

Embassy of Japan
Tonga

PRESS RELEASE

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Eastern District Soroban Students won National Soroban Competition 2021

The National Soroban Competition was again won this year by the soroban student of the Eastern District Schools of Tongatapu. His Excellency Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Tonga as the Guest of Honour, awarded prizes to the winners after the competition on Tuesday, 16 November at the 'Atele Indoor Stadium.

Hon. Hu'akavameiliku, Minister for Education and Training attended the competition along with Mr. TAKASHIMA Hiroaki, JICA's Resident Representative, Dr. Tangikina Moimoi Steen, CEO for Ministry of Education and Training, Soroban Education Officers, Soroban Teachers, Parents and supporters of the young soroban competitors.

H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA, in his keynote address congratulated the students who demonstrated and proven their high skills of soroban. "Your skills of soroban will surely become great assets for you in your life," he said. "With soroban, the powers of concentration will be strengthened, and by soroban you can get answers unconsciously." The Ambassador, acknowledged the effort and devotion by soroban teachers committed to soroban education, and in the success of the national contest.

The highlight of this year was the first participation of Niuafu'ou soroban students, joining over 350 students representing each island of Niuatoputapu, Ha'apai, Vava'u, 'Eua and the three districts of Tongatapu.

Winners and top students for each category; the written, flash, oral and relay for level of class 3, 4 and 5 were awarded prizes.

Hon. Hu'akavameiliku acknowledged the on-going assistance and support of the Government of Japan to teach soroban in the Kingdom. The National Competition became an annual event co-hosted by the Embassy of Japan and the Ministry of Education and Training supported by JICA Tonga Office, Japan International Soroban Diffusion Foundation and Tonga Soroban Education Association.

END.

Attached – Result & Photos

National Soroban Competition Result 2021

Overall

Prize	School/District
1	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake
2	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo
3	Tongatapu Vahe Hihifo

Written/Class 3

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake (GMS Mu'a)	Sine Maafu
2	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake (GMS Lapaha)	Mele Uinita Sili
3	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (St. Falakiko 'Asisi)	'Okusitino Sime

Written/Class 4

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake (GPS Mu'a)	'Aliko Mafi
2	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (St. Falakiko 'Asisi)	Palanite Telefoni
3	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake (GPS Mu'a)	Telesia Filisonu'u

Written/Class 5

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Falakiko 'Asisi)	Fredrick Kautoke
2	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake (GMS Holonga)	Napualani 'Ahofono
3	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (St. Falakiko 'Asisi)	Wander Leone

Oral/Class 3

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (MaliaTupu 'Imakulata)	Mele Lavakihelotu
2	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (St. Falakiko 'Asisi)	'Okusitino Sime
3	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Falakiko 'Asisi)	Katiola Penisoni

Oral/Class 4

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Niuatapotapu (GPS Hihifo)	Seilaine 'Uvea
2	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (St. Falakiko 'Asisi)	Katalina Sole
3	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Malia Tupu'Imakulata	Maleta Tatafu

Oral/Class 5

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Falakiko 'Asisi)	Fredrick Kautoke
2	'Eua (GPS Ta'anga)	Paea Vaoleti
3	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake (GMS Holonga)	Napualani 'Ahofono

Flash/Class 3

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Hilliard Memorial)	Miracle Nacauzi
2	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Falakiko 'Asisi)	Katiola Penisoni
3	Vava'u (GPS Leimatu'a)	Faliki Laulotu

Flash / Class 4

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Falakiko 'Asisi)	Mafaseleti Malimali
2	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Falakiko 'Asisi)	Palanite Telefoni
3	Tongatapu Vahe Hihifo (GMS Kahoua)	Melania Makaafi

Flash/Class 5

Prize	School/District	Name
1	'Eua (GPS Ta'anga)	Paea Vaioleti
2	Tongatapu Vahe Hihifo (GMS Hofoa)	Ngalukilo Mafi
3	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo (Falakiko 'Asisi)	Fredrick Kautoke

Teachers

Prize	School/District	Name
1	Tongatapu Vahe Kolo/ Falakiko 'Asisi	Taina Faupula
2	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake/GMS Tokomololo	Luseane Pakofe Hui
3	Tongatapu Vahe Hahake	Vahenga Fo'ou Po'uli

Photos:



Soroban students of the Eastern District Schools of Tongatapu, are winners of the National Soroban Competition 2021 with H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku and distinguished guests, on Tuesday 16 November.



Young soroban competitors during their competition at 'Atele Indoor Stadium.



Winner of the class 5 written category, Fredrick Kautoke of St. Falakiko 'Asisi, Central District School.



Winner of the relay category with their soroban teachers.



Niuatoputapu and Niufo'ou soroban students with H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku and distinguished guests.



Ha'apai island soroban students and Teachers who arrived Nuku'alofa to compete in the National Competition 2021.



H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku with Hon. Hu'akavameiliku viewed demonstration of soroban education by schools at the National Competition on Tuesday 16 November



Soroban abacus made from local material demonstrated by Mu'a GMS teachers.