

# THE Publisher

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A PUBLICATION OF KENYA LITERATURE BUREAU

September, 2018



**Extending  
reach to  
Counties**



Online edition

[www.klb.co.ke](http://www.klb.co.ke)



## OUR VISION

To be the leading publisher and printer of quality knowledge materials.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To publish and print quality educational and knowledge materials at affordable prices, whilst promoting excellent authorship and creating customer and shareholder value.

## OUR CORE VALUES

- Superior Customer Service
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Competency
- Integrity
- Innovation

## OUR QUALITY POLICY

Kenya Literature Bureau is committed to apply risk based approach to reach higher levels of quality in publishing and printing educational and knowledge materials as stipulated in ISO 9001:2015.

## WE WILL

- Comply with regulatory and statutory requirements.
- Continually identify and mitigate risks that may affect the effectiveness of the Quality Management System.
- Partner with relevant internal and external stakeholders.
- Provide highest quality service to the customers and relevant interested parties.

**Cover photo:** His Excellency William Ruto, the Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya, checks out a book being shown by KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria (left) and Kajiado Governor, Joseph Ole Lenku (right) looks.

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*Hon. Phoebe Asiyo (right) speaks at the launch of her memoir. H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta graced the event as Chief Guest.*



*His Excellency Emperor Haille Selassie of Ethiopia, flanked by Major (Rtd.) Dr. Shadrack Muiu, inspects a guard of honour mounted by the Kenya Army at Embakasi Airport Nairobi.*



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## Editor's Note

The Kenya Literature Bureau has developed alternative revenue streams to supplement funds from textbook sales. It has up-scaled the print segment of its business, firming up partnership agreements with national and county governments to offer institutional printing services.

In this issue, the *Publisher* highlights ongoing initiatives made to create and foster partnerships with county governments including Kajiado, Vihiga, Pokot, Bungoma, Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, among others in institutional printing and supply of textbooks and instructional materials to ECDE, County Polytechnics and Technical learning centres.

Mama Phoebe Asiyo, the trailblazer, has told her story in a book. The memoir was launched by His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta at State House Nairobi in an exclusive ceremony attended by top government officials, parliamentarians, diplomats and female trailblazers.

In keeping with best practices in human resources management, KLB recently held a series of team building seminars for staff at the Bomas of Kenya. A brief about the event is told in the *Publisher*.

We have more on KESSHA and KEPSHA conferences, environment and the national cohesion and values training. Welcome.

*Joseph Ndegwa*



We welcome articles or feedback from readers. Letters/articles may be edited for clarity and space.  
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## The vision of creating sustainable competitive advantage

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*“Vision must be followed by venture. It is not enough to stare up the steps; we must step up the stairs” – Vance Havner*

Achieving a quantum leap in growth requires entrepreneurial venture, values and commitment. At Kenya Literature Bureau, we have a philosophy that shapes our direction. We are focused on our mandate and have devised a strategy of providing quality service, investing in new products and partnering with our stakeholders.

We have stepped up the stairs, guided by the desire to continuously improve service excellence, innovation, mastering the changing aspects of the market and satisfying customer needs.

This is why KLB is a household name. We are the largest publisher and distributor of books in Kenya with a majority stake of ECDE, primary school, secondary school and tertiary

book markets. We have some of the best authors in the industry and boast a state-of-the-art printing press. In addition, KLB is the only publisher in Kenya with all ECDE approved course books.

Our e-books and digital content are a recognisable innovation. The materials are on known platforms like the *Worldreader*, *amazon.com* and *e-Kitabu* online bookstores.

We recently implemented a new human resources manual and organisational structure to align it to KLB strategic plan and objectives.

Our human resource remains the most valuable asset and indeed, the foundation of our success. KLB shall, therefore, continuously invest in skills and reward effort. We have recruited top talents to drive our business. I am, therefore, keen on engaging all our stakeholders to take KLB to the next promising level.

We plan to invest more in new technology to retain a sustainable competitive advantage in the industry. We shall deploy considerable resources to modernise our printing press and equip staff with right tools of work.

I wish to acknowledge the valuable efforts, service and support provided by the Board of Management towards this plan.

KLB will continue fostering collaborations with key partners, the Ministry of Education and County Governments, as we take the next steps towards strengthening the book and print segments of our business.

Let us hold the passion, energy and openness to a new re-invented tomorrow.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Mr. Victor Lomaria  
**Managing Director**

# Technical education to drive the Big Four Agenda



*KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria (standing) was the session moderator on "Trade and Manufacturing: Skills Upgrading and Employment Creation" during the fifth annual Devolution Conference in Kakamega County.*

By Ronald Kibaron

County Governments have been challenged to do more to promote and uplift technical and vocational learning institutions, which will impart skills and develop the right manpower to drive Kenya's Vision 2030 and the Big Four Agenda.

KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria said this at the fifth annual Devolution Conference in Kakamega, where he moderated a session on *Trade and Manufacturing: Skills Upgrading and Employment Creation*.

"TVETS have the potential to address unemployment in the country," he said urging county

leaders to equip technical institutions with right tools and equipment's, and stock their libraries with relevant materials for learners.

Experts say that smart problem solving when combined with technology will transform the world and create jobs. "We can't afford to simply focus on art subjects, since technical knowledge and entrepreneurship is at the heart of the biggest opportunities for this country," said Lomaria.

"Let us, therefore, harness the power of technical education to develop a generation of problem solvers," he added.

The session at the Devolution Conference discussed strategies county governments can adopt to develop skills for innovation and job creation. KLB has high quality technical books for county polytechnics and vocational centres covering various subjects in the syllabus, including motor vehicle technology, carpentry and joinery, electrical installation, building and construction, and general ICT. It has partnered with several county governments to supply the books to their learners.

Kericho Governor, Prof. Paul Chepkwony, who was a panelist at the side event, attributed efficiency



*KLB Business Development Manager, Evans Nyachieng'a discussing KLB's technical and ECDE books with Bungoma Members of County Assembly (MCAs) during the 2018 Devolution Conference in Kakamega.*

and effectiveness of his county staff to vocational training. "Majority of my staff are products of county polytechnics and are effectively managing our operations," he said.

"We are keen to combine technology and education to create a pipeline of global talents to tackle the future's most difficult challenges," he added pledging to work with the private sector to advance technical and vocational training.

**KLB has high quality technical books for county polytechnics and vocational centres covering various subjects in the syllabus.**

Dr. Kevit Desai, the Principal Secretary for the State department for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) announced the introduction of competency based curriculum for polytechnics.

"The government will integrate technology in vocational learning to keep up with the evolving educational trends and technology," he said.

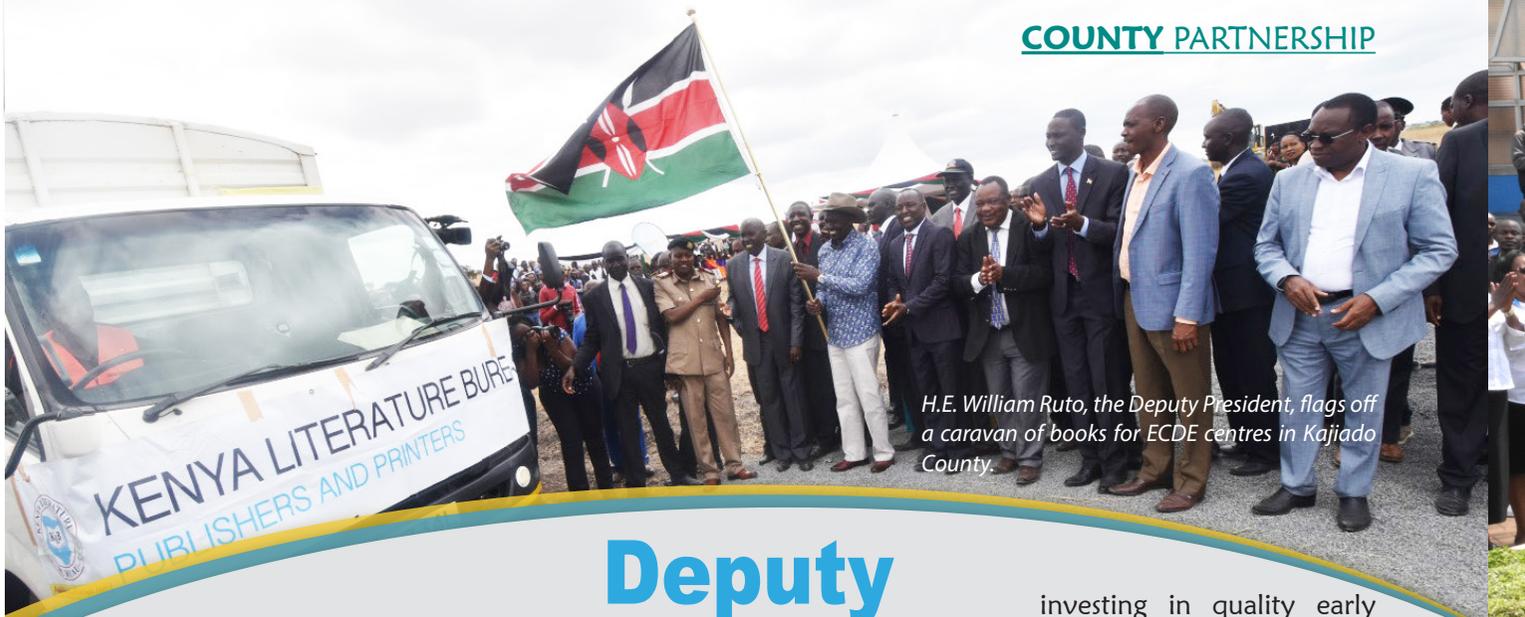
The chairman of the side event, Tana River Governor Dr. Dhadho Godhana thanked county chiefs who had invested in technical education, outlining the important role it plays in enabling Kenya transform into a middle income economy.

The panelists of the session were Prof. Chepkwony, Dr. Godhana, nominated Senator Isaac Mwaura, Taita Taveta Deputy Governor Majala Mlaghui, Elgeyo Marakwet County Assembly Speaker Albert Kochei, KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria, Miss World Kenya Magline Jeruto and Dan Odhiambo representing the youth.

The 2018 Devolution Conference in Kakamega High School was attended by governors, senators, diplomats, members of the county assemblies, policy chiefs, among others. KLB was represented by Business Development Manager, Evans Nyachieng'a, Assistant Corporate Communications Manager, Diana Olenja, Area Sales and Marketing Officer – Western Region, Job Munialo, Business Development Officer, Arawo Achola and Ronald Kibaron.



*Kenya Literature Bureau Managing Director, Mr. Victor Lomaria (right), interacts with clients at the KLB stand. Present were KLB Business Development Officer, Arawo Achola (second right), and Western Area Sales Manager, Job Munialo (centre).*



H.E. William Ruto, the Deputy President, flags off a caravan of books for ECDE centres in Kajiado County.

## Deputy President Flags off a Caravan of KLB Textbooks in Kajiado

By Ronald Kibaron

A consignment of textbooks, published and printed by Kenya Literature Bureau, was flagged off by the Deputy President William Ruto to all Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres in Kajiado County.

The flagging-off ceremony followed the recently held training for Kajiado County ECDE teachers at the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) Centre in Athi River on 22<sup>nd</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2018.

Speaking at Olkejuado grounds during the flagging off, the Deputy President said that early childhood education was the foundation of the future of Kenya.

“The success of education in this country rests on the solid foundation we put in place for the early year learners,” Hon Ruto said.

“The right ECDE books developed by KLB will help in building knowledge and competitive human resource to tackle the challenges of the

future,” he added.

The Deputy President lauded KLB and the County Government of Kajiado for the initiative to provide learning materials to all early learners saying it was a step towards the realisation of great academic progress and success.

“Kenya Literature Bureau and the County Government of Kajiado are doing that which the constitution has mandated them to do; to look after the foundation of our children,” he said.

Hon. Ruto further said that “technical education is a key determinant to becoming an industrialised country.”

“Kenya stands to gain from

investing in quality early education and competitive technical education,” said the Deputy President.

He said that the Government was committed to quality education and has set-aside resources to finance technical education in all counties to drive the Big Four agenda.

Kajiado County Governor, Joseph Ole Lenku, said his Government was keen on laying a strong foundation for all the ECDE Children. He thanked KLB for being steadfast in the production of quality learning materials.

KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria, said the initiative that had seen books branded will eliminate piracy in book trade. He encouraged other counties to equally partner with KLB in all areas of publishing and printing.

Kajiado County Government, in a partnership pact, bought ECDE books worth 14.3 million from the Bureau. KLB Board Chairman, Amb. Francis Bayah, Board Member Sammy Chepkwony, management and staff attended the event.



## Vihiga Governor flags - off book caravan at KLB head-office

**By Joseph Ndegwa**

The Vihiga County branded ECDE and Technical books caravan was flagged-off at Kenya Literature Bureau head-office in South C, Nairobi following the signing of a partnership agreement that saw the county government purchase books worth Ksh31 million.

The flagging-off of the book caravan was officiated by Vihiga County Governor H.E. Wilber Otichillo and KLB Board Chairman Amb. Francis Bayah on July 30, 2018 in a ceremony attended by the county government officials, and staff of the Bureau.

All Early  
Development

Childhood  
Education

(ECDE) pupils and students in County Polytechnics and Vocational Training Centres are set to receive the said books, an important milestone that is expected to improve learning outcomes in Vihiga.

Speaking at the launch and flagging-off of the caravan, Governor Otichillo said his governments was keen to improve the education sector in the county in order to achieve the three global Education For All (EFA) objectives of access, equity and quality.

“We have partnered with KLB, a state-owned textbook publisher and printer, to provide affordable, quality books for early learners and instructional materials for our technical and

vocational learning centres,” he said.

“In this plan, each student will have a course book for greater learning outcomes in practices,” he added.

He thanked KLB for sponsoring a training workshop for all ECDE and technical institutions in Vihiga. At the workshop, the tutors were upskilled with useful tips on effective curriculum delivery.

In his remarks, KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria said the “books in the caravan were authored by a team of top subject teachers and editors in the country” and will significantly contribute to the improvement of learning outcomes in the ECDE centres, county polytechnics and technical institutions.

“The content in these books is of high quality and relevant

to the new Competency Based Curriculum,” said KLB Board Chairman, Amb Francis Bayah, while thanking Vihiga County Governor for the purchase.

For instance, the *Skillgrow* textbooks for early learners lean heavily on application of knowledge and draws examples from learner’s immediate

environment, a feature that will enable children in ECDE centres to comprehend concepts easily.

The *Innovator* series, on the other hand, are artisan course books designed to equip learners with knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that will enable the County build the requisite human capital required

for the realisation of Kenya’s Vision 2030 and the Big Four Agenda on manufacturing and job creation.

The partnership agreement with County Government of Vihiga also covers institutional printing, where KLB will offer the county quality printing services at affordable rates.



From L-R: KLB Business Development Manager Evans Nyachieng'a, Vihiga County Chief of Staff Noah Okaya, Chief Officer of Education, Mary Anyindah, Governor Dr. Wilber Ottichilo, KLB Board Chairman Amb. Francis Bayah and Managing Director Victor Lomaria.



Vihiga County Governor Dr. Wilber Ottichilo samples copies of books at KLB Headquarters.

THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIVE AGENDA FOR NYANDARUA COUNTY

NYANDARUA COUNTY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CIDP) 2018 - 2022

Governor of Nyandarua H.E. Hon Francis Kimemia (2nd l), CEO-State Corporations Advisory Committee Jane Mugambi (r), KLB's Business Development Manager, Evans Toto Nyachienga (2nd r) and Creative Designer Stanley Kuboka (l) during the launch of Nyandarua County Integrated Development Plan at the County's Head Office in OI'Kalou . The CIDP was designed and printed by KLB.

## PARTNERSHIP

**K**enya Literature Bureau (KLB) has entered into partnership agreements with four counties to print and supply learning materials for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions in their counties.

The agreements will ensure that KLB provide learners in Trans Nzoia, West Pokot, Elgeyo Marakwet and Baringo counties easy access of learning materials.

KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria, while visiting Trans Nzoia and West Pokot counties, thanked the counties' leadership for embracing and investing heavily in the growth of ECDE and Village polytechnic institutions.

He added that KLB has developed content to suit learners in all levels of education.

Mr. Lomaria further added that the move to introduce the learning materials directly to county schools is modelled along the Government's programme to distribute free textbooks to all public primary and secondary schools in the country.

"Buying and branding of books directly from the publishers guarantees control. The footnote on every page of the books makes it hard

# Partnership deals inked with counties in North Rift

*By Ronald Kibaron*

for the pirates to reproduce them. It also gives the county a lifeline of ownership," said Lomaria.

Trans Nzoia Deputy Governor, Dr. Stanley Tarus, commended KLB for the role it plays in providing quality reading materials for all the learners in the country.

He assured the MD that Trans Nzoia will not be left behind and

is in full support of the partnership deal stating that the county will get value for its money through efficient printing and publishing of all county works.

West Pokot County Secretary, Dr. Mike Parklea, who represented the Governor during the signing of the partnership deal, thanked KLB for opening up West Pokot through provision of educational materials.

He added that education was the best development investment and West

Pokot was putting it among its top priorities. Dr. Parklea also added that the county, over the years, has been marginalised and literacy levels were still low.

He was hopeful that the partnership deal will help address the challenges facing ECDE and TVET institutions in the county.



*West Pokot Governor, H.E. Prof. John Lonyang'puo, holds up a sample of the customized "Skillgrow" series for ECDE institutions in his County.*

“We are putting ECDE and TVET education among our top priorities as a county. We believe that education is the best leveler. Regardless of people background, they will succeed if they get relevant exposure to learning materials and that is what Kenya Literature Bureau has been doing,” said Dr. Parklea.

West Pokot County Executive Committee Member for Education and Technical Training, Christine Apakoreng, said that the partnership deal will ensure every ECDE and TVET institution gets the essential learning material.

Ms. Apokoreng added that by so doing, every learner in the county accesses the appropriate learning material and thus enhancing the levels of learning in the county.

In Elgeyo Marakwet and Baringo counties, KLB Business Development Manager, Evans Nyachieng’ a explained ostentatiously to the education stakeholders the importance of getting into a partnership deal with KLB. Mr. Nyachieng’ a added that KLB organises workshops/seminars for ECDE and Technical instructors as part of the partnership package.

“Kenya Literature Bureau extends printing and publishing of branded quality learning materials for Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) and County Polytechnics at affordable prices. We also engage in after-sales promotions where KLB takes the ECDE teachers and TVET instructors for workshops/seminars,” said Nyachieng’ a.

Kenya Literature Bureau seeks to use the partnership deals to push the sale of its *SkillGrow Series* for Early Childhood Development Education, *The Innovator Series* for Village Polytechnics and other institutional printing works.



## Staff Trained on National Cohesion and Values

By Joseph Ndegwa

Kenya Literature Bureau is a home of national values, a workplace for all. The principals of national governance are adhered to as was restated during a sensitisation workshop by the Directorate of National Cohesion and Values held in May, 2018 at KLB headquarters in South C, Nairobi.

“KLB is steadfast in promoting equity, human dignity, social justice and inclusiveness at the workplace,” said the Acting Assistant Legal Services manager, Audrey Cheruto during the opening session of the workshop.

She said KLB Human Resource instruments are aligned to the *Constitution of Kenya, 2010* and *Vision 2030*, all of which identify good governance, integrity,

transparency and accountability as critical cogs in the achievement of an organisation’s strategic plan and objectives.

The facilitator of the workshop, Ms. Emelda Mogoi from the Directorate of National Cohesion and Values (DNCV) encouraged participants to internalise critical aspects of the national values for synergy and success at the workplace.

She also outlined the reporting structure on national values and principles of governance for state institutions and the role the Directorate plays in the annual presidential speech.

KLB thanked the team for the facilitation and materials provided at the workshop.

## BUREAU AWARDS WINNERS AT THE 43<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL KESHA CONFERENCE



*Customer Service Manager, Mr. Isaac Korir, presents books to one of the winners in the iTOYA category.*

By Diana Olenja

Kenya Literature Bureau awarded various Principals and teachers with reference and curriculum books worth over one million shillings at the just concluded annual teachers' conference in Mombasa. The conference whose theme was "Re-directing the Education Sector in Kenya" saw the overall winner of Principal of the Year Award walk away with books worth over Four hundred thousands Kenya shillings.

Mr. Victor Lomaria, the Managing Director, while

addressing the Head teachers assured them of the Bureau's continued commitment to produce quality learning materials for their use. Mr. Lomaria invited teachers to pass on their skills and knowledge to young ones through authoring of text books. He urged them to sign up with Kenya Literature Bureau in order to enrich the current pool of authors. He stated that they carry a lot of knowledge which is useful to both current and future generations, especially in light

of the Ministry of Education policies on competency based curriculum.

The Managing Director also thanked the Head teachers for their support during the Government's roll out of free textbooks. He appreciated the extra time they took, out of their normal schedule, to ensure they received all books and urged them to carry on with the same zeal during delivery of phase two books.



*From left: Kenya Literature Bureau's Managing Director, Mr. Victor Lomaria, Board Chairman, Amb. Francis Bayah and KICD Director, Dr. Julius Jwan, conferring before start of the Conference.*

The Innovative Teacher of the Year Award (iTOYA) saw Mr. Michael Fred of Coast Girls take 3<sup>rd</sup> position, Damaris of Machakos emerge 2<sup>nd</sup> and Maxwell Kayesi of Karuri High School in Kiambu overall winner. Teacher of the Year Awards was won by Susan

Waiyaki in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Eric Odemba taking second place and Elijah Ogoti from West Pokot clinch top position.

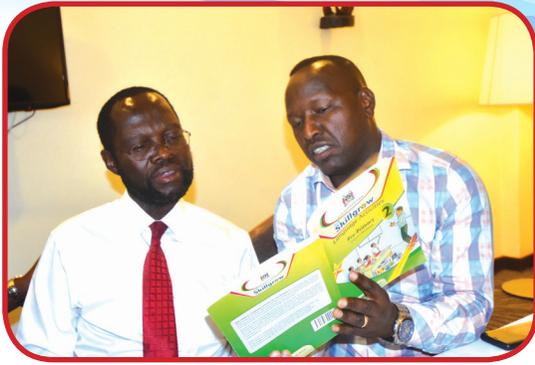
Judith Mwangi of Tumutumu Girls, Florence Ngarari from Pangani Girls and James Ogweno of Ramba Boys in Siaya

County took trophies home for being the best Principals this year. Mr. Ogweno, speaking to the KLB team expressed his happiness at being the top Principal and on his book award he had this to say, "I am grateful that the prizes keep getting better. Our efforts to ensure proper management of schools are being recognised and we thank all sponsors for believing in us."

KESSHA's Chairman, Mr. Fred Indimuli, thanked Kenya Literature Bureau and asked that we continue teaming to reward teachers around the country. He opined that the support extended to teachers beyond the classroom boosted their performance. Mr. Indimuli said that the book donations would help stock school libraries, an initiative he is keen to drive.



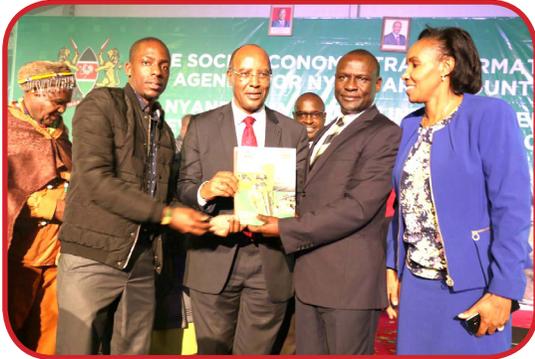
*Conference participants served by the Sales and Customer Service Branch Manager, Mr. Isaac Korir (in red top), at the KLB stand.*



Kisumu Governor Prof. Anyang Nyongo is shown a copy of Skillgrow textbooks by KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria (right)



Nandi County governor Hon. Stephen Sang (r) and KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria (l) sign partnership deal between KLB and the County Government of Nandi



Nyandarua Governor, Francis Kimemia (second left), State Corporation Advisory Committee CEO, Jane Mugambi (right) KLB Business Development Manager Evans Nyachieng'a (second right) and Creative Designer, Stanley Kuboka at the launch of Nyandarua County CIDP. The document was designed and printed by KLB.



Narok Governor Samuel Ole Tunai (second left) admires copies of KLB ECDE textbooks as KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria (second left), Business Development Manager Evans Toto and Narok Chief Officer Education & Social Services Cecilia Wangari looks on



Vihiga County Governor Wilber Ottichilo (centre) launched the distribution of KLB Skillgrow textbooks to all County ECDE Centres in a ceremony held at Idavaga Muslim Primary in Mbale on September 19, 2018. KLB Chairman Amb Francis Bayah and Managing Director Victor Lomaria attended the event.



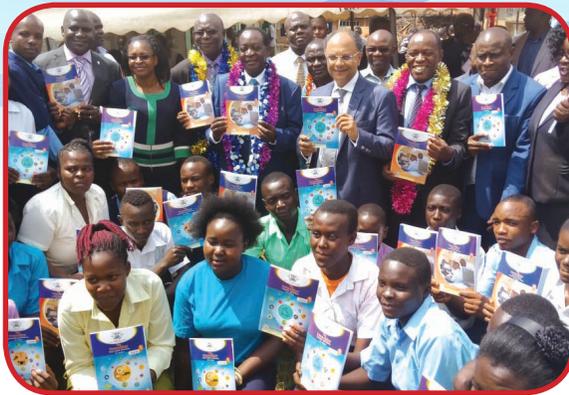
Meru Governor Kiraitu Murungi (left), Education CEC Linah Nkirote (centre) and Deputy Governor Titus Ntuchiu distributing books to pupils of Kiwanja Primary School on September 25, 2018.



Trans Nzoia Deputy Governor, Dr. Stanley Tarus (left) and KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria at the County Headquarters in Kitale.



Tharaka Nithi County CEC Education Youth Culture Tourism and Sports, Abraham Kirema (centre) receives copies of KLB Innovator and Skillgrow books from KLB Business Development Manager Evans Nyachieng'a (right) as Francis Mithika looks on.



TVET Principal Secretary Kevin Desai, Vihiga Governor Dr. Wilber Ottichilo, Deputy Governor Dr. Patrick Lumumba (seated left) and Chief Officer for Education Mary Anyiendah and Business Development Manager Evans Nyachei'ga during the distribution of technical books published by KLB on September 20, 2018.



FROM LEFT - RIGHT: KLB Senior Sales and Marketing Officer Robert Too, West Pokot County Chief Officer for Education Mary Ngoriakes, KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria, West Pokot County Secretary Mike Parklea, CEC for Education Christine Apakoreng and KLB Business Development Manager Evans Nyachei'ga at KLB head-office in Nairobi.



Marsabit Governor, Mohamud Mohamed (centre), receives a draft MoU from KLB Business Development Manager, Evans Nyachei'ga (second left) at the county's liaison office in Nairobi. Looking on is Marsabit County CEC for Environment and Water Kulamo Bullo (second right), KLB Market Development Officer Vivian Arawo and the Governor's PA.



KLB MD Victor Lomaria (fourth right) and Kajiado County Secretary Francis Sakuda (second right) signed an MoU at KLB headoffice in Nairobi. CEC Education Seki Lenku (centre), Chief Officer for Education Francis Mbugua (second left), KLB Assistant legal Services Manager Audrey Cheruto (left) and Market Development Officer Achola Arawo look on.



KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria (centre) exchange copies of a signed MoU with Elgeyo Marakwet Governor Alex Tolgos (second right) at KLB head-office in Nairobi. KLB Business Development Manager Evans Toto (second left), County Chief of Staff Abraham Barmasai (right) and Assistant Development Officer Yagan Biwott.



Bungoma Deputy Governor Prof Charles Ngome received copies of branded ECDE and Technical books from KLB Business Development Manager Evans Nyachei'ga (right) at the County headquarters in Bungoma.



Wajir County CEC for Education, Habiba Hussein (left) and KLB Business Development Manager, Evans Nyachei'ga after signing an MoU at KLB head-office in Nairobi.



Idavaga Muslim ECDE School children marvel at the content of KLB books supplied to them by the County Government of Vihiga.

# Creating Brand Ambassadors for Greater Sales

*By Sofi Owuor*

The title's meaning has evolved but the underlying principle is still the same, a brand ambassador is an individual engaged by an organisation or company to represent their brand in a positive light and, by doing so, aid in increasing brand awareness and sales.

We have all encountered a brand ambassador, be it at your favourite supermarket or shopping store, energetically urging you to try their latest product or a hawker feverishly peddling household insecticide. As brand ambassadors, they understand (or purportedly understand) what they are selling.

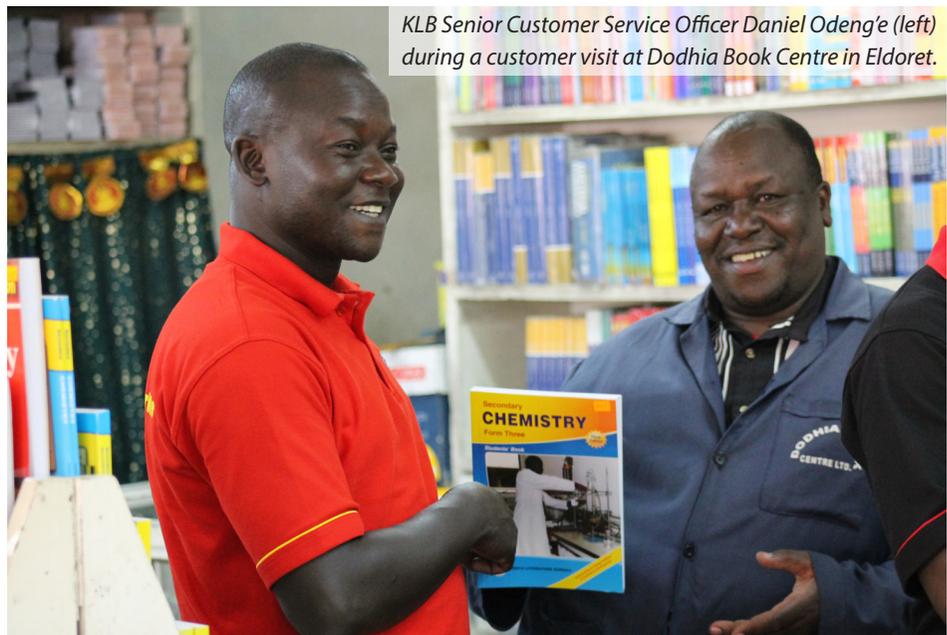
However, contracted ambassador's loyalty to the brand is conditionally to the monetary reward they will receive from pushing the brand sales. Nevertheless, many companies engage external individuals to help lift their brands' visibility, even at the risk of having a roving ambassador who moves from promoting a certain brand to promoting the competitors brand.

The impact on sales and image is reversed when dealing with such wavering brand promoters, except in instances where brand quality is consistent and reliable.

Perhaps, this is the reason why Kenya Literature Bureau has invested more in its employees, who readily promoted company products and services to existing and potential clients. At the Sales and Customer Service Branch, our loyalty is steadfast to the KLB brand. We are the first line of brand ambassadors providing quality service to our customers.

Product knowledge has played a vital part in enabling us to be effective brand ambassadors. Opening for business on Saturdays has given our customers the convenience of buying books from us on a weekend, thereby earning the Bureau their unwavering loyalty and trust.

Internal facilitation of site visits, especially to the KLB production press has played a critical role in broadening the understanding of staff and booksellers on the steps taken in book production, making them great ambassadors of our books to schools countrywide.



*KLB Senior Customer Service Officer Daniel Odeng'e (left) during a customer visit at Dodhia Book Centre in Eldoret.*

By Joseph Ndegwa

Kenya Literature Bureau (KLB) held a series of staff team-building events in Nairobi to keep alive the commitment to achieve the goals of the 2016-2020 strategic plan, which envisions to transform KLB into a leading publishing house of quality knowledge materials in the region. The event, held at the Bomas of Kenya in June 2018, involved various activities, including outdoor and fun class engagements.

DGMB Management Solutions facilitated the team-building sessions, which were designed to create structured opportunities for employees to mingle. At the event, participants were encouraged to always be curious about what others do, to satisfy one's interest and get introduced to new workgroups for enhanced cross-department cooperation, understanding and productivity.

Mrs. Roselyn Mugavana, the KLB Human Resources Manager, while speaking at the opening sessions of the team building series asked participants to "go an extra mile" to accomplish tasks that will uplift the Bureau to higher levels of recognition.

"I am optimistic that this team building session will foster synergy and equip you with right tools to manage challenges at the workplace," she said.

"Let us work in concert to fulfill the strategic objectives and plans of the Bureau," she

## Team-Building Sessions Held for KLB Staff

added, while outlining the benefits of team work and understanding at the workplace.

DGMB team leader, David Kemei, also emphasised the importance of "consultation, teamwork and mentorship" saying the foundation of knowledge was the wisdom of accepting to be advised.

"It enables one to learn new skills and approaches while furthering their relationships with co-workers," he said.

The combination of class and outdoor events was stimulating to the mind, which made the exercises fun and enjoyable.

### Workplace mentorship

One-on-one mentoring is important for employees and it is always recommended when you bring a new employee into your organisation. Group mentoring by a senior manager or manager is another opportunity for team building as well. Employees learn new skills and approaches while furthering their relationships with co-workers.

A second type of group mentoring involves having an employee who has a particular skill set teach other employees who want to learn. The employee can mentor groups of others to gain the skill or knowledge.



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# Appointments

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Audrey Cheruto  
Assistant Legal Services Manager



Job Munialo  
Senior Sales and Marketing Officer



Jacob Sembele  
Senior Sales and Marketing Officer



Doris Kabira  
Sales and Marketing Officer



Daudi Sobera  
Sales and Marketing Officer

# KLB leads publishers at the 21st KPSA AGM

By Mwaniki Kibui

The role that private schools play in promoting literacy in Kenya is a critical one. This was well communicated by this year's theme "Transformational Leadership for Quality Private Schools" of the Kenya Private Schools Association (KPSA) Annual General Meeting, the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of its kind, which was held at Pride Inn Paradise Hotel in Shanzu, Mombasa County.

Kenya Literature Bureau (KLB) took advantage of the event, in which over one thousand delegates were in attendance, to display quality educational products as well as engage school directors and County Education Officials among others who were present. The platform was also utilised by Dr. Phillis Mwangi, one of the authors

of "English Literacy Activities", an approved title under the new Competency Based Curriculum published and printed by KLB.

The Guest of Honour, Hon. William Kingi, Deputy Governor of Mombasa County commended the delegates on their efforts to provide skills and knowledge when speaking during the event. He went on to commend Kenya Literature Bureau for their exceptional work in producing curriculum materials that are unmatched in the market.

Dr. Phillis Mwangi's presentation on 'Selecting appropriate teaching and learning materials' won acclaim for its comprehensive essence. She gave appreciation to KLB for their support and assured the assembly of educators that

our books are well crafted to suit learners and facilitators in all levels.

Kenya Literature Bureau was represented by Mr. Isaac Korir - Customer Service Manager, Mr. Benard Obura - Sales and Marketing Manager, Mr. Kenneth Jumba - Publishing Manager, Ms. Mukui Mbaluka - Assistant Sales and Marketing Officer and Mr. Joseph Nyiri - Senior Sales and Marketing Officer who addressed the conference on behalf of the Managing Director where he gave a profile of our titles and reassured delegates that they are available for purchase countrywide. He also briefed them of our capacity to print a variety of products.

The KPSA National Chairperson, Ms. Mutheu Kasanga, praised KLB for maintaining their standards and urged the publisher to continue producing relevant curriculum materials. The event ran from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April.



KLB Customer Service Manager, Isaac Korir (second left), engaging Mombasa County Deputy Governor Dr. William Kingi at the KLB stand during the annual KPSA conference in Mombasa. KLB Senior Sales and Marketing Officer Joseph Nyiri, (right) and Assistant Sales and Marketing Officer, Mukui Mbaluka (left) look on.



Dr. Phyllis Mwangi, AN author with KLB (r) during her presentation at the 21st KPSA AGM.

# KLB partners with KEPSHA to host the annual primary school heads conference

By Bernard Kibui

The annual Kenya Primary School Heads Association (KEPSHA) conference was held at Sheikh Zayed Centre in Mombasa mid-August.

At its 14<sup>th</sup> edition, the conference brought together government officials, head teachers, book publishers, unions and enterprises, to take stock of progress made in primary school education and also to scout for available business opportunities.

Kenya Literature Bureau was one of the main sponsors of the event, providing stationery for over 10 thousand delegates in attendance. The sponsorship package came with significant on-site benefits and media visibility.

As a result, delegates thronged the KLB booth, buying textbooks for their schools and children. It was also an opportunity for the receive feedback from customers on its

products and services.

Addressing delegates at the conference, KLB Sales and Marketing manager, Bernard Obura asked school heads to “use KLB books as they are of high quality and content.”

“Use KLB books to improve learning outcomes in your schools,” he said assuring teachers of the Bureau’s commitment to continue and expand its corporate social value programs, especially book donation.

His sentiments were echoed by the acting Assistant Sales and Marketing Manager, David Kimita who extolled the qualities of KLB books to the gathering.

“Our books are authored by teachers just like you, hence the



*KLB Customer Service Manager Isaac Korir (left), Ag. Assistant Sales and Marketing Manager, David Kimita (second left) and Sales and Marketing Manager Bernard Obura (centre) engage delegates at the KLB exhibition booth in Mombasa.*

ensures our content is relevant and updated,” he said.

Apart from curriculum books, KLB has a long catalogue of revision books for primary schools as well as readers and other relevant reference materials.

KEPSHA is an umbrella body of headteachers of primary schools, enjoying a membership of 26,000. It seeks to shape education policy for primary schools and provides a platform for primary school heads to air their hopes and concerns. It also trains its membership on effective leadership and management for the benefit of the schools they serve in.

KLB was represented by Customer Service Manager Isaac Korir, Acting Finance Manager Kenneth Adongo, Sales and Marketing Assistant Duncan Gichuru and Assistant Corporate Communications Officer Bernard Kibui.



*KLB Area Sales Manager - Coast Region, Doris Kabira (right) engages a customer at the conference in Mombasa.*

# Bungoma joins KLB family of county partners

By Mwaniki Kibui

Kenya Literature Bureau (KLB) extended its portfolio of county government partnerships by signing an agreement with the County Government of Bungoma to supply Early Years Educational Materials for ECDE learning as well as provide quality publications for the tertiary institutions in the County.

Speaking during the signing of the document, Bungoma County Deputy Governor, H.E. Prof. Charles Ngome declared that the partnership between the County and Kenya Literature Bureau

was informed by carefully evaluating all providers of books in the country of which KLB was deemed to have the best products as well as an accountable framework that ensures value for investment.

“We look forward to this particular engagement as we seek other ways to partner in order to execute our mandate effectively,” he said during the meeting that was held at the County Government Offices located in Bungoma Town. He was present on behalf of the Governor, H.E. Wycliffe Wangamati.

KLB’s Business Development Manager, Mr. Evans Nyachieng’a who was representing the Managing Director, Mr. Victor Lomaria, comprehensively

explained to the congregation the various business capacities that the Bureau is capable of extending to the County including (but not limited to), institutional printing of County documents like bills and reports, training of teachers and discounted prices on titles purchased directly from the institution.

Also present during the occasion were; Bungoma County Director of Education - Mr. Cyrus Wanyonyi, Chief of Staff - Mr. Allan Chenene, Deputy County Secretary - Mr. Chrysantus Wamalwa and CEC in Charge of Education and Vocational Training - Dr. Betty Mayeku.

The Bureau will publish customised copies of the *Skillgrow* books for Early Childhood Development Education and *Innovator Series* for Vocational Training Institutions for Bungoma to be distributed by the County Government to various schools in all Sub Counties in order to ensure that knowledge is dispersed to empower the community.

Mr. Job Munialo - Sales and Marketing Officer, who serves as the Regional Manager, was also present and invited the Deputy Governor and others present to visit KLB and see the fully fledged printing press proficient in producing all types of printed works at affordable prices without compromising the quality that has made KLB the preferred publishing and printing partner of various companies, corporations, businesses and governments.



Bungoma County Deputy Governor, H.E. Charles Kibanani Ngome (3rd l) and KLB's Business Development Manager, Mr. Evans Nyachieng'a (2nd r) exchange copies of the signed agreement as onlookers applaud.

# KLB publishes top military officer who served Presidents

By Patrick Kyunguti

Appearances can be very deceptive. Looking at Dr. Major (Rtd) Shadrack M Muiu, one would be forgiven for imagining that he is just an ordinary Kenyan farmer spending his retirement in his ranch in Sultan Hamud, Makueni County. And yet Major Dr. Muiu has dined and offered protection to the high and mighty in Kenya. As a military officer and the first indigenous commandant of the Administration Police, Major Dr. Muiu has served all the Presidents in Kenya since independence, having been commissioned by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain. He has served with the founding father of the Kenya Nation, His Excellency President Jomo Kenyatta CGH. His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi CGH. MP. His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki CGH. MP. and His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta CGH. MP.

## New Book Release

Kenya Literature Bureau has just released a book by one of the distinguished former military officers and now Commissioner with Kenya National Police Service Commission. The book is titled *Careers in Kenya's Security Organs: A Handbook for Aspiring Students*



Major (Rtd) Dr. Shadrack Muiu receiving a medal of Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) Life Governor from H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta

and Youth. It crystallises Major Dr. Muiu's knowledge and experience in the security services from the time he joined the army in 1957 to date. Major Dr. Muiu has seen it all from the time he served in the military during the colonial times to our present times and has witnessed handing over of power from one President to another.

*Careers in Kenya's Security Organs: A Handbook for Aspiring Students and Youth* is an interesting book that gives the reader information about the various security organs and the requirements for those who would like to serve in the security services. The book demystifies Kenya's security organs that for decades have remained outside the radar of ordinary Kenyans. It extols hard work, discipline, fear of God and love for Country as qualities that Kenyans from all walks of life should nurture in order to have a cohesive, peaceful and prosperous nation.

## His Service in the Military and the Police

Having been recruited into the army in December 1957, Major Dr. Muiu served East Africa Kings African Rifles (KAR) for a number of years and gained

great knowledge and experience in warfare. He was among the officers who lowered the union jack at independence in June 1963 and raised the Kenyan flag marking a new chapter in Kenya's history. "It was a thrilling event," he adds clearly remembering this defining moment for our country with nostalgia. He was a founder member of the Kenya Army and because of his experience and competence as a Military Officer, he was picked among others and sent for training in Britain, Canada and USA with the sole aim of Africanising and professionalising the Kenya Army on return under his bosses.

## Formation of other Security Organs

On return Major Dr. Muiu took part in Africanising the Kenya Army and saw the formation of the Kenya Air Force in January 1964 and Kenya Navy in the month of March.

As a Brigade Major In 1976, Major Dr. Muiu under the able command of Brigadier Stanley Ayub, was part of the brains behind the formation of Kenya Army's Western Brigade now 2 Brigade to deal with Uganda at the time President Amin

wanted to annex part of Kenya up to Naivasha and make it part of the Ugandan territory.

He also coordinated all the fighting units in the Kenya Defence Forces which included the Homeland Police to defeat the Somalia Army which had waged war against Kenya and Ethiopia simultaneously with the sole purpose of annexing North Eastern Kenya and Ogaden Province in Ethiopia. This Brigade was the one which spearheaded the removal of Al-shaabab from the highly priced Kismaiyu Port in Somalia and continued with its sister Brigade to secure Kenya's borders.

Major Dr. Muiu together with other gallant soldiers in the security services operating in the background of Kenya's politics shepherded Kenya through turbulent times and maintained peace in the country when neighbouring countries were pervaded by violence and military coups such as happened in Uganda and Somalia.

### **Trainer of Administrators**

Other than his military prowess, Major Dr. Muiu has been trained in Police Management with Manchester Police in the United Kingdom and has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the United States International University. He holds a Doctorate in Theology.

He was instrumental in the formation of the Utawala Academy demonstrating his love for education. He has trained many people such as Chiefs, DOs, DCs and Provincial Administrators who included Hon. Kinuthia Mbugua, first Governor of Nakuru County and now Comptroller of State House, and other top officers such as former head of Civil Service Francis Kimemia and PC Peter Kiilu etc, not forgetting the countless

military officers who have passed through his hands. He is credited for coming up with new uniform for the Kenya Police and Administration Police wear in 1979 to replace the shorts they wore during colonial times.

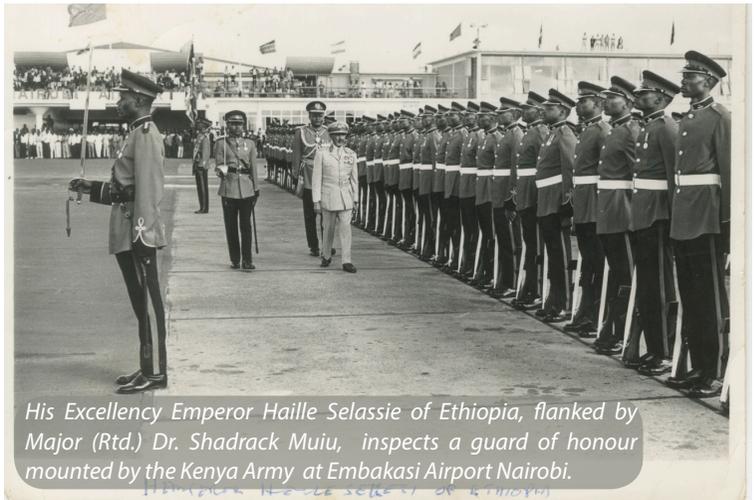
Major Dr. Muiu was instrumental in starting KWS Rangers and Marine Rangers including Airport Security personnel in 1976.

### **Distinguished Careers in the Civil Service**

Major Dr. Muiu was appointed by the founding father of the Kenya Nation the late Hon. Jomo Kenyatta EGH. as the first indigenous Commandant of the Administration Police Service in January 1978. In 2013, he was appointed Commissioner, Kenya National Police Service Commission by President Mwai Kibaki, which serves to date. In 2015, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta appointed him Life Governor of the Agricultural Society of Kenya. Major Dr. Muiu says it is fulfilling for him to have given his all over 60 years of distinguished service on security matters in Kenya.

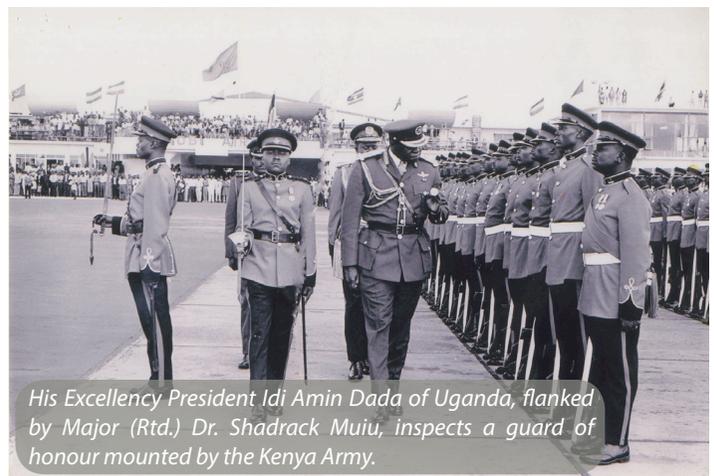
### **Community Service**

As a way of giving back to the society Major Dr. Muiu and his wife Dr.



*His Excellency Emperor Haille Selassie of Ethiopia, flanked by Major (Rtd.) Dr. Shadrack Muiu, inspects a guard of honour mounted by the Kenya Army at Embakasi Airport Nairobi.*

Esther Muiu HSC, a teacher by profession are availing education opportunities to bright children from disadvantaged communities. They started Oasis Girls High School situated in Sultan Hamud, County of Makueni. The school is founded on principles of strong values and traditions, hard work and service to others. They are moulding a generation of leaders of young people who shall make a contribution to the welfare of the society.



*His Excellency President Idi Amin Dada of Uganda, flanked by Major (Rtd.) Dr. Shadrack Muiu, inspects a guard of honour mounted by the Kenya Army.*

# Phoebe Asiyo, the trailblazer, tells her story in a book

By Joseph Ndegwa

Kenya Literature Bureau has published a memoir by Kenya's first female Prisons Superintendent and first chairperson of Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organisation (the largest grassroots women's organisation in the region), Phoebe Muga Asiyo, whose launch was graced by President Uhuru

Period, political leadership and representation of Karachuonyo Constituency in the National Assembly, the struggles for affirmative action and interactions as a diplomat working for UNIFEM.

During the launch, President Kenyatta called on Kenyans to preserve their country's history,

"Mama Asiyo has done a good job of preserving lessons of the past and transmitting its wisdom to future generations," he said.

Mama Asiyo, best remembered for the 1997 Affirmative Action Bill is an ambassador of hope for women, a champion of good governance and gender equity. Her struggle to expand space



Mama Phoebe Asiyo (right) speaks at the launch of her memoir at State House Nairobi on 23rd August 2018. President Uhuru Kenyatta graced the event as Chief Guest.

Kenyatta at State House, Nairobi on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018, making a history of sorts.

*It is Possible: An African Woman Speaks* recaptures her life growing up in Kendu-Bay, her experiences in Kangaru Teachers College, social work during the 1952 Emergency

culture and heritage through writing.

"Her story tracks the growth and development of this nation and it gives me, personally, optimism that any nation that produces patriots like Mama Asiyo certainly has its best days ahead of it," the President said.

for girls and women is littered with painful cultural beliefs that promoted male chauvinism and the seemingly insurmountable political obstacles, which she overcome and pushed back.

In the book, Mama Asiyo shares gems that inspired her to become a

leading trumpeter of women rights across continents. On her service at the Kenya Prisons, Mama Asiyu says in the autobiography: “Part of my duties involved caring for and counselling in-mates on death row. I prayed with them and their families.”

President Uhuru Kenyatta said, “She is a trailblazer and that is why I am so proud to be here to launch her book and the women trailblazers program.”

**“There is so much more to learn from our past that will benefit current and future generations.”**

**-Mama Phoebe Asiyu-**

Speaking at the launch, Mama Asiyu expressed her deep gratitude to KLB for the publication.

“I thank the publisher of this book, Kenya Literature Bureau. Ambassador Francis Bayah, the Board Chairman and Victor Lomaria, the CEO of the organisation, have done exemplarily well together with their committed strong team of staff,” she said.

She challenged other women leaders to pen their memoirs in order to “preserve our heritage, our history and our culture.”

“There is so much more to learn from our past that will benefit current and future generations,” she said.

A trained teacher, Mama Asiyu plunged into the unknown depth of social work, determined to ease the burden of women and children born at the height of the 1952 State of Emergency.



*President Uhuru Kenyatta pins the Order of the Golden Warrior (OGW) State Commendation Award to Kamla Sikand, a women rights activist at State House, Nairobi*

She rose through the ranks to become a leading crusader of women rights, an endeavour that saw her work with international institutions such as the UN Women UNDP, UNIFEM, Pathfinder USA, CEDPA and CIDA.

Mama Asiyu also served as Member of Parliament for Karachuonyo Constituency for an uninterrupted period of 10 years (1979 – 1988) and later from 1992 to 1997. *It is Possible* is, therefore, a story of hope, grit and determination of a woman; a triumph over adversity, a story that gives voice to women and an ear to men.

### Trailblazer awards

Eminent women were conferred national honours by His Excellency the President at the State investiture. Hon Nyiva Mwendwa, the first woman to serve as a Cabinet Minister and elected for the post of Kitui West Constituency MP three times received the Order of the Golden Heart of Kenya, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, Elder of the Golden Heart (EGH); Ida Odinga (EGH); and Her Worship Margaret Kenyatta (EGH posthumous).

The Order of the Burning Spear, 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Chief of the Burning Spear (CBS) went to Hon. Phoebe Asiyu who is the founder and trustee of Maendeleo Ya Wanawake and the longest serving female MP (1979-1997); Hon. Grace Onyango (CBS); Hon. Dr. Julia Ojiambo (CBS); Hon. Beth Mugo (CBS); Lady Justice Joyce Aluoch (CBS); Hon. Zipporah Kittony (CBS); and Prof. Wanjiku Kabira (CBS). 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Elder of the Burning Spear went to Prof. Eddah Gachukia; Honorine Kiplagat (EBS); Dr Jane

Kiano (EBS); Lady Justice Effie Owuor (EBS); Muringo Kierieni (EBS); Prof Maria Nzomo (EBS); Prof Leah Marangu (EBS); KLB author Muthoni Likimani (EBS); and Mary Okello (EBS).

Evangeline Muli (MBS); Dr. Jennifer Riria (MBS); Wilkister Onsando (MBS); Joan Mjomba (MBS); and Jael Mbogo (MBS) received the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class, Moran of the Burning Spear. Finally, the Order of the Golden Warrior of Kenya award went to Teresah Shitakha (OGW); Terry Kantai (OGW); Kamla Sikand (OGW); Her Excellency Rukia Subow (OGW); and Rose Waruhiu (OGW).

The launch at State House was attended by dignitaries, among them First Lady Margaret Kenyatta, Deputy President H.E. William Ruto, former Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, Education Cabinet Secretary Amb. Amina Mohammed, Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs Cabinet Secretary Prof. Margaret Kobia, Chief Administrative Secretary Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs, Hon. Rachel Shebesh, Principal Secretary State Department of Gender Affairs, Hon. Safina Tsungu, State House Chief of Staff, Nzioka Waita, State House Comptroller Kinuthia Mbugua and Mama Ida Odinga.

Others were Kisii Governor James Ongwae, Kisumu Governor Prof. Anyang Nyongo, Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru, Kitui Governor Charity Ngilu, Bomet Governor Joyce Laboso, Controller of Budget Agnes Odhiambo, KLB Board Chairman Amb. Francis Bayah, KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria and KICD Chief Executive Officer Dr. Julius Jwan. Members of the diplomatic corps, Deputy Governors and Women Parliamentarians were also present.



Education Cabinet Secretary Amb. Amina Mohamed (left) greets KLB Board Chairman Amb. Francis Bayah during the launch of Mama Asiyo's book at State House, Nairobi. Present was KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria (Second left) and Kabondo Kasipul MP Eve Obara.



Mama Phoebe Asiyo (seated) autographing her book for the Principal Secretary, State Department of Gender Affairs, Safina Tsungu (left).



Women leaders and other guests at the launch of Mama Phoebe Asiyo's memoir at State House, Nairobi on 23rd August, 2018.

# Lake Ol' Bolossat birds, hippos get voices to sing



(Photo & text - Dan Maangi.)

Health CS, Cecily Kariuki (left), Kenya's Ambassador to France, Prof. Judi Wakhungu (second left), Tourism and Wildlife CS, Hon. Najib Balala, Nyandarua Governor, Francis Kimemia, prominent lawyer, Karanja Kabage (second right) and Nyandarua First Lady, Amb. Ann Wanjohi (right) tour Lake Ol' Bolossat, venue of the 2018 World Wetlands Day celebrations.

## By Joseph Ndegwa

*"For many of us, water simply flows from a faucet, and we think little about it beyond this point of conflict. We have lost a sense of respect for the wild river, for the complex workings of a wetland, for the intricate web of life that water supports."* - Sandra Postel -

It is great you get to read this thought by Postel, the director and founder of the Global Water Policy Project and world renowned expert on fresh water issues and related ecosystems. It is even greater that you are reading

it at a time when global warming, over-exploitation of wetlands and water scarcity is fueling conflict between communities in Laikipia and other areas of the country.

Yes, statements are important because authors write what they think should be done to make living more enjoyable, orderly and sustainable.

And now, the government has just declared Lake Ol' Bolossat the "seventh most important wetland area in Kenya." The announcement was made by the outgoing Environment and Natural

Resources Cabinet Secretary, Prof Judi Wakhungu (now Kenya's ambassador to France), during the World Wetlands Day celebration on February 2, in Nyandarua County, an annual event bringing together governments, non-governmental organisations and groups to champion conservation, rehabilitation and protection of wetlands around the world.

For many years, farmers and land grabbers have increasingly encroached on Lake Ol' Bolossat, thereby threatening its future existence. Experts had warned that the ongoing ubiquitous land-

use changes witnessed in the last decade, which are attributed to the serene and humid tropical conditions of the highland, are a danger to the lake.

Postel says something that should set individuals, groups and lobbies thinking and making great statements and acting towards promoting sustainable use and management of wetlands.

As 'kidneys of the landscape', wetlands are critical in the functioning of the world hydrological and chemical samples. It consists of rivers, lakes, swamps, rice paddies, sea shore, dams, and tributaries amongst others. Wetlands also play a regulatory role in climate systems, water purification, and waste removal, re-charge of ground water and provide a suitable homage to many aquatic plants and animals.

The forum at Lake Ol' Bolossat, therefore, encouraged residents to speak against environmentally threatening activities and the Eucalyptus tree, which sucks gallons of water and is a danger to wetlands.

Its theme, 'Wetlands for a Sustainable Urban Future' is important because urban wetlands make cities habitable in many important ways – they reduce flooding, replenish drinking water, filter waste, provide urban green spaces, and are a source of livelihoods. The importance of integrating urban wetlands into cities sustainable future planning and development was emphasized.

Speaking at the event, the National Land Commission chairman, Prof Mohammed Swazuri, issued a public notice dissolving all titles held by individuals within a thirty metres radius of Lake Ol' Bolossat, pursuant to Section 152A, 152B and 152C of the *National Land Act*. Residents were, therefore, given

90 days to vacate the gazetted area.

The 43.3 square Kilometers lake is an important bird breeding area, hosting over 40 rare bird species like the Palearctic migrant water birds. It is also home to giant hippos and hedge hogs. In 2007, Lake Ol' Bolossat was recognised as the **61<sup>st</sup> Important Bird Area** in Kenya. It is the only natural lake in central Kenya and supplies water to Thompson Falls and Ewaso Ngiro rivers.

Kenya Literature Bureau sponsored the event and was recognised for its commitment and contribution towards environmental conservation initiatives. KLB was also recognised as a leading publisher and printer and specifically as the largest distributor of school textbooks countrywide.

The event was attended by Tourism Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Najib Balala (as Chief Guest), Health Cabinet Secretary, Cecily Kariuki, Prof. Judi Wakhungu, Nyandarua Governor, H.E. Francis Kimemia, Laikipia Governor, H.E. Ndiritu Muriithi, Tharaka Nithi Governor, H.E. Muthomi Njuki, Nyandarua

Senator, Paul Githiomi Mwangi, Nyandarua Deputy Governor, Cecilia Mbutia, Ol Jorrook MP, Hon. Michael Muchira, Ndaragwa MP, Jeremiah Kioni, Principal Secretary, State Department of Natural Resources, Dr. Margaret Mwakima and Prof. Swazuri.

Former Nyandarua Governor, Waithaka Mwangi, County Commissioner, Samuel Kimiti, NEMA Director General, Prof. Geoffrey Wahungu, NEMA Chairman, John Konchella, Acting Director of Kenya Wildlife Service, Julius Kimani, Ambassador Ann Wanjohi of the Kenya Mission to the UN (and First Lady, Nyandarua County), Dr. John Chumo of National Environment Complaints Committee, Joyce Kivata of Wetlands International, Chairperson of the Green Belt Movement, Marion Kamau, local Members of the County Assembly, CEC's, among others, were also present.

KLB was represented by Warehouse Manager, Gideon Mjambili, Senior Communications Officer, Joseph Ndegwa and Peter Ng'ang'a (Driver).



*Tourism and Wildlife Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Najib Balala planting a tree at Nyandarua County headquarters to commemorate World Wetlands Day.*

AWARD

# KLB awarded for tax compliance

By Ronald Kibaron



*KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria (right), receives an award from KRA Public Division Sector Manager, Jamin Bwonya for exemplary tax payment.*

**K**enya Literature Bureau (KLB) has been recognised by the taxman for consistent and prompt remittance of tax to the exchequer. According to Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), the body responsible for tax collection, KLB is up-to-the-minute in tax compliance.

While receiving the acknowledgement from KRA, the vividly happy Managing Director, Mr Victor Lomaria said that the Bureau was doing all within the law to ensure timely remittance of tax to the exchequer.

He added that though it appeared a simple gesture, it was indeed a great honour to the KLB fraternity at large. "When I was told that KRA was coming, I was worried but I was reassured when I was informed that they were coming to recognise the good work we are doing," said Mr Lomaria.

The KRA team led by Jamin Bwonya, a supervisor at KRA Public Sector Division, recognised

KLB for being among the best tax compliers in the country.

Mr. Bwonya said that it was only through tax payment that government operations would run smoothly, hence the need for early remittance. He said that the government was developing a more harmonised tax regime to ensure effective and efficient usability.

KLB Finance Manager, Mr. Francis Mutunga applauded KRA for the good work they are doing to ensure increased tax collection. He said the Bureau would continue safeguarding the interests of the Country by timely payment of tax.

"We see hope in the current leadership at KRA. The KRA of the past would only visit an organisation when they wanted to follow on the issue with tax compliance," said Mr. Mutunga.



*Kenya Literature Bureau MD, Victor Lomaria (fifth left) and Kenya Revenue Authority Public Division Sector Manager, Mr. Jamin Bwonya (fourth left) together with other KLB and KRA officials pose for a group photo after the award presentation.*

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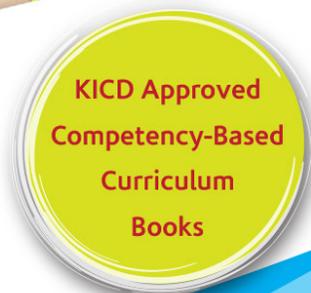
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