

EPREUVE ORALE D'ANGLAIS

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1. A Fight to Keep Girls in School

Last July, Naotaosim Mako ran away from home. Her father had told her she must drop out of school and get married.

«I wanted to stay in school. »

Naotaosim is only 10 years old. She belongs to the Masaï tribe, a proud nomadic people in Kenya. They roam the countryside herding cattle, goats and sheep. The Masai Value bravery, intelligence and fairness but place little importance on education, especially for girls.

Luckily, Naotaosim knew where to go for help. "I ran as fast as I could until I was inside here," she says. Naotaosim found safety at the Kajiado African Inland Church Boarding Primary school. Priscillia Nangurai, the principal, has spent much of her life making sure Masaï girls are allowed to get an education.

Nangurai protected Naotaosim when her father and the bridegroom chased her out of school. "I told them that the child was in my hands," says Nangurai. Naotaosim's father shouted that if his daughter chose school over marriage, she was never to return home.

Everyday around the world, girls like Naotaosim are denied the right to learn. About 100 million of the world's children do not go to school and 73 million of them are girls. Many girls drop out of school to get married. Others are forced to stay at home to help with housework. More than half of the world's 2,000 million child laborers are girls.

Having an education affects the health, wealth and equality of women and children. The kids of educated women live longer, healthier lives.

Mary Josey Pignozi, who is responsible for developing the girls' education program for UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund), calls education a basic human right, "Education is the mechanism for building a better life, but there are no simple solutions to the problem."

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