

## CHESS IN UGANDA BUILDING ON A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

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A one day observation is not sufficient to make you a good chess player neither is it good enough for you to say that you've learnt chess. The might game of chess is founded on creating better thinkers at the battle field. The battle field is thus the world situations we go through. Chess is the subject that transcends from the simplest steps of the game, the basics and fundamentals of the game.

We the (Uganda chess federation) rely on a motto that says "*come let's reason together*". In order to actualize the full potential of the human mind, reasoning is paramount. The potential of man is hidden in his brain and a practice of intuition is a leading element that stimulates the mind to even think bigger than ever something intrinsic in the game of chess.

Chess can actualize the full potential of the human mind. A person denied a chance to think is one shaped by what he or she sees than what he or she experiences. Our needs are not uniform from person to person but are particular to situations we meet in life. It is not by choice that we chose to be what we are but by what we interact with.

Developing nations are almost unable to create marching opportunities with the growing populations and educational graduates yet everyone is a thinker. Investing in chess as a game widens the scope of opportunities amongst which the young generation to better their future. Than playing the game of chess, chess provides opportunities in chess instruction and arbitration but also in the administration of the game and tournaments.

As much as it is seen as a game, chess goes beyond being a game but also a profession that one can take as a leading carrier in life. Chess thrives in countries that have grounded the level for

chess to be carried on as a foundation subject. In Uganda chess has not yet achieved that status however at every end of first term, the Uganda Chess Federation organizes a National Schools' Chess Championship under the coordinating board "*the Chess in Schools Committee.*"



### ***The 2014 NATIONAL JUNIORS' CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP***

The tournament has succeeded for over 2 centuries on the Federation's sponsorship and participating schools registration fees. The tournament is titled "*Father Grimes National Schools Chess Championship*" and rotates among the playing schools. The national tournament registers an average number of 20 boys' teams and 10 girls' teams for the respective categories up holding the FIDE laws and school laws.

Following the educational benefits of chess, the big schools in the country have embraced it and they are regular attendants in the schools' championship. Chess is not yet within the National schools Education curriculum of Uganda however there is one school that has adopted chess as a compulsory subject for the first two years and there after the students choose to take on the game or not. This has got the school to greater heights as chess players have got sponsorships both by government and private entities. The school is also the only one with a titled player who has also represented the country on a number of occasions.

This particular school has yielded much from its program of chess for the last 6 years as they have won the schools' chess championship 6 consecutive times in a time space of 10 years. Chess is one of the best games that can actualize the full potential of the human mind. It is thus important to take on chess using its educative approach to win a level of recognition among countries that have not given it an educative approach.

Chess in schools Uganda is proud of the world mother body FIDE for availing literature (online) to the instructors and trainees of the games given the technical specialty required to publish manuals for trainers. Chess in Schools Committee Uganda avails manuals to the trainers that have the zeal to take the game to another level but also to have a commendable value toward educating the nation.

Chess in schools tournament has raised a number of national team players in both the gents and ladies team who do not survive on chess alone but are also brilliant persons in all they do. Chess is one of the few sports that fully exercises our minds and the most powerful educational tools available to strengthen a child's mind. The question of age is not paramount when it comes to chess. The benefits attributed to chess cuts across all ages and thus humanity has a game of generations in intellectual development.

### **Chess and Education.**

Education is mainly guided by the brain's ability to store and retrieve what has been learned by the learner. Chess is a mastery game that exercises the functioning of the brain, developing intellectual abilities that guide a learner's journey in education.

Winning and losing a game in chess is guided by the level of ***Concentration, Patience, and Perseverance***. Chess requires total concentration. The world's best players rely greatly on visual recall to plan and calculate complicated positions but this can only be successful when the mind is not distracted. It takes patience for a good player to have a systematic fall out of the game. Perseverance is one element that has seen players move through the ranks to the title of a GM. These particular elements have come to be particular to the sport of chess but also a life skill that chess builds for humanity.

Science subjects are guided by the level of ***Analysis, Problem Solving techniques, and Logic***. Reflecting on what went wrong in actual play is one unique skill that helps one to weigh alternative squares in such similar positions as the one before. Thinking through, following systematic steps to solve the puzzles requires a combination of aptitudes. Thus chess not only equips the player with ***Analysis, Logic, and Problem Solving*** for the game of chess, but

chronological training of the mind to handle complicated calculations the inform engineering and sciences.

### **Chess and Societal Conduct**

Chess is seen to improve social mobility, discipline and reduced misbehavior. This is all attributed with the processing behavior of chess players that reflects on out comes before any action is taken on.

Chess is also one game that has integrated minorities in society to have a contribution on society to society. Thus chess as an inclusive game has changed the mind set of persons in Uganda that even girls think squarely like boys. The deaf have also shown interest in the game of chess to the effect that the *Fr Grimes National Schools Chess Championship* has had a deaf student play the championship. Thus chess is the only game that brings up social cohesion.

### **Chess and Health**

Chess is also one game the can be used to fight memory loss problems. Than spending money on treating Alzheimer's disease, adopting chess as an education tool can contribute to the reduction of Alzheimer cases in the country (Salthouse, 2009) teaching chess in schools is a cheaper way to implement something of known value to reduce those costs and greatly improve the lives of those affected (chess in schools, our global future, 2014).

### **Chess and Professional Work Ethics.**

Chess is a game that is played by uniting 16 pieces for a sole cause of capturing the enemy king. The skill of mobilizing all those pieces for one soles cause is a management skill that one can adopt to see to it that the management objectives are achieved.

### **Conclusion**

It is exceptionally commendable that chess should be used as tool to develop our children's minds in meeting life dynamic and also to help them face the growing complexities on the globe. Uganda country has a policy of focusing on sciences but that is just looking at the subjects minus

making the ground level ready to prepare the learners with the qualities ready to make him or her excel in that field. Chess teaches children the importance of planning and the consequences of decisions. This is all done through concentration and how to win and lose elegantly, think logically and professionally making sound judgments.