REACTIONS TO TRIBUTE

From: ROGER HAND

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 5:01 AM

To: Egbe Monjimbo

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Dear Egbe,

Wow - that's quite an email! Thank you so much for copying me in.

I'm sure that Miss Eunice Kern will have been delighted to receive such a fulsome tribute - as a teacher it often isn't until many years later, when someone writes such a letter, that you realize how big an effect you had on some student's lives (or that you had any effect at all!). It was also really good to read her reply. We haven't heard news of her since we left Cameroon in 68, and it brought her near.

As a matter of courtesy I will send a brief email to the person who contacted me concerning the Coventry reunion to ask her permission to send you her email address. I can't for one moment imagine any reply other than 'Yes'. She can then reply to you, either directly or through me.

Best wishes,

Roger

From: barbara tiedeu

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 4:39 AM

To: Egbe Monjimbo **Cc:** Marie Solange Evehe

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

My! My!

Ma sista, na you sef go go empty handed? Nada!

This is so refreshing and inspiring and spell-binding. I just "enjoyram" sote. Dat Saker be do we something oh! We shall never be able to tell how much was sown. I guess thats why the attachment just be, and dey run so deep, thick and wide.

Yes, Marie Evehe and me be try for recapture that historic "tableau," as Miss Kern be teach we for call am (and also "skits" oh. The terms dem be dey oh!), in the article "Long Time Ago on Saker Hill."

God bless her and bless her and bless her indeed.

Mma (Barbara ATOGHO, Class of 1982)

From: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Alberta Manga

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 7:08 AM

To: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com

Subject: Re: [exsa_usa] E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Thank You, Sis!

I went to see this as a little girl, and I was truly amazed.

What a sacrifice that has changed lives one generation after another.

Yes, a gift that keeps on giving.

Thanks Ms. Kern!

May God continue to Bless those that impacted our lives in Saker.

Alberta (Alberta MANGA, Class of 1985)

From: enanga1

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 10:11 AM

To: emonjimbo@msn.com

Subject: Re: [exssa_mal] E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KE RN)

Dear Egbe,

This piece is so near and dear to my heart. I was one of the Narrators of this wonderful presentation. I don't know if any one has any of the pictures from the play. All my pictures of Saker got destroyed by the Buea weather. I am glad Miss Kern is doing fine. I will write to her.

Thank you for all the wonderful and uplifting e-mails and the time and energy you are investing in this group. I love every minute and just want to let you know that. I will not be in LA this year but definitely by Gods grace I will be a participant from 2013 onwards.

May God Bless you and your family and keep up the good work Sister Stella LI, NY (Stella Matike, Class of 1977)

From: Tanyi Ebob

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 10:33 AM

To: Egbe Monjimbo **Cc:** Namondo Ndando

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

This is precious, Egbe!

I hope you copied her? Ms Kern, I mean?

(Ebob Mbiwan, Class of 1974)

From: exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Adeline

Viyuoh

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 2:29 PM **To:** exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com

Subject: Re: [exssa_mal] E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Amen! Thanks Sis Egbe.

Adeline (Adeline Chia, Class of 1985)

Sent from my iPhone

From: Dora Eko

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 3:05 PM

To: Egbe Monjimbo

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Dearest Etonde

What a truly amazing and befitting tribute! I totally agree with you - it is best to acknowledge someone while they are still alive.

Have a blessed day

Dora (Dora Ndumbe, Class of 1983)

Sent from my iPhone

From: vera ngassa

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 11:34 AM

To: Egbe Monjimbo

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Egbe,

You are a blessing.

Can I have her address? I don't even want to start rhapsodizing about what the wealth of worship she invested in us has done in my life, especially when you try to read the bible and you find those words. I thought I was alone. I don't know how many times a month I say "God bless Miss Kern"

Blessings,

Vera (Vera Nkwate, Class of 1980)

From: EX-SakerUSA@yahoogroups.com [mailto:EX-SakerUSA@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of DL

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 11:38 AM

To: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com **Cc:** ex-sakerusa@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [EX-SakerUSA] (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

YES, I concur with my Sisters Alberta and our very own in-house scribe, visionary, preacher, motivator and Big Sister Egbe. Thanks a million for sharing. THANKS Ms. Kern and above all, THANKS to our Almighty Father who made all these happen.

Everything happened <u>not by chance</u> but by the PLANS of our LORD and Savior. Our going to SAKER BAPTIST College was not a coincidence, but a DIVINE design and plan and it is our place today to carry on the LEGACY and the WORKS of what the DIVINE, MASTER, Designer Himself, GOD did through HIS servants like Ms. Kern, Ms. Binder and all the other Missionaries who made that DIVINE Plan a reality on top of one of the hills in LIMBE now home to Saker Baptist College.

My heart is full with joy, love and peace, my life is abundantly blessed, I am a better person today because of <u>my roots at Saker Baptist College</u> and the continuous company of ALL my Sisters, Aunties and friends (big and small, old and young) in this ExSSA-USA forum. Thank you all for who I am today.

Love you all and remain blessed now and always,

DL (Dorothy Lyonga, Class of 1985)

From: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of kenbil

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 3:36 PM

To: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com; exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [exsa_usa] Re: [exssa_mal] E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS

KERN)

Yes the power of MUSIC to the **Sakerette**......**THANKS MISS KERN**.......I am still in awe of the song **"In everything give thanks for this is the will of Godin Christ Jesus concerning you...."** that is one of the songs one of my Sisters as in Mbakwop Tamen Irmhild McNnane **made** us sing as we walked behind the white car that carried my young mother's coffin as it slowly made its way to the burial place...on that gloomy Monday of May 14th......ah dey still fear dat song and **"every knee shall bow and every tongue confess, Christ shall wipe away all tears from eyes....."** me nah Emelda Ngufor Samba "cut" Irmhild eyeand she continued to sing loudly until we joined her with tears in our eyes.......

group show cases for Christmas time.....a lot of students took part in this play and the field was packed that night with parents and family.....among my guests my Aunty Mary Ewusi Shalman and husband.....Thank You....

Guess which other Sakerette sang with Our Lady of Lourdes in Oakland California? She left before I joined them....our very own Sis Marie Endale Lottin now in Dubai.....she was my co-liturgical minister in Catholic Church Buea Town, Elig' Efa and Olezoa churches in Yaounde......

Miss Kern's music influence in my life and that of family is priceless

"For God gave Music to lift your soul into His presence.....

to release the praise in your heart,

to help you rejoice in your salvation,

to help you intimately commune with Him,

for even God sang on the day you were Born Again!"

He will rejoice over you with singing....Zephaniah 3-17

Thanks Ms. Kern, with Appreciation

Kata-Kate Ndangu-Njome (Kate Ndangu, Class of 1984)

From: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Judith Foyabo

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 4:46 PM

To: exsa-usa exsa

Subject: [exsa_usa] RE: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

How amazing and what a befitting tribute, thanks for sharing Sis Egbe!

We are truly all indebted to her and those missionaries who sacrificed so much to groom the women we are today...

Trivia: Mr. Kofele, our form 4 Math teacher was baffled at the fact that the girls would memorize in excess of 500+ songs (some having 5-7 stanzas) from the pink, blue and green song books but could not memorize a simple math formula like *area of a circle* = $\pi x r^2$

Continue to shine the light Big Sis and be blessed.

Judith (Judith Caspa, Class of 1984)

From: Florence Martin

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 4:49 PM

To: Egbe Monjimbo

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

My dear if u only knew how those songs have ministered to me all these years. It is so amazing that the songs we had in Saker are the ones that have carried me through every trial and pain. They are the songs that will come to mind because like u said, the words and not the melody are more important now. Miss Kern was truly a blessing. I know her reward is great in Heaven. As I read my bible the songs just pop up 'cause most of them were scriptures from the Bible. May God continue to bless her. I have sometimes wondered where she was. indellible memories. I really love this. (Florence Ngole, Class of 1980)

From: exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Marie-

Solange Evehe B.

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 5:30 PM

To: Egbe Monjimbo; exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com; exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com;

SakerClassof81@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [exssa_mal] Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Dear Egbe,

Tears kept rolling down my face as I read Miss Kern's mail to you as well as your response. What memories!!! Especially that I acted in some of the plays. It is a blessing to have known Miss Kern. Although some of us believed we did not know how to sing and refused to take part in special choirs (and ended up singing only the dining hall songs), years have gone by and we realize that though not members of those special singing groups, a seed was sown and many of us find ourselves in choirs in our different churches and who could believe that I (Marie-Solange) could be a choir leader??? Thank you Miss Kern for the seed you sowed in our lives. You do not know and cannot imagine how God used you to prepare us for the music ministry. Our prayer is that the good Lord richly bless you and shower you with His immense favour. Best, Marie-Solange (Marie Evehe, Class of 1980)

"There is no legacy as rich as integrity"

Department of Biochemistry

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From: Dora Mbanya

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 6:05 PM

To: Egbe Monjimbo; exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com; exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com;

SakerClassof81@yahoogroups.com

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Dear Egbe,

Thank you so much for sharing this uplifting story.

It was a beautiful thing you did to Ms Kern and I personally feel really proud of you.

Tributes should be giving to people while they can appreciate it. This must have made it for Ms Kern. Perhaps no one had thought of letting her know how much she had done for us all.

I remember her twice describing my voice as "dried rattling leaves" during voice tests, and once asked if *I was being strangulated*. But the beauty of the choir each year spurred me on; I forced myself to sing as much as possible, and in my last year in Saker, guess what...? Yours truly was in the choir. That was the impact Ms Kern's music had on us all; you just longed to be in the forefront of it all. But as you rightly say, today we see into the meaning of the lyrics.

Praise the Lord for her. Music (Praise and worship) is one thing that will not pass away. That's all we will be doing up there. We had better all focus on targeting that destination while there is time.

Congratulations Egbe! I have listened too to this beautiful song (Thank you for giving to the Lord); and it just ministered to my very soul.

Blessings & love to all,

Dora (Dora Shu, Class of 1973)

Dora Mbanya MD; PhD; FRCPath
Faculty of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
University of Yaounde I &
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Email: dmbanya1@yahoo.co.uk

"There's no failure more disastrous than success without God"

From: Dialle Mofa Takang

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 9:38 AM

To: Egbe Monjimbo

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Sis Egbe

One of our tables in the Celebration to launch ExSSA-UK & celebrate Saker's Golden Jubilee next weekend in Coventry is named **KERN** and pays a special tribute to her as follows:

Ms Eunice Kern - recruited to teach Bible studies in the College, and with her passion for Music and Arts, soon 'whipped' the girls into shape! The producer and editor of our beloved PINK song books. (She taught most of the songs you proudly hear the Sakerettes sing today). She currently resides in Canada.

(Dialle Mofa, Class of 1986)

From: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Yvonne

Bongfen

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 12:42 PM **To:** exsa usa@yahoogroups.com

Subject: Re: [exsa_usa] RE: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Sis Egbe,

How could we have understood the meaning of those songs? How could we have understood what this song means:

"I'm only a sinner saved by grace" with lyrics in it as "Naught have I gotten but what I have received, grace has bestowed it since I have believed, boasting excluded, pride I abase, I'm only a sinner saved by grace."

How could we understand a song which goes thus Who at my door is standing, patiently drawing near, entrance within demanding, whose is the voice I hear. Sweetly the tones are falling, open the door for me, if thou will heed my calling, I will abide with thee" without thinking it was a physical door.

The seed that Miss Kern sowed in songs can be likened to a mustard seed which has grown to be a very big tree, bearing lots of tentacles. May God truly bless this great woman who sacrificed her youthful comfort to bless the lives of thousands.

Sis Egbe, I do ponder and think that Solomon who is recorded as the wisest man who has lived on planet Earth did pass some of his genes to you. How can you pass down this kind of wisdom to others?

Thanks for connecting to Miss Kern and letting her know how much she has been a blessing to us all. That is a great testimony for someone who surrendered her life to be a blessing to others.

Trust in the lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding Prov. 3:5

Yvonne Bongfen Mbote, PhD 4101 19th Ave Apt 110 Fargo ND 58103

Tel: 701-610-1262

From: Elizabeth Quan

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 10:28 AM

To: Etonde Monjimbo

Subject: RE: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Oh Egbe Etonde Mbiwan,

You have always been a huge ray of light and enlightenment to my existence, but today, my eyes watered. Miss Kern! I have thought about her a lot over the years; the great influence she was to the girls under her tutelage, just by her actions alone. She is such a hard working woman, and reading her accounts of things long past, and her current busy-ness, I am inspired anew.

Those songs still live with me too, and those deeply comforting, albeit sad ones always come to mind during those profoundly sad, heart rending moments we all face.

I hope the love and gratitude so many of us feel towards her continue to bring Blessings her way.

We go stori oh. Please give my best to her when you communicate.

love you lots,

Elima (Elizabeth Mondoa, Class of 1982)

From: Didi Ndando

Sent: Monday, March 05, 2012 11:55 PM

To: Egbe Monjimbo; Ebob Tanyi

Subject: Re: THANK YOU, MISS KERN!

How touching! I remember the play quite vividly; I was a stage hand in it... (Namondo Mbiwan, Class of 1979)



Houston Austin Dallas

San Antonio

Namondo (Didi) Ndando, PE Vice President

6120 S. Dairy Ashford Rd. Houston, TX 77072-1010 281.933.7388 (281-983-8805 direct) 281.933.7293 Fax dndando@hvj.com www.hvj.com

From: Elsie Effange-Mbella

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 5:47 AM

To: EMonjimbo@msn.com

Cc: exsa usa@yahoogroups.com; exssa mal@yahoogroups.com; SakerClassof81@yahoogroups.com

Subject: Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Dear Ms Kern,

I was admitted into Saker in 1965 and graduated in 1970. I think my class got to Saker just a few weeks after your arrival in Cameroon so we were actually among the first to taste of your resilience and prowess. The Christian upbringing I received from Saker and at home has ferried me through all the vicissitudes of my life, comprising of course of mountains and valleys. I cannot claim to have been anything special in Saker and so you might not remember me even though yourself and Miss Binder marked my life for good by making me see the impact of hard work and doing your best every day in "brightening the corner where your are". I want to thank you for your glowing example, the beautiful graduation robes you made for us, the songs you taught us and yes the plays which I looked forward to every Christmas. Once in a rare while we also were treated to your cakes and I still gloat to date on how special they tasted. Since Saker, I have always known that if I can only apply even one -third of your energy and foresightedness in all I do I will be fine. This thought has indeed ferried me through 33 years of my career as a diplomat: first for the Cameroon Government and now for the United Nations. Like "the clay in the porter's hands" I have learnt to thank God for every opportunity He has accorded me and to lean on His protection and divine providence in every storm. The lessons learnt from Saker have made me a resilient woman and I wish to thank you mightily for contributing so significantly in shaping my life.

With much affection,

Elsie (Elsie Effange, Class of 1970)

Ms. Elsie Effange-Mbella Senior Gender Adviser Head, Office of Gender Affairs MONUSCO BCDC

Tel.: + 1 212 963 0103 Ext.: 6478 Mobile: 00 243 99 706 8961 Email: effange-mbella@un.org

From: exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 3:23 PM

To: Egbe Monjimbo

Cc: <exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com>; <exssa_mal@yahoogroups.com>;

<SakerClassof81@yahoogroups.com>

Subject: [exssa_mal] Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Egbe oh Egbe, thank God for you. Reading Miss Kern's piece was the highlight of my day today. It brought back a flood of memories being one of those who acted from form 1 to 5 and got the prize for that on graduation. And yes u met Anna Bounde 'cause she is my classmate. Permit me to keep her write up and use it when we do a golden book to close the jubilee year. I'll tell u more about this later so u you can contribute to making it memorable. Stay blessed

Jess (Jessie Atogho, Class of '78)

Sent from my iPad

From: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Yolanda

Hegngı

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 6:19 PM

To: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com; ex- sakerusa; SakerClassof81@yahoogroups.com; exssa_mal **Subject:** Re: [exsa_usa] RE: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Dear All,

I am filled with gratitude for the latest exchange in honor of teachers in general and specifically in honor of Miss Eunice Kern. The eloquence of the community is impressive and I can only add 2 words, "yes" and "amen".

Egbe, thanks again for inspiring us to contribute in a such a constructive way.

Blessings to all.

Yolanda (Yolanda Nokuri, Class of '81)

From: exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com [mailto:exsa_usa@yahoogroups.com] **On Behalf Of** abongang@comcast.net

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 12:13 PM

To: exssa mal

Cc: exsa usa; exsa-usachoir

Subject: [exsa_usa] Re: [exsa_mal] Re: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS

KERN)

What a tribute!!! And some more from Miss Kern!!! Thanks Egbe (and all).

I am grateful to my husband who insisted I bring along keepsakes... when I left Cameroon for the USA some 12+ years ago...One thing I couldn't take along with me was the land of my Alma mater, Saker Baptist College which I religiously always visited whenever I visited with my parents and family. However, I have always carried my Alma Mater in my soul and being at all times simply because the molding, pruning, fine-tuning I got there have shaped my choices and decisions on a daily basis. Also, one treasured memento I have with me is my "Saker Memories" blue book (and my class report cards)... Well, let me be clear why I mention these:

In the "Tutors Autographs and Good Wishes" section of my "Saker Memories" book, I dedicated the first slot to "Mademoiselle Eunice Kern", who was our Class Adviser and Housemother. Miss Kern wrote:

"Agnes, you have great potential, use it wisely. Success is only achieved by hard work & determination. God's best to you in the future. Always put Christ first in all you do. May others see Christ in you in whatever you do & say & wherever you go" Miss Kern.

Proverbs 3:5-6 was the biblical verse she wrote after. Great piece of advice which I haven't followed all the time but which has brought me back to the narrow path many times over. Proverbs 3:5-6 has become one of the guiding Biblical truths that I rely on so much now (though divinely assigned to me via Ms Kern in 1974!!!)

So, I just want to use this opportunity and forum to say "THANK YOU, Miss KERN." I just add my voice to all my sisters who have already pointed out skills we acquired through Ms Kern's tutelage (music, sewing, knowing God's Word...). Oh, the privilege of having extra cookies from our Class 5(A) Adviser...

My "Saker Memories" book holds lots of words of encouragements from Mme Cocobassey, Mme Ewanga, Mr. Ewang, Mr Chakravarti, Miss Horne, Ms B. EKiko, Mr. Elad, Mr. Eyabi, Mr. Eyambe, Mr. Shanda, Mr J.U. Tambe, Mr Eben, Mr Monono...who all reiterate the importance of hard work, determination and keeping God central...in order to accomplish success and sanity in a rough world. I read many of my other classmates "Saker Memories" books as we sent our books to say our goodbyes and I still have the vivid recollection of how all our tutors/staff stayed around this central theme and told each of us how we were each unique and special and having the potential to "SOAR AS EAGLES" so to speak! So, I say "THANK YOU" to ALL OUR TUTORS (& Staff) PAST AND PRESENT! I still have slots open for Ms B. Westerman

(whose fall in Minnesota prevented me from getting her to write in my book 3 decades later...) ... and Mr. Ekema (Bursar then)...great seeing his picture in jubilee album and hope to meet him someday when I revisit S.B.C & Victoria (oh sorry Limbe..).

May our good Lord bless and keep us all as we seek His face...Seek first His Kingdom then "Soaring as Eagles" would just be added unto us (as in "jara")!

Stay blessed y'all this side of heaven.

See y'all soon (by God's grace) in August in L.A when we will have a little of heaven...

Agnes Fomukong Bongang, MD

Class of 1969-1974 (Teens Supremes)

From: Tamko SISSAKO

Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 8:46 AM

To: emonjimbo@msn.com

Subject: Fw: E NO GO SURELY GO EMPTY HAND OH!!! (TRIBUTE TO MISS KERN)

Hi Etonde,

That was a well deserved tribute to our one and only Miss kern whose departure from Saker the year I was to become music prefect had a great impact on me. But as you mentioned, her method of teaching music gave us a strong foundation which has enabled some of us stand the test of time. In fact, her repertoire was so rich that each sentence or phrase has a song , from "Come and dine the master calleth", "At the close of the day", "Fill my cup", "My God and I", "My father planned it all", to "God will take care of you", So tell our sisters that whenever in distress, they should remember, "Why worry when you can pray", or "He's able, He's able, I know He's able , I know my lord is able to carry me through". We missed her and would have loved to see her at the anniversary.

so long, SISSAKO

