

## EDUCATION



In 2010, 350 primary school children, 300 secondary school children, and 250 post secondary children were helped with tuition fees, school supplies and clothing so they could attend local schools.

Here is a picture of Tshimanga beside Cecile. He came to Butoke as an orphan and is now earning his degree in nursing.



In 2009-10 Butoke conducted educational sessions for rape victims and victims of forced abortions, which sessions included medical care as well.

## PROTECTION

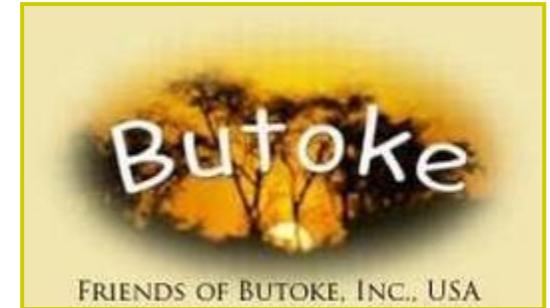
“The season of witches is upon us...” (Cecile DeSweemer, Sept. 2010). Witchcraft has a stranglehold on people in DRC. Widows are often persecuted as witches because they must have killed their husbands; orphan and handicapped children are often thought to be witches who destroyed their parents or whose disability is a punishment for witchcraft. Natural disasters and mortal illnesses are regarded as the work of witches, who are then “identified” and attempts are made to kill or exorcise them. Butoke protects those persecuted as “witches.”

Prisoners, some without legitimate charges against them, are not fed by the prison and will die of starvation if not helped from the outside. Butoke provides food and often legal help to such prisoners.

If you wish to contribute to this work, please send a check to:

**Friends of Butoke, Inc.,  
2 Penhurst Court  
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971.**

Please give your name, address, phone number and email (if any). You will be enrolled as a member of Friends of Butoke, Inc. for the current year and the following year unless you indicate that you do not wish to become a member.



Friends of Butoke, Inc. exists to educate people about Bukote and raise financial support. “Butoke” (Light) operates in the West Kasai Province of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DCR). Butoke ministers to victims of poverty, oppression and abuse in the areas of Food Security and Nutrition, Education, Health Care, Care of The Disabled, and Human Rights.

Friends of Butoke, Inc. began informally in 2005 to support Butoke in the DRC. Butoke was founded by Dr. Cecile DeSweemer, its president. Dr. Jean Lumbala Muamba is its executive director.

In 2010 Butoke was awarded a certificate of national recognition as an NGO by the Minister of Justice in the DCR. This certification provides tax exempt status and other benefits.

Friends of Butoke, Inc. is a tax exempt public charity under section 501-c-3 of the US Internal Revenue Code.

Visit our website [FriendsOfButoke.org](http://FriendsOfButoke.org)

## ORPHANAGE



Byuma is one of 46 orphans living in the Orphanage (2010). He came severely malnourished several years ago and now he “runs the place.” Most of the orphans have similar stories. Some have family nearby but cannot live at home. They are housed, fed, clothed in the orphanage and educated in nearby schools.

Here is Byuma shortly after he came to Butoke.



## NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY

Here is a man carrying a gigantic cassava tuber, dug from one of the many fields Butoke has helped to bring under cultivation.



Crops such as peanuts, cassava, corn, beans and soy are grown by local villagers with technical assistance, tools, food and seeds from Butoke. By the end of 2009, over 1055 hectares of land in W. Kasai were under cultivation. In that year also, Butoke helped reverse malnutrition in about 400 children and adults, especially the elderly, at its Nutrition Center. In 2009 Butoke, with support from UNICEF, rehabilitated more than 2000 severely malnourished children.

## HEALTH CARE

### Primary and Emergency

Emergency and primary health care are services provided in Butoke’s Nutrition Center. When needed, referrals are made to local hospitals and clinics and, because most charge fees that the poor cannot afford, Butoke helps with these fees.

Here is a man being treated in 2009 for a severe leg injury.



In July 2010, a tornado ripped through the area destroying over 130 small houses, killing two children, and leaving 50 people homeless. These were treated and housed by Butoke.

In 2010 Butoke was given land and buildings nearby and established a clinic called Musue Bantu (“Love of People”) which is self-sustaining financially and is able to give free care to the poorest patients.

Several times in the past few years, refugees from Angola, many in need of medical help and nourishment, have been assisted by Butoke. An outbreak of rabies in 2009 led to Butoke providing costly treatment to a number of victims.