

TANZANIA

RICHARD SHABA

JULIE GOUDET

DANIEL EL-NOSHOKATY

DECEMBER 2017

Tolerance and Conflict Resolution

JUWAQUTA REGIONAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

On Saturday, December 2nd, the Association of Quran Teachers in Tanzania (JUWAQUTA) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) organized a workshop for the Mtwara JUWAQUTA Regional Leadership under the motto "Tolerance and Conflict Resolution". The event took place at the VETA Hall in Mtwara.

Sheikh Shashi Abdallah, JUWAQUTA Mtwara Regional Chairman, welcomed all the delegates after the opening prayers by Sheikh Nurdin Mangochi, Mtwara Regional Sheikh (BAKWATA). Sheikh Shashi Abdallah reminded the delegates that this was not the first time for JUWAQUTA and KAS to host a workshop in Mtwara. He advised each delegate to be attentive and take home as much as possible, because the knowledge offered is not very common. He recognized specifically the presence of the female Quran Teachers and one blind male teacher. He closed his remarks by asking all to feel at home during the workshop and their stay in the beautiful town of Mtwara.



Richard Shaba welcoming the participants

The KAS Programme Coordinator, Richard Shaba, on behalf of KAS Tanzania Country Office, appreciated the warm reception accorded to KAS members by JUWAQUTA. He praised the long-standing cooperation between JUWAQUTA and KAS since 2003, despite the many challenges; both internal and external. He noted that JUWAQUTA had brought in new faces and thus gave a short history of KAS Tanzania for the benefit of new members. He reminded the Mtwara Regional Leadership to induct the new members so that they better understand JUWAQUTA and the cooperation with the KAS. Richard Shaba also insisted that new members are exposed to the JUWAQUTA Constitution as well as other instruments such as the "Joint Curriculum for Madrassa and Primary Schools" developed under the leadership of JUWAQUTA national level.

Sheikh Khamis Mely, National Vice Chairman for JUWAQUTA, conveyed apologies from the National Chairman for JUWAQUTA who was held up in Dar es Salaam by unexpected turn of events. He went on to share the fact that he has been with JUWAQUTA since the beginning of the JUWAQUTA/KAS cooperation and has actively propagated for it all along. He insisted that workshops as currently being held in Mtwara offer opportunities for new knowledge, experience sharing and socialization for the Teachers. As such they are vital and rare in nature. JUWAQUTA and KAS strive to host these joint events in as many regions as possible

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V.

TANZANIA

RICHARD SHABA
JULIE GOUDET
DANIEL EL-NOSHOKATY

DECEMBER 2017

www.kas.de/tanzania/en/

so that the JUWAQUTA Teachers share the same level of training and understanding. He thanked KAS yet again for being a good partner. He thanked Sheikh Nurdin Mangochi for taking time off from his very busy schedule to be the Chief Guest to the event.

The Chief Guest, Sheikh Nurdin Mangochi, praised the Quran Teachers for attending in big numbers and from different Madrassa. He noted that such a workshop is an opportunity for the Teachers to meet and share experiences in the absence of the mentors. The discussions should not disintegrate into debates about 'right' and 'wrong' mentors. The workshop is a learning ground for all. Each one has something to offer as well as room to take in something new. Sheikh Mangochi thanked the JUWAQUTA Mtwara Regional Leadership as well as the JUWAQUTA National Leadership for hosting the event in Mtwara. He went on to encourage KAS to increase their support to JUWAQUTA. He concluded his remarks by declaring the workshop officially open and wished all good deliberations.

The Chief Guest, Sheikh Nurdin Mangochi, delivered the first presentation on "Tolerance in light of Quran and Sunna". He viewed tolerance on two levels; intra-faith and inter-faith. Both levels are well covered by the Holy Quran and he cited the relevant passages. However, he insisted that Mtwara Region has to work much harder on intra-faith tolerance especially the Muslim community. He observed that the fragmentations weaken the whole faith. Despite the challenges associated with tolerance or acceptance more effort should be put in bridging the gaps rather than widening them. After this major step effective dialog with non-Muslim communities about tolerance shall bear fruit. He ended his presentation by asking each teacher to revisit the relevant passages in the Holy Quran on 'tolerance'.



Sheikh Nurdin Mangochi addressing the Quran teachers

The nature of the subject solicited very few questions and contributions from the floor.

For the second presentation, Richard Shaba, KAS Programme Coordinator, talked about "Conflict Resolution". The delegates agreed with the presenter that "conflicts are part of human nature"; what is required is the management of the same to avoid escalation. The presenter took them through the conflict cycle: process of identifying the actors; best way to agree on a mediator; appropriate way to arrive at the choice of the venue for mediation. On understanding and following the given basics, mediation is possible and may lead to acceptable outcomes. Many questions seeking more information and/or clarification were answered by both the presenter as well as some of the delegates; which was facilitated by the interactive nature of the presentation.

The JUWAQUTA Mtwara General Secretary, Abdul Kilindi, gave a vote of thanks to KAS, presenters and the Chief Guest. He urged the Teachers to internalize what has been shared today. Finally, he invited JUWAQUTA and KAS to host yet another workshop in Mtwara.



Photo of a part of the group; sitting in the front: Sheikh Shashi Abdallah (far left), Sheikh Nurdin Mangochi and Richard Shaba (far right)



**Konrad
Adenauer
Stiftung**

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung e.V.
European and International Co-
operation

Country Office Tanzania
Isimani Street, 24
P.O. Box 6992
Dar es Salaam Tanzania

Phone: +255 22 2153174
Fax: +255 22 2151990
Email: info.tanzania@kas.de