

# THE MWALIMU NYERERE FOUNDATION



**REMARKS BY DR. SALIM AHMED SALIM**

**CHAIRMAN OF THE MWALIMU NYERERE FOUNDATION**

**AT**

**THE INDIAN SCHOOL DAY CELEBRATIONS 2004**

11<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2004  
DIAMOND JUBILEE HALL  
**DAR ES SALAAM**

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Members of the Board of Trustees,

Members of the School Management Committee,

Teachers,

Students,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me immense pleasure to be here this evening in the midst of our Indian friends on the happy occasion of the School day of Indian School, Dar- es- Salaam.

My association with India has been a long standing one. I undertook my college education at the University of Delhi while serving as the Tanzanian High Commissioner to India. During that time and in later years also, covering a span of almost forty years, I've had numerous opportunities to interact with various strata of the Indian Society including Indian leaders at the highest level. I have

also been paying periodic visits to the country in one capacity or another. This year alone I have been twice to New Delhi – the last visit being almost a week or so ago. These interactions have only deepened the admiration I have for the richness and diversity of Indian culture, for its ancient civilization and for the tremendous stride that India has made in the socio-economic and technological fields. Above all, India continues to be the largest democracy in the world. This in a country of such diverse cultures, ethnies, languages and religions speaks volumes of India's achievements.

I also, sincerely, appreciate the determination of the Indian Government and its people to follow the path of peace and non-violence and to settle differences , if any, by dialogue and discussion. This is the great legacy of Mahatma Gandhi.

In many respects, India and Tanzania share the same aspirations. We advocate and strive for similar goals –promoting social and economic justice, universal brotherhood and recognizing and respecting human rights. In a world interconnected and brought

closer by globalization, differences are bound to arise. We, like the people of India strongly believe that war is not a solution to a problem because it only causes untold miseries and consumes scarce resources which are desperately needed for social and economic development.

However, this is easier said than done. To develop a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, time tested human values like integrity, honesty, hard work and cooperation have to be inculcated in the minds of the people. This can only be done through the medium of holistic education. Education, it is rightly said, is the vital defense of a nation. It makes people easy to lead but difficult to drive; easy to govern but impossible to enslave. It creates people with vision who can humanize our life by integrating emotional demands with new knowledge.

I am very happy to learn that Indian School has registered commendable progress since its inception. Indeed, despite constraints, the school has maintained high academic standards and

the students have also excelled in various extra curricular activities. Students have to be equipped with knowledge, mental ability and positive personality traits to succeed in the present competitive world. It is only by tapping the creative and innovative talents of the youth that developing countries like India and Tanzania can carve an enviable place for themselves at the global level.

Now that Indian School is going to shift to its new, spacious premises, I am confident it will be able to offer still better facilities and opportunities to students, both Indians and Tanzanians. I take this opportunity to congratulate all those who are associated with this institution and convey to all my best wishes on this auspicious occasion of the School day.

We are now looking forward to the cultural presentation by the students. I wish them all the best and I am confident that the overall efforts of the students and teachers will be crowned with success.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.