



FLOTUS AT MODA KANE SCHOOL

THIES

APRIL 1, 1998

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

DAKAR, SENEGAL

INTRODUCTION: (In French)

FLOTUS: Thank you so much. I want to thank the Principal and I particularly want to thank Madame Diouf and the Minister and all of you for being here this afternoon. And I especially want to thank (Mr. Wad) on behalf of the parent-teacher association and the women who sang and particularly the poem. I was just given a copy of the words of the poem in English and it's a wonderful poem about how the women made a new friend whose name is Women's Rights. And I can see how in this school the fathers and the mothers working together with the teachers are making a difference in the education of their children. I saw the school store and the garden, as well as a classroom, and I could see that this is a different kind of school where the children are being taught both reading, writing and arithmetic but also practical skills. And I am very impressed by what you are doing here at this school. And I want to thank UNICEF and the Christian Childrens Fund for working with this school. But I know that the main reason why this school is different is because of the parents, the teachers, and the students, and how you understand how you need to prepare your children for the future. And I am so pleased to be back in Senegal with my husband to see these beautiful and smart children, and to meet so many beautiful women who are learning literacy skills and their own rights. So I want to thank you for inviting me to come here. I want to thank Madame Diouf for coming with me and I want to congratulate all of you who have made this school such a special place.

Thank you very much.

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END REMARKS