



The Catholic High School of Baltimore Summer Reading List

Teacher's Name: Colleen Guler

School Year: 2011 – 2012

Grade Level: 9

Course No.: 211

Course Name: World Civilization 1

Academic Level (Honors/AP/CP1/CP2/CPA): Honors

Reading:

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah

This book can be found in paperback and is available at Barnes and Noble and Amazon.

Assignment:

After reading the book, please answer the following questions **on separate paper** preferably typed). **This assignment is due the first week of school in August 2011.**

1. Briefly describe the main character.
2. In which country did he live when he was young, and what was the situation in that country?
3. What are some of the difficult events that Ishmael Beah lived through and took part in as the story progressed?
4. From the story, what did you learn about the political, social and economic problems of Sierra Leone in the 1990s?
5. How did UNICEF help change the direction in which the main character was headed?
6. Please go to the UN website: <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/index.html> and read about other areas of the world where children are involved in armed conflict. Choose two of those areas and write a paragraph about the situation in each.
7. From this book and the information about other areas where children are involved in or the victims of armed conflict, answer the following questions.
 - Has colonialism affected the culture?
 - What have been the obstacles to economic development in the countries studied?
 - How have other countries and world institutions been involved in solving political and economic problems in developing countries?
 - What are some of the long term effects of civil wars, especially on the youth of a society?

Additionally, you are not required to read any other books, but some additional resources to look at would be maps, charts and graphs, or movies such as Blood Diamond where people face brutal economic situations.

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