having someone like herself devote her time to help students like myself and many others means alot to us. The main i landed from her session is

that people can take up many different careers not necessarily what they believe to love most, I decided that after completing what I love most and getting my strongest arm in technology ahead I might consider taking aviation, a business course, Agriculture, theology and an administrative course. Maybe I can create a whole new Dr Weche and Dr Angela in me.

Dennis Kageni!. At only 19 this young man is already travelling the world thanks to AKAD and his very unique undergraduate university. "Ben Nelson, founder of Minerva, and Stephen M. Kosslyn, Ph.D., Founding Dean of the Minerva schools at KGI, provide an introduction to the vision, pedagogy, and learning platform at the heart of the reinvented university experience", I picked this up from their website. Two guys with a vision for something really different have been giving opportunities to students from 50 different countries all over the world a different experience from the usual classroom learning, for me that's change in a positive perspective. Pushing people to see things from an entirely different angle. "Be the change that you want to see" I think that Ben Nelson and Stephen M. Kosslyn are a true fulfillment of this phrase. A lot of thanks to Dennis also for organizing such a great opportunity for students like us to learn from each other and also from him. I appreciate how he shared with us about his university, having never heard about Minerva I was curious to know more and maybe even select it as my university of choice to have a different experience from the rest. Dennis Kageni was an example of a world class student to me, thanks to AKAD for shaping him into the man he is and many more others.

The entire session was very interactive and I actually took home a lot of lessons with me. First I learnt that the human brain is not tied to a specific profession that we claim to enjoy, Dr Weche and Dr Angela really portray this aspect in them. I also learnt that there are people with great hearts and minds who are willing to share and help young minds to explore their maximum potential, This is evident in Dennis who organized the event lots of thanks to him, Founder and CEO of AKAD group Africa Dr Weche for reaching out to young people, Dr Angela Gichaga who is a wonderful example of accomplishing the impossible.

I learnt a great deal of lessons, so much to actually fit in a piece of essay. AKAD transformed me and made me ready to make the impossible possible. I will take these lessons with me wherever I go and also share with like minds who were not able to attend the event. I will use them to build my personality and create a new profile of myself. "Me before AKAD" This guy in quotes was lost and had already given up on scholarship opportunities but AKAD shed some light for me. "Me after AKAD" This guy has decided to have a wake up call and struggle with the challenges that come with attaining his goals in future. I am more than willing to let AKAD journey with me in my career because I know in them I have more than a family. Thank you.