

Kenya National School Science Competition 2009

Thika Town, Central Province, Kenya



11 -13 June 2009

This year's school science competition was held at Chania Boys' High School in Thika Town in Central Province under the theme ***“Science and Technology for Environmental Improvement.”***

About 900 participants were in attendance; students accounted for 768 of the participants while the rest were comprised of the students'



teachers, the provincial science congress officials and the judges who were drawn from post secondary school institutions such as Universities,

SMASSE and technical colleges.

Striving for Innovation

The National Congress was officially opened by the Madam Evelyn Wekesa, the District Officer of Thika West Division who challenged the young boys and girls to avoid idleness and engage in meaningful activities.

Professor Kaburu M'rubu, the Vice Chancellor of GRETSA University, Thika who was the chief guest in the opening ceremony also challenged the students to be innovative. He remarked that:

“Relying on what others have done has reduced us to mitumba [second-hand] technology adaptors and beggars. Innovation can however make us technology donors. And

though technology innovation requires resources, it actually begins in the mind.”

Focus on the Environment

There were 8 subject areas covered in total: Agriculture, Physics, Biology, Home science, Computer studies, Mathematics, Chemistry, Technical and applied subjects.

Each subject area had both an exhibit and a talk, each project being presented by 2 students. Most of the projects revolved around the management/removal of polythene, waste paper, farm weeds, polluting gases, water hyacinth etc, from the environment. The projects were good and showed that given proper guidance and with good funding, the students can go far.



PACN: Making a difference

Some chemistry teachers however said that many students don't like chemistry projects and therefore must be pushed to do them. Hence they appreciated the efforts that PACN is making to try and promote the chemical sciences in high school.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

Category	Rank	Name	School	Title
Talk	1	John Maina & Daniel Nyakora	St. Antony High School	Strong arm fuel
Talk	2	Muholi G. & Njeru Wesley	Friends' School Kamusinga	Process_electrogarbic
Talk	3	John Onesmus & Stellamaris Mumo	Merc High School	Recycling of waste polythene
Exhibit	1	Churchill Agutu & Zahra Sheik	Jalaram Academy	Water sterilizer solution
Exhibit	2	Alfred Omae & Antony Nduhiu	Eutyclus Academy Riruta	Recycling of waste papers and firm weeds
Exhibit	3	Al-Amin ali & Raheela Khan	Aga Khan High	Simple gaseous pollutants absorber

The presentations, judging and computing of results were done from 8.00 am on 12th up to 1.00 pm on 13th June, 2009, after which the National Congress was closed at 5.00 pm on the 13th June.

The following gifts/awards were donated by PACN:

1. Cash awards of Ksh 25,000; 20,000 and 15,000 to the winning schools in positions 1, 2 and 3 for both chemistry talk and exhibit.
2. 6 trophies to the winning schools in positions 1, 2 and 3 for both chemistry talk and exhibit.
3. T-shirts to all the participating chemistry students
4. Visual element trumps to all the participating students

During the closing ceremony, the chief guest, Professor Stephen Njuguna, the Dean, School of Environmental Studies, Kenyatta University remarked that:

“In order to tackle environmental degradation such as global warming and climate changes, we must first of all internalize the environmental tragedies as our own responsibilities.”

It was agreed that the theme for the 2010 National School Science Competition will be **“Science and Technology for Economic Recovery”**

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