

Official Launch Ceremony KENEMA, SIERRA LEONE

20 DECEMBER, 2017

















10:00 AM · Memorial Mass · Holy Trinity Church 12:00 PM · Launch Ceremony · Holy Trinity Parish Hall

Program for Launch beremony

Call to Order **Opening Prayers** Welcome and Introduction of Chairman Chairman's Remarks Remarks by the Kenema City Mayor Statement by a Family Member Statement on the Foundation **Award Of Scholarships** Introduction of Guest Speaker **Guest Speaker Announcements**

Vote of Thanks

Professor Joseph George Momodu Massaquoi

Prof. Joseph G. M. Massaquoi was a diplomat, an academic and an author. Over a four-decade career, he participated actively in science and education policy in developing countries especially across the African continent.

Prof. Massaquoi was born in Blama, Sierra Leone, and was the eldest son of the late Pa J.G. Massaquoi and Madam Haja Mamie Massaquoi. His father, a pharmaceutical dispenser and farmer, was well-known in eastern and southern Sierra Leone. His mother, a shopkeeper and housewife, lived a long life before passing away in 2011 and was filled with a sense of service to others. As a young man, Prof. Massaquoi excelled academically, exhibited a keen interest in learning, and played an instrumental role in the education of several younger siblings and extended family members.

He met his wife, Rachel, while he was a high school student at Christ the King College in Bo, Sierra Leone and she was a student at neighboring Queen of the Rosary Secondary School. They were married for over 40 years and were blessed with three children, who are all now established in their respective careers.



Prior to his retirement, Prof. Joseph G.M. Massaquoi was the Director of the UNESCO Regional Bureau of Science and Technology in Africa. In this capacity, he was responsible for the implementation of UNESCO's science programme in sub-Sahara Africa. Prof. Massaquoi also served as a UNESCO representative to Kenya, Djibouti, Eritrea, Rwanda, Somalia and Uganda.

Before joining UNESCO in 1994, Prof. Massaquoi had a long and brilliant academic career. He started as lecturer in the Faculty of Engineering, University of Sierra Leone in 1975 and rose to become Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering in 1986 and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering in 1989 1989 – the youngest ever Dean at that time in the University's history.

He also served as: Graduate Fellow in West Virginia University USA from 1979-81; Assistant Professor at Savannah State University, Georgia, USA from 1981-82; Visiting Scientist at The University of Naples, Italy from May-July 1984; Visiting Commonwealth Fellow at Technical University of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Canada in 1991; and Fulbright Professor in Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, USA from 1993-1994.

Prof. Massaquoi has published over four dozen articles in several disciplines of engineering science and Science and Technology policy. He was coauthor of an undergraduate textbook in Engineering Thermodynamics. He was also a recipient of numerous academic and professional awards and was a fellow of the African Academy of Science.

Prof. Joseph G. M. Massaquoi obtained his Bachelors Degree, with honors, and Masters Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Wales in Great Britain. He also held a doctorate degree in chemical engineering from West Virginia University, Morgantown, USA.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Rachel C.J. Massaquoi, and his three children: Mr. Joseph G. M. Massaquoi Jr., Director of Corporate and Strategic Development, The Boeing Company, USA, and his wife Dr. Erika Massaquoi; Dr. Satta Massaquoi Emeli, Medical Doctor and Assistant Professor, Emory University Hospital, USA, and her husband Mr. Victor Emeli of Georgia Institute of Technology; and Ms. Yeniva Mamie Lucia Massaquoi of the law firm Latham & Watkins, United Kindom. He is also survived by close family and friends in Sierra Leone and abroad.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

www.massaquoifoundation.org

Throughout his life, Prof. Massaquoi maintained a deep interest in advocating for increased science education as a vehicle for development in Africa. Therefore, as part of Prof. Massaquoi's legacy, his family has initiated a memorial foundation in his name to underscore his commitment to science education and policy. In collaboration with members of the local academic community, the Foundation's initial work focus will be among science students in Sierra Leone. Among its projects, the Foundation offers science education scholarships to secondary school students. The J.G.M. Massaquoi Foundation is a independent charitable organization registered in the United States of America and with operations in Sierra Leone. The Foundation is not affiliated with any political or tribal group.