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HUNDREDS TURN OUT FOR KLB BOOK LAUNCH IN BARINGO

By Ronald Kibaron

The launch of the book "The Orror Marriage Process" authored by Michael Chesikaw and published by Kenya Literature Bureau (KLB) at the Kenya School of Government, Baringo was a day of learning for many, including those who thought they knew everything about Orror culture



Author Michael Chesikaw (l) presents a copy of the book to KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria (r) after it was officially unveiled.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Chesikaw said that the decision to write the book was motivated by the desire to preserve the Orror traditions and culture, which is increasingly being eroded by other cultures and emerging technologies.

"I once attended a ceremony in my home and what I saw worried me. Blatant disregard of the precious values handed down to us by our forefathers," said Chesikaw.

He said the book is a manual to guide the community, especially, the current and future generations to uphold indigenous values and beliefs of the society. Mr.

Chesikaw thanked KLB for publishing the book emphasizing contributions made by the KLB Managing Director Victor Lomaria in ensuring the book meets the required quality.

"KLB offered immeasurable support towards the publication of this book. The Managing Director, Victor Lomaria with his team ensured that the book was well designed, edited and published within a short time," added Chesikaw. Baringo County Governor, Stanley Kiptis, lauded the author and KLB for the step taken in documenting the traditional culture of the Orror Community adding that the move will rescue the society from cultural decay.



Dignitaries and guests follow up the proceedings of the book launch

The Governor encouraged the residents to market the county through publications.

"Tourism nowadays is not about wildlife and amazing landscape, it is about the culture and the people. Thank you Chesikaw and KLB for taking the lead in telling the world about our culture," said Governor Kiptis.

Governor Kiptis further urged the residents, particularly the youth, to embrace traditions, culture and practice its traditions in order to guard it from the threat of extinction occasioned by technological trends. He appreciated the national government for re-introducing vernacular languages in the new curriculum adding that it will inject life into the dying cultures.

KLB Managing Director, Victor Lomaria, who was the chief guest, thanked all the attendees for making time to witness the historic launch. He added that KLB prioritized the publishing of the book since it found it a resourceful manual documenting the very vital values, beliefs, norms and preferences which make and hold together the Orror community and the larger Tugen tribe.

Mr. Lomaria further added that KLB will continue publishing books which promote local traditions, culture and heritage noting that such information resources were few in the country.

“The country has a shortage of such books and we at Kenya Literature Bureau continue to encourage individuals with indigenous information to come to us and we will not hesitate in trying to help,” said Lomaria.

Baringo North Member of Parliament, Hon. William Cheptumo, thanked the organisers of the event saying that it has created awareness of the Orror invaluable culture. He challenged parents to ensure that they pass on the positive cultural values to their children to ensure prolonged existence of this heritage.



Guests follow the proceedings of the book launch

Notable scholars from the area, professionals, politicians, elders and clergy attended the book launch. Kenya Literature Bureau was represented by Publishing Manager, Kenneth Jumba, Senior Designer, Martin Ngugi, Senior Marketing Officer, Marjoriey Mukui and Assistant Corporate Communications Officer, Ronald Kibaron