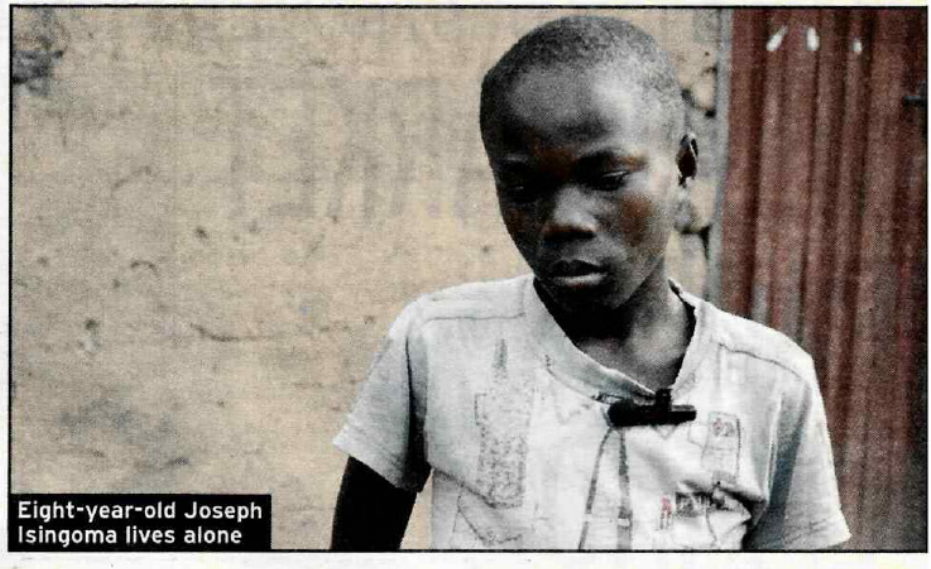
INDIAN ASSOCIATION OFFERS TO SPONSOR NEEDY KABAROLE BOY


Eight-year-old Joseph Isingoma lives alone

By John Masaba

The Indian Association of Uganda has pledged to fully sponsor the education of eight-year-old Joseph Isingoma, the Kabarole boy whose story of hardship and resilience has captured national attention after being featured in *New Vision* yesterday.

The association offered to enrol Isingoma at St Peter's Primary School in Jinja, where he will receive full boarding support.

Rajni Taylor, a member and former chairperson of the association, confirmed the offer, saying the boy will benefit from a comprehensive sponsorship package covering tuition, accommodation, meals, school uniform and other basic scholastic requirements.


Kenyange, teacher

"He will get the full benefit that the school provides, including a uniform, food, free education and accommodation," Taylor said. He explained that the initiative materialised after he came across a *New Vision* article highlighting the boy's plight.

To formalise the arrangement, the association has requested that Isingoma or a guardian acting on his behalf submit a formal letter accepting the sponsorship offer to the association. According to Taylor, this step is necessary to ensure proper documentation, especially given the child's lack of parental guardianship.

Despite his challenges, Isingoma has remained determined to continue with his education, attending school whenever circumstances allow.

A SILVER LINING

Isingoma's story first came to light when his teacher, Ritah Kenyange, noticed challenges faced by the Primary Two pupil at Canon Apollo Primary School, which caters for children with disabilities. This was after the boy continued to report to class with scholastic materials amid signs of neglect.

When his teacher inquired further, she found out that the boy had been living alone after being abandoned by his father.

According to a relative, Mary Bigambwenda, Isingoma's mother, died shortly after his birth. His father later remarried, but after the stepmother's death, he reportedly left the boy without a caretaker.

Isingoma also suffers from Kyphosis, a spinal condition that causes an excessive outward curvature of the spine, resulting in a hunched posture.

Bigambwenda, who works at a landing site in neighbouring Ntoroko district, visits Isingoma once a week to bring food a other necessities. Neighbo said she is the only rela w regularly checks on the y.

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Kenyange had ear appealed to well-wishers help secure a more support learning environment for child, particularly one equipp to cater to his special needs.

The Indian Associat Uganda, which represe the Indian diaspora Uganda, has a long-stand record of philanthropic w in education, health, a community welfare.