

PARLIAMENT  
OF KENYA  
LIBRARY

SURVEY OF ACTIVITIES

---

**NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA  
JULY 1995 - JUNE 1997.**

PARLIAMENT  
OF KENYA  
LIBRARY

The Museums Mission Statement is to collect, document, preserve, study and present our past and present cultural heritage and enhance knowledge appreciation, respect management and use of these resources for the benefits of Kenya and the world.



# BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1995/96

Prof P. L. Shalo  
Professor, Egerton University

Prof Stephen Gichuki Njuguna  
Representative,  
East African Natural History Society

Fleur Ng'weno  
East African Natural History Society

David Andere  
National Council for Science and Technology

Prof Henry Mutoro  
Professor of History, University of Nairobi

Stanley Thuo  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs and National  
Heritage - (upto September 1995)

Fred E. O. G. Mwangi  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs and National  
Heritage - (from December 1995)

M. K. Koech  
Secretary,  
Ministry of Environment and Natural  
Resources

Prof R. Murungi  
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Kenyatta University

Prof H. Mwanzia  
Professor of History, Kenyatta University

Winston Alex J. Tuva  
Deputy Secretary, Budget Supply Department  
Ministry of Finance (Treasury)

## CHAIRMAN

Prof P. L. Shalo  
Professor, Egerton University

## MEMBERS

Fleur Ng'weno  
East African Natural History Society

Prof. G.K. Kingoria  
Secretary,  
National Council for Science and Technology

Prof Henry Mutoro  
Professor of History, University of Nairobi

M. K. Koech  
Secretary,  
Ministry of Environment and Natural  
Resources

Prof R. Murungi  
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Kenyatta University

Prof H. Mwanzia  
Professor of History, Kenyatta University

Winston Alex J. Tuva  
Deputy Secretary, Budget Supply Department  
Ministry of Finance (Treasury)

Mr. J. M. Otenyo  
Inspector of State Corporations,  
Office of the President

Mr. M. A. Obudo  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs and National  
Heritage - (from December 1995)

Dr. Mohamed Isahakia  
Director-General, National Museums of  
Kenya.

1996/97

# DIRECTOR'S FORWARD

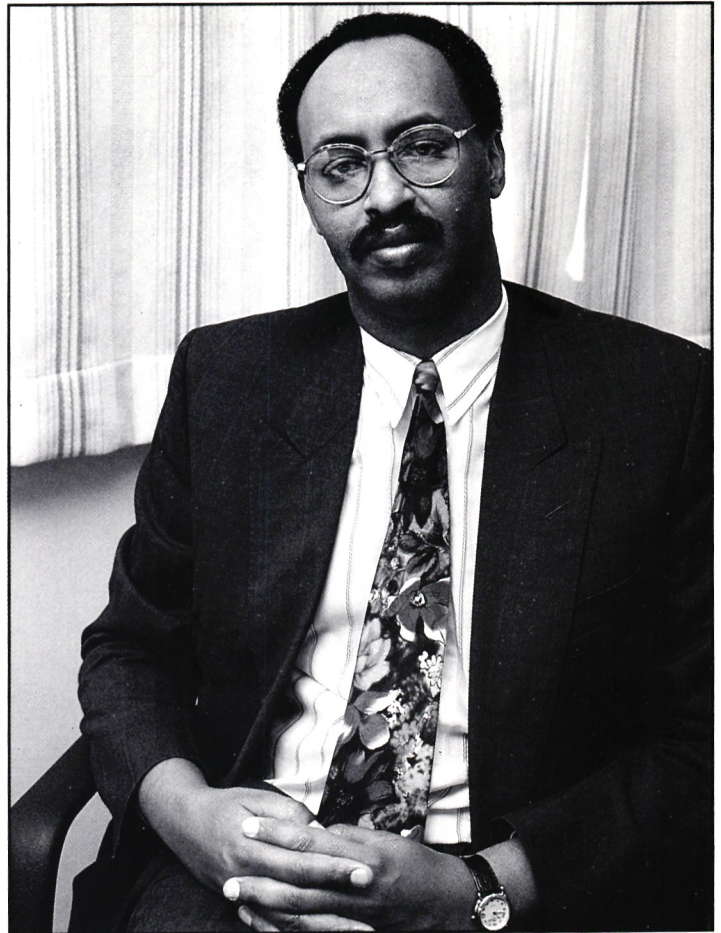
*I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) for the financial year ended 30th June 1996 and the accounts for both the financial years of ended 30th June 1996 and 30th June 1997.*

*During that period the Museums witnessed the initiation of many projects, some being developed and seeing completion in time.*

*As is well known the Museum manages many sites and monuments alongside a priceless collection of Kenya's living natural and cultural heritage (history). As an institution that must respond to the growing social needs of the society the museums are striving to contribute in unique ways to the task of national development.*

*In so doing we have never lost sight of our principal mission which is to preserve our national heritage for the benefit of Kenya and the world. Indeed we shall continue to specialise in the areas of culture, science and education always keeping in the foreground the urgent need to conserve our African heritage.*

*However circumstances have required us to redefine our vision and become more responsive to the current needs of society. In a competitive world our outlook to the public has meant that we are shedding our image from that of "static exhibit showcases of the past" to a more dynamic contemporary present. This has meant departing from the ethnocentric view that Museums exhibits "old things" to a place where people from all walks of life meet and have dialogue on various socio-economic issues.*



*Dr Isahakia*

*In addition to our traditional role we are currently addressing ourselves to issues concerned with health, unemployment, street children, ethnic reconciliation, pluralism and democracy, cultural tourism to mention but a few. In the month of October during Kenyatta Day the Nairobi Museum hosted an 'open day' for street children in which disadvantaged members in our society were sensitised on the need for knowledge in natural and cultural history.*

*Though funding and substantial cut-backs in development assistance affected our many programs several on-going projects are worthy of*

# REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

## FORT JESUS MUSEUM

Rashid Ali Riyamy  
Ahmed Sheikh Nabhany  
Khadijah Abdul Karim  
Councillor Abudulatif Ubwa  
Abubakar Maddy  
David Randu  
Judith Aldrick

## KISUMU MUSEUM

Rehmat Kerdin Khan  
Adala Otuko  
Mary Jalango  
Pratipha P. Karia  
William Opiyo  
Rev. Cleophas Owiti  
Sema Ogonga

## MERU MUSEUM

Karaya E. F. Njagi  
Francis Rintari  
Moses Gituma  
Mutuma Angaine  
David Maitai Ritima  
Peter Mbero  
Zachary Kimathi  
Harriet K. Mwongera  
Celina N. Kiruki

## KITALE MUSEUM

Hon. George Kapten  
Emmanuel Nyongesa  
Lea Kimani  
George Shiundu  
Eric Anderson  
Sep Meyer  
Richard Robinson  
Parimah Hindocha  
Dr David Bii  
Elizabeth Lebo

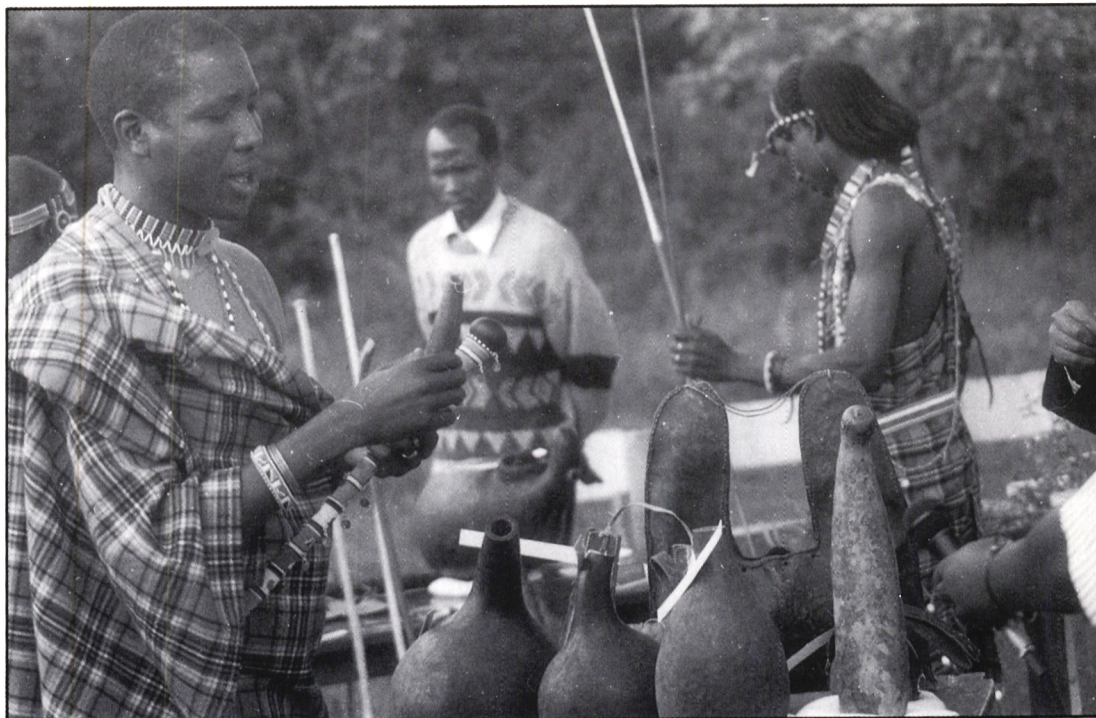
## LAMU MUSEUMS

Ahmed Abdalla El-Maawy  
Ustadh Harith Swaleh  
Abdalla Ali Skanda  
Sheikh M. Abudulkadir  
Kjell Nordenskiold  
Fatma Salim El- Busaidy  
Abbas Sheikuma

## KAREN BLIXEN MUSEUM

Philip Horobin  
Eleanor B. Shaw  
Anny Jensen  
Tove Hussein  
Susan Allanson

All material culture items have intrinsic value for the communities that use them. A Maasai man explains the value of a guard.



### Acquisition of new collections

The division acquired some magnificent new collections from several ethnic groups in Kenya (Luo, Kikuyu, Maasai and Imenti), and from Ethiopia. For example, twenty-one items acquired from the Luo community in North Ugenya, Siaya District included necklaces (*wino*), head dresses (*sumwat*), shields (*okumba*), horn dance armllets (*tore*), slashers (*ratong*), hoe heads (*kwer nya got*), a dance ornament (*gwel*), a bracelet (*ronge*), a dance hat (*туру*), a big shield (*kuot*), a dance whisk (*luodo*), a lyre (*nyatiti*), a food plate and hanging rope (*tawo gi ngiew*) and a spear head (*lew tongi*).

Also notable were several Amharic manuscripts, thought to be more than 400 years old, that were collected in Marsabit District. Presently, collection work is going on in eastern, north-eastern and western Kenya for items missing from our collection, or for replacing those that are in poor condition.

### Conservation

Over the last year, the division's conservation section has been systematically surveying the collection. The exercise will ensure that all objects whose condition has deteriorated are isolated and treated. Studies were also conducted to identify the major factors causing deterioration, so that appropriate preventive measures can be taken.

One of the conservation actions the section has undertaken is sealing all objects in polythene bags. Over 1500 objects have so far been sealed. This procedure protects the objects against dust and certain chemicals which cause deterioration. The exercise will continue until all the objects have been covered.

A one-week seminar on conservation management was also held for staff of Kitale and Kapenguria Museums. Areas covered included storage organisation, how to deal with fungi and dust, preventive and interventive

conservation, fumigation and proper handling of material objects.

### Documentation

The division's collections include around 50,000 objects of material culture. Over the last two years, the division has employed Collection and Documentation staff and object cataloguing has begun. Three main methods are currently in use in the division: Field Collection Sheets (FCS), Index/Catalogue Cards and the AfriCom Pilot Museums Project.

The National Museums of Kenya is one of the initial six pilot Museums chosen for this project on standardisation of inventories, and the division is an active participant. Adding to 1,000 items initially documented as a sample record, in the last year the division has documented some 2,800 items. The process is assisted now by computer connections to the Museums' network and the internet.

Excavations were focused on c. 2.2 million year old deposits.

### **Kanjera South**

At Kanjera South, these deposits were found to preserve Oldowan stone tools. In addition to the great antiquity of the artifacts, these beds are notable in yielding an abundant, well-preserved fauna as well as paleosol carbonates. Significantly, the preliminary faunal analysis and carbonate stable isotopic composition provide the first evidence of Oldowan hominid activities in an open habitat with more than 75% grass cover.

### **Maboko Island Project**

This Project is co-ordinated by the University of Southern Illinois and the NMK. The 1996 expedition, directed by Dr Brenda Benefit, was highly successful in recovering significant new evidence of *Kenyapithecus africanus* foot and arm bones. Other important specimens included a complete mandible, of another poorly known ape, *Nyanzapithecus pickfordi*. The excavations were concentrated in Bed 5, and a 9x22 metre trench yielded 3,621 identifiable fossils. A lens of brown clay within this excavation was particularly rich and yielded a fauna unlike any other previously encountered at Maboko. This appeared to represent a more wooded or forested microhabitat than that of the immediately adjacent areas. Nine publications have appeared based on the results of this 1996 expedition.

### **Nabwal Hills, east Lake Turkana**

This project to investigate the Oligocene and late Miocene sediments to the north west of Lake

Turkana was led by Dr John Fleagle from Stony Brook, USA. The one-month expedition found only sparse evidence of fossils in the rough and rugged terrain typical of this area. Although nothing of immediate significance was discovered, the survey provided evidence that has led to the development of a further three-year project in the peripheral sediments of the Turkana Basin.

### **Ologesailie Project**

The ongoing field work at Ologesailie is an NMK-Smithsonian Institution collaborative project directed by Dr Rick Potts. The seven-week field season undertook new excavations in Member 7 of the Ologesailie Formation to investigate the relationship between the numerous specimens of the extinct giant gelada baboon, *Theropithecus oswaldi*, and the hand axe concentrations that were known from the Main Site. The excavations indicated that the gelada baboon was replaced quite abruptly as the dominant animal in the base of Member I by equids only 10–40 cm higher in the section, suggesting rapid faunal change. Geological studies supported this evidence in indicating that the ancient lake at Ologesailie had appeared and disappeared at least five times in the 200,000 years between about 990,000 and 780,000 years ago indicating more rapid climatic and environmental fluctuations than previously thought. Detailed mapping of the stone sources used by the toolmakers was also carried out. *In situ* fossil and archaeological sites were discovered on the lava ridges that descend into the lake basin. Five papers were published in 1996 based on the results of the Ologesailie field work.

### **Songhor**

Isaiah Odhiambo, University of Miami, Ohio, continued to direct this field project at Songhor in western Kenya. The expedition recovered additional evidence of early apes from the 19 million year old site.

### **Laboratory Research**

Emma Mbuja completed her descriptions and analyses of the Galana Boi human remains which are dated between 4,000 and 10,000 years old. This research was the basis of Emma's MPhil thesis from Liverpool University, UK.

The analysis of the Lothagam and Kanapoi faunas continued and publications have begun to appear on some of this research.

### **Other Activities**

Meave Leakey acted as consultant to a new travelling exhibit "Missing Links — Alive!" designed in Denmark by United Exhibits. The exhibit includes five modules that present various stages of human evolution through robots representing life-like reconstructions of human ancestors. It was opened in the Cologne Zoo on 25 May 1996 and will be shown in many of the major cities in Europe and America. Meave Leakey presents the module on the australopithecines, while a second module, presented by Alan Walker, is based on the Nariokotome Boy discovered west of Lake Turkana in 1984. Many casts of Kenyan specimens are displayed in the exhibit

National Environmental Secretariat, started a review of the biodiversity values and needs of Nakuru District. Visits to the field and extensive consultations were carried out and a Nakuru biodiversity profile was produced. Over the same period, the Centre

was involved in discussions aimed at initiating new collaborative activities. Initiatives included the Mt. Kenya - Indigenous Forest Conservation Project (with Forest Department), Tana River Conservation Project (with Kenya Wildlife Service), the Second Regional GEF Project and the Taita Hills Conservation Project.

- The database section,
- The research programme on sustainable use of dryland biodiversity, and
- The wetlands research programme

## DATABASE SECTION

The mission of the database section is to provide environmental workers with biogeographical information relevant to Kenya, in a queryable and analysable format, and make information widely available to further understanding of the environment and sustainable management of natural resources.

### *The section's specific objectives are*

- Create reliable and up-to-date species lists.
- Collect information on species distribution
- Store and maintain both species-related (taxonomic lists) and specimen-related (distribution) data in a queryable and analysable form.
- Develop the capacity to build electronic tools for taxonomic identification and the capacity to analyse distributional data as a collection management tool.

The database section has continued to create species lists and collect information on species distribution. Staff members have been conducting training sessions on

computer use, and offering support, maintenance and repair of computers to most departments in the Museum. The section continues to help in installation of software, database design, data entry, statistical analysis, mapping facilities and document processing for Museum departments

### *Plants*

A major step forward was completion of the LEAP (List of East African Plants). The list is based on the Flora of Tropical East Africa (for those families that have been treated here), and on East African Herbarium specimens (for those families awaiting FTEA treatment). LEAP currently holds

*Indigenous knowledge present in Kenyan communities is being rapidly lost.*



a diversity of plant and animal species in the region.

The Eastern Africa region encompasses one of the several world centres of crop origins. It is the home of coffee, tef, sesame (simsim) and is part of the original home of such crops



*Kenya's drylands harbour over 60% of the country's 7000 plant species.*

such as the gourd, water melon, cowpea, sorghum and finger millet to mention just but a few.

#### **Marine biodiversity**

Despite their importance, a number of our plant and animal species in drylands are now under threat.

Population increase has resulted in overstocking, migration of agriculturalists to areas suitable only for pastoral communities, and land degradation.

#### **RSPUD objectives**

To counter these threats, the programme specifically aims to:

- support research in the field of sustainable management and utilisation
- support training, initially up to the MSc level.

## **WETLANDS RESOURCE PROGRAMME**

Kenya's economic fortunes depend on the environment in general and natural resources in particular. Water is a critical resource for socio-economic development and wetlands are major store of water.

The Wetland Resources Programme provides the link between departments with wetland research activities. The programme also provides linkages between NMK and other wetland programmes in institutions such as National Environment Secretariat,

Kenya Wildlife Service and Worldwide Fund for Nature.

The research activities in the Wetlands Programme have been focused on Kenya's freshwater biodiversity.

#### **Biodiversity Assessment for Management of Man-made Wetlands**

The purpose of this project, supported by Kenya Museum Society, was to assess the potential of man-made wetlands for conservation of biological diversity and development

of subsistence fishery. Five dams of varying size and age were selected for study from each of three districts: Trans Nzoia, Nyandarua and Kajiado Districts. The results indicated that man-made wetlands in the wetter districts of Trans Nzoia and Nyandarua were richer in biological resources than those in the semi-arid Kajiado District. Species richness and diversity were greater in larger and older dams. Further, the results indicated that there is ample potential for development of subsistence fisheries. In Kajiado



One national and one regional workshop were organised to review and discuss the profile in 1996, in which the biodiversity management at district level was seen as a viable and effective alternative to the current national and regional

approaches in Kenya. A full report is being prepared for distribution to biodiversity stakeholders and interest groups in the country.

### Wetland Awareness Activities

The World Wetlands Day celebrations were held at the National

Museums of Kenya on 2 February 1996. The wetland programme staff organised this event which was attended by about 100 people from various walks of life.

## HERBARIUM

Since its inception in 1902, the East African Herbarium has been an essential source of knowledge about plants of the East African region. Its main responsibilities are curation, taxonomic study and identification of plants.

During the year, 1,939 specimens were received in the herbarium of which 710 specimens were identified. Important specimens identified included Tim Pearce's collection from Southern Sudan and Joshua Muasya's collections from Mpala Research Centre.

Two hundred and eighty-one duplicates were sent on exchange to the Herbarium of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England with which the Herbarium has been collaborating with for the last five decades to produce a comprehensive floristic account for the Flora of Tropical East Africa. Nine-hundred and ninety specimens were loaned to various herbaria in Africa and Europe. These loans are part of the on-going work on the Flora of Tropical East Africa. The department received 304 specimens as named duplicates from herbaria around the world.

### Research

In November 1995 and January 1996 Geoffrey Mungai collected

*Helichrysum* on the Kikuyu Escarpment and in the Thika area as part of his continuing research on the classification of this genus. In January he visited the Taita Hills with researchers of the Kenya Medical Research Institute to collect plants for Human Immunodeficiency Virus research. Yasuyuki Morimoto (a JOCV volunteer) visited Kitui and Machakos districts with Patrick Maundu to document traditional methods of plant genetic resource conservation. Joshua Mturi visited Kijenge forest with Tim Pearce and Beatrice Miringu to document and collect plants of conservation interest.

In December 1995, Joshua Muasya, Patrick Maundu and Joyce Chege

carried out ethnobotanical field surveys in Machakos, Makueni, Kitui and Mwingi Districts. In November 1995 Geoffrey Mwachala

participated in a plant collecting expedition on Mt. Kupe, Cameroon, under the auspices of Earthwatch Europe. In September 1995 Geoffrey Mwachala and Eric Knox spent a week collecting *Hibiscus* in Taita District, returning with 14 species.

### Herbarium database

Work on the herbarium database continued under Abdirahman Yusuf.



Botanic Garden, Nairobi Museum

The vernacular database currently holds 28,000 records while 6,000 records have been entered in the plant use database.

was to make an inventory of hoverfly fauna composition, comparing different habitats within the forest complex.

### Survey of termites in Rift Valley Region

The taxonomy and biogeography of *Macrotermes* species continued to be studied by Dr Richard Bagine in collaboration with Dr. Manfred Kaib of Bayreuth University, Germany. Several field trips have been made to collect samples for biosystematic analysis and for mapping distribution patterns of species in Kenya.

### Pests of Mangroves

The department has been involved in the preparation of a mangrove forests project which is based on

biosystematic investigation of the wood borer *Salweenia* spp (Lepidoptera) in Mangrove forest in Kenya. The Kenya mangrove forests have not been under scientific management, and there is very little information on the insect pests that attack them. The objectives of the project are field surveys of both the pest and its natural enemies followed by rearing. Taxonomic studies for both pest and natural enemies and identification of the immature and adult stages are under way.

### Survey of molluscs in Kakamega Forest

Musombi Kiberenge made several field trips to collect molluscan samples in Kakamega Forest, gathering preliminary data in an attempt to develop a joint regional

project proposal for funding by donors. A programme funded by the Darwin Initiative will now support mollusc diversity surveys in Mt. Elgon and Kakamega Forests, as part of a regional training program for the East African countries.

### Kipepeo Project

The department helps provide technical support to the Kipepeo Project at Gede. The long-term objective of Kipepeo is conservation of the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and sustainable utilisation of its resources. This is a community-based butterfly farming project which works with the people living around Arabuko Forest in rearing larvae up to the pupal stage for export overseas.

## MAMMALOLOGY

The Department continued its programme of research, training and public education.

Several staff benefited from training courses.

Lydia Kigo attended a six-month internship at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History (Pittsburgh, USA), during which she focused intensively on collection management.

Ismail Chirchir secured sponsorship from FAO for his Master's degree in the USA. He took part in a

summer field school at the Laikipia Ranch where he was taught various field techniques essential for his study of the Patas Monkey.

Mwangi Gathua continued with his PhD studies

dissertation.

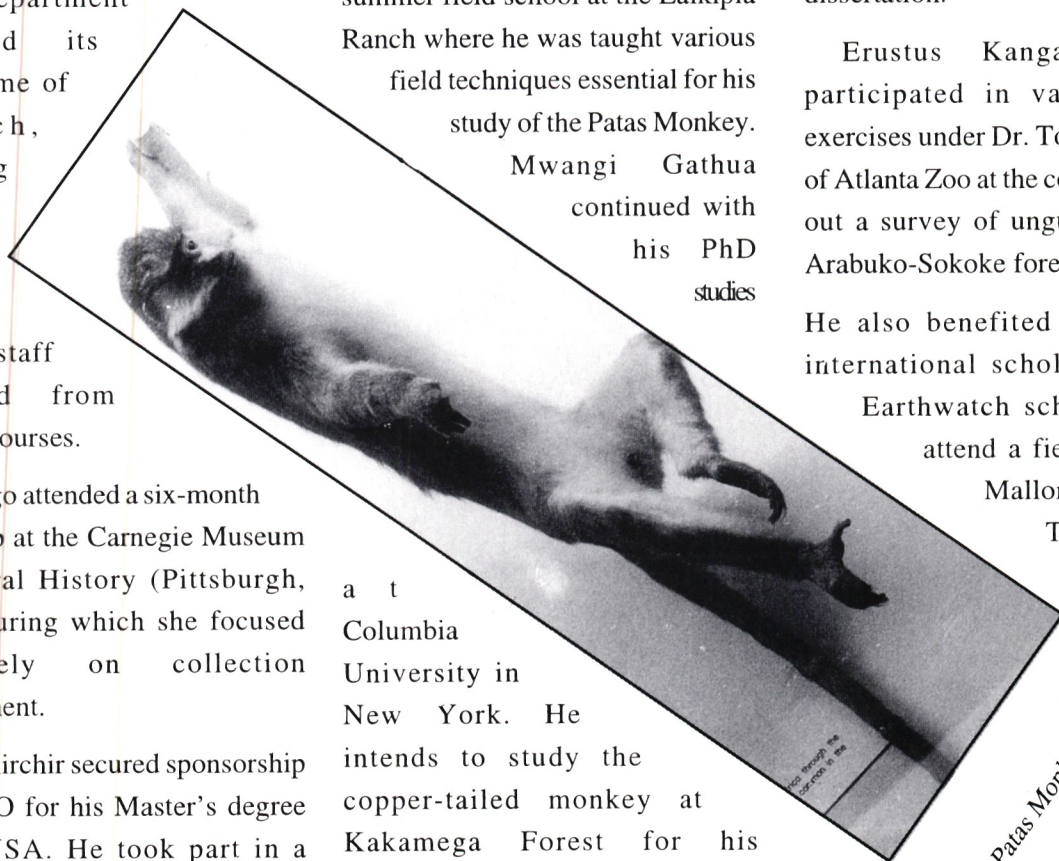
Erustus Kanga actively participated in various field exercises under Dr. Tom Butyinski of Atlanta Zoo at the coast, carrying out a survey of ungulates in the Arabuko-Sokoke forest.

He also benefited from three international scholarships: an

Earthwatch scholarship to attend a field course in Mallorca, Spain; a

Tropical Biology Association Scholarship to attend a

at Columbia University in New York. He intends to study the copper-tailed monkey at Kakamega Forest for his



Patas Monkey

This research aims at basic information on the genetic diversity of Kenya's fauna and flora.

Current work includes construction of the molecular phylogeny and evolutionary history of the family Bovidae, based on complete sequencing of the mitochondrial cytochrome b gene.

#### *Plant genetics*

The focus is on indigenous food plants, endangered plants of cultural or economic value and medicinal plants.

Specific research includes molecular typing of sweet potato accessions held in local and regional genebanks by DNA amplification and finger printing; and genetic characterisation of local populations of the African Violet (*Saintpaulia* spp.) by chloroplast DNA RFLP analysis and 12S RNA sequencing.

The analysis of genetic variation complements reproductive biology studies to provide important information for implementing sound conservation strategies for endangered plant species.

#### *Fish genetics*

These studies focus on allozyme variation in the Nile Tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) sub-species complex. This kind of study is vital in the process of conserving genetic stocks of indigenous species and assessing the success of species introduced into local lakes.

#### *Biomedical Research:*

##### *Molecular Parasitology Programme*

Basic research on important parasites and infectious agents prevalent in Kenya is carried out using advanced recombinant DNA technology with the

aim of developing potential vaccines. Some basic research to gain better molecular understanding on the biology of disease-causing organisms is also being conducted. Research focuses on schistosomiasis and trypanosomiasis, two of the six tropical diseases declared important by the World Health Organisation and TDR. There are plans to extend the work to leishmania and malaria.

##### *The Schistosoma haematobium programme*

Zoonotic cycle technology is directed towards vaccine development. In collaboration with the Case Western University of Cleveland, USA and with funding from the World Health Organisation (WHO), the department aims at identifying and characterizing unique antigens from *S. haematobium* for the development of vaccine and diagnostic reagents for the disease. Also funded by WHO is a project aimed at the cloning and characterisation of the glucose transporter gene from *Trypanosoma brucei*. Several putative glucose transporter clones have been isolated and are being characterised.

##### *Hydatid disease programme*

The department has embarked on isolating integral membrane proteins from the metacestode and characterizing these with a view to finally cloning important molecules of possible use in serodiagnosis of hydatid disease. Caused by the dog tapeworm *Echinococcus granulosus*, the disease is highly prevalent in the Turkana District of Kenya. The intermediate stage of

the parasite affects both man and his domestic animals. While lacking clinical symptoms in the early stages of infection, it is lethal in the late stages.

##### *Problems*

Cross-reactivity with antibodies in the sera of patients infected with closely-related parasites (*T. solium cysticercosis*) have hampered the use of serodiagnosis.

Some patients do not give a positive reaction with antigens currently in use, possibly due to the existence of many strains of the parasite.

Difficulties with the widescale application of serodiagnosis occur due to limitations in the supply of parasite antigens for tests, and in quality control of antigen preparations derived from different batches of hydatid cysts.

In the light of these difficulties, researchers in the department have embarked on isolating integral membrane proteins from the metacestode and characterising these to clone important molecules of possible use in serodiagnosis of hydatid disease.

##### *Collaboration*

The department has been collaborating with various national and international institutions in the diagnosis, epidemiology and transmission of Simian Immunodeficiency Viruses in African primates and Human Immunodeficiency Virus. Molecular genetic techniques are being applied to gather information on occurrence, epidemiology and modes of transmission of these viruses in the respective hosts.

series. In all, 107 species are listed as regionally threatened — 4 are Critical (the highest category), 18 Endangered and 85 Vulnerable.

Another 104 species are regarded as Near-threatened. Species that are not threatened, but for which the East African region has special responsibility, make up another 87 in total. Kenya has 73 regionally threatened birds, Tanzania 74, Uganda 64, Rwanda 45 and Burundi 30. Having a large number of threatened birds is nothing to boast about — while it shows the importance of our avifauna, it also shows that we urgently need to do something about conserving it! We hope that the list will focus attention on key bird species and prompt conservation action to improve their status.

### *How long will it take us to lose biodiversity?*

It seems obvious that when forest is destroyed, biodiversity is lost. However, such extinctions do not happen immediately — there is a time lag between deforestation and species extinction. It is important for conservationists to ask how long this time lag is, so that they can know the species and areas in most urgent need of protection. So far, there has been little research directed towards answering this question.

A collaborative project with the University of Tennessee (USA), funded by the National Geographic Society, is now assessing how long it has taken for Kenyan bird species to become locally extinct following deforestation. The study sites are the fragmented, mid-altitude rainforest of Kakamega and the montane forests of Mt. Kenya and the Taita Hills. During the first half of 1996, a joint Museums/Tennessee team

has carried out surveys in Kakamega to determine how many bird species now remain in each fragment. The other two sites will be investigated later in the year. We will compare the totals for each fragment with the numbers of species found to have been present by past surveys.

Meanwhile, using data from old aerial photographs and from recent LANDSAT satellite images, collaborators in the USA will measure how much these forests have shrunk over the last century. Combined with the results of the bird surveys, these data will allow us to determine the time that it has taken for the old number of bird species to decline to a lower level, as the forests have been cleared.

### *Field courses for bird guides*

Bird tourism in Kenya is growing rapidly and bird guides are looking for training. The Department has now organised a short certificate course for professional guides, called 'Fundamentals of Ornithology'. The objective is to improve the participants' understanding of birds and their birding skills. The inaugural course took place from 5–10 February 1996 at Elsamere Field Studies Centre, Lake Naivasha, with a second at Mara River Camp from 12–18 May 1996. In all, thirty-three bird guides were trained, including several from Tanzania. Course evaluations were very positive, and another course is planned for April 1997.

### *Waterbird monitoring and training*

The Department's waterbird monitoring programme (carried out in collaboration with Kenya Wildlife Service and the Kenya Wetlands Working Group) is an important part of both its research and outreach

programmes. Regular, consistent counts (annual or biannual) are made at key wetlands in the central Rift Valley and elsewhere. Some of these sites are large, and the work relies on volunteer counters who are trained in identification and census techniques. The counts in January 1996 covered 26 wetlands: Lakes Magadi, Naivasha, Elmenteita, Nakuru and Bogoria, swamps in Amboseli and smaller sites around Nairobi. Overall totals, at around 450,000 birds, were down from last year, mainly because of the low numbers of Lesser Flamingos. Lake Nakuru was still almost dry. Numbers of other birds in the central Rift Valley were stable from last year, but still at very low levels. This is now the sixth year of counts; data show a discouraging declining trend in most major groups.

More than 500 people have now been involved in the waterbird counts, and about 100 are regular counters. To improve the skills of the volunteer participants, and to discuss how the organisation of the counts could be improved, the Department organised a special training workshop on 22–23 June 1996. This included presentations of the monitoring results, seminars on identification and counting techniques, and a practical session in the field at Dandora Sewage Treatment Works

Financial support for this year's activities came from the Kenya Wildlife Service Wetlands Programme and the British Development Division in Eastern Africa.

### *Studies of threatened birds and habitats*

Understanding the ecology of threatened birds, especially their

extending the system to adjacent group ranches.

### The Nairobi Ringing Group

One of the most important techniques in field ornithology is bird ringing. This involves trapping birds and placing a numbered metal band on their leg before they are released, unharmed. When a ringed bird is recorded again, its origin and identity are known. Ringing is widely used for studying bird migration, ecology and population biology.

Training in bird ringing has been difficult to obtain in Kenya. For this reason the Department set up the Nairobi Ringing Group in June 1994. With a regular weekly programme of ringing at the Museum, and monthly outings to Langata, the Group has been training not just Department staff but also interested amateur birdwatchers. In November and December 1995 the Group again took part in the international ringing programme at Ngulia, Tsavo West National Park,

The department continues to perform its major role of acquiring, preparing, curating and documenting vertebrate biodiversity through acquisition and preservation of skeletal material. Services extended to the general public, students, local and international organisations include training of interns in identification techniques, identification of faunal remains and assisting researchers carrying out studies on bone morphology, diseases and other aspects of modern osteology.

Accessioning new specimens on human, reptilian, birds and rodents takes most of the time of the research

where record-breaking numbers of migrant birds were ringed.

### Public awareness and outreach

The Department continues to publish the popular journal *Kenya Birds*, which appears twice each year. It provides an effective way of keeping in touch with the network of amateur birdwatchers who contribute to our broader research projects. This year's two issues focused on Ologesailie and on Ngulia. As part of its outreach programme, the Department helped organised Kenya's involvement in the October 1995 'World Birdwatch', and the June 1996 'Festival of Birds'. A special checklist was produced for the National Birdmap project, which provides data for the Department's biogeographic database. Checklists sent in by participants in 'World Birdwatch' produced a total list of over 540 species, the highest for any country in the world — reflecting both Kenya's diversity of species and the enthusiasm of its birdwatchers.

## OSTEOLOGY

staff. The collection is constantly used as comparative material in the analysis of faunal remains from archaeological and palaeontological sites.

### Results of collaboration

Many years of collaboration with the British Institute in Eastern Africa have resulted in a number of publications to which Nina Mudida's contribution in osteological field knowledge has been acknowledged.

### New collections

Bone remains collected during 10 years of excavation at the Site of

### Other projects

Some of the Department's other activities this year included:

- Capture and satellite-tagging of Kori Bustards, in collaboration with the National Avian Research Centre, Abu Dhabi.
- Surveys of Indian House Crow numbers in relation to land-use around Mariakani, on the Mombasa-Nairobi road.
- Ecological studies of Augur Buzzards and Egyptian Vultures at Hell's Gate National Park and Great Cormorants at Lake Naivasha, Kenya (by Munir Virani, Mburu Chege and Brooks Childress, respectively).
- Wide-ranging work on the conservation of birds of prey, as part of the Pan-African Raptor Conservation project (Simon Thomsett, supported by the Peregrine Fund).

Shanga, on Pate Island, on Lamu Archipelago, dating to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, were analysed in detail in order to reconstruct and quantify the resource base. Animal, fish and shell-fish remains provided an indication of the overall changes in diet between the eighth and fourteenth centuries

This has thrown some light on environmental conditions and species distribution, and the changes that occurred between the time of deposition and now. It has also brought up a number of findings which are significant in discussion of Swahili origins.

# LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

## LIBRARY

The joint East Africa Natural History and National Museum Library was established in 1910. It has been in the joint custody of the two organisations since 1938.

The Library continues to support development and maintenance of the Museum's information resources.

Although essentially a research library, the subject coverage ranges from general to specialised, especially in the areas of Natural History and Anthropology.

Other disciplines included are Botany, Entomology, Herpetology, Osteology, Malacology, Phytochemistry, Palynology, Environments, Genetics, Ichthyology, Museology and Conservation.

A special collection on birds, the Belcher collection, is separately caged in the library and can be consulted using a newly developed catalogue at the library's issue desk.

The collection has 577 bound volumes and journals, 145 reprints and a number of maps.

### *Collaboration with other libraries*

Researchers who need articles or abstracts not available in the library can request for the literature search facility or the inter-library loan programme through which the library utilises inter-library co-operation with other libraries like ICIPE, ILRI and UNEP to borrow books that are not available here.

Through this same co-operative mechanism the Lamu Museum library was the beneficiary of 200 books donated by the Director, Kenya National Library Services.

## ARCHIVES

The department continues to render reference services to Museums personnel and other researchers, and to train college students. This year,

three students from Moi University and two from Kenya Polytechnic were attached to the department for practical training in information science studies.

Archaical material continues to be transferred to microfilms. This process has greatly reduced the space needed for storage in the department, and provides a much more secure medium of storage.

Gideon Matwale visited Zanzibar in search of old documents concerning the East Africa Coast, for developing an exhibit in Lamu Museum. He was specifically in search of records relating to the German influence in East Africa.

The department has also been involved in searching for photographs depicting Kenya history from the beginning of this century for an exhibition which will be on display in various museums in the country.

# PUBLIC PROGRAMMES

## EDUCATION

### *Science teachers workshop*

Science teachers from secondary schools around Nairobi participated in a three-day workshop held at the Nairobi Museum and funded by the British Council. The aim was to contribute to effective teaching of science in schools by offering an in-

service course for science teachers in secondary schools.

The techniques learnt during the workshop will enable teachers to develop teaching materials and eventually start small school museums. Teachers also had the opportunity to enhance their

teaching capabilities by using museum

### *Objects and specimens*

Teachers were exposed to the enormous natural and cultural collections in the research departments, and encouraged to use the Museum as an education centre

## EXHIBITS

The department comprises exhibits designers and an exhibit production team. Exhibit designers develop creative layout plans, floor plans and case design, guided by background information on the exhibit topic, purpose, teaching objectives and available media resources. Production involves graphic works, preparation and fabrication.

semi-permanent exhibits.

Designed and displayed temporary exhibits included an exhibition by local painters, a Ministry of Cultural and Social Services cultural week at the Nairobi Museums, and an exhibition on traditional Peace and Conflict Resolution.

The Exhibits department prepares many other items as well, including, this year, displays for the Snake Park and the Plant House, proposed gallery plans for the Nairobi Museum, scientific illustrations, and signs and labels at the NMK Headquarters, Regional Museums, Sites and Monuments.



*A temporary exhibit of drinking vessels from Kenyan communities.*

Exhibits serve as functional educational tools for a well-defined and understood audience. The designer usually has in mind a clear and well-articulated intention to change the audience's knowledge, feeling, beliefs and attitudes in a particular way.

### Temporary Exhibits

In July and August 1995 specimens from Kanapoi and Allia Bay weredesigned, mounted and installed in the pre-history gallery as

An entertaining exhibit on musical instruments, put together with the Ethnography department and the Presidential Commission on Music, was launched in March 1996. This exhibit demonstrated how additional sources can be used to complement existing displays.

Major ongoing Exhibits projects include the Hyrax Hill Pre-historic site, the proposed German Post Office Museum in Lamu, and the rehabilitation of exhibits at Fort Jesus.

### Collaboration

In August 1995 Kayoko Kishida of Japan Overseas Co-operation Volunteers joined the department as an artist/diorama designer. In October 1995 Simon Njuguna started a seven-month internship programme divided equally between the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. The two institutions exposed him to different aspects of multiple exhibits production

communities that they serve. One way in which we acknowledge our gratitude is by hosting events in which these supporters can participate.

### *National Museums Guidebook*

The new guidebook was launched in a colourful ceremony at the Nairobi Museum in 1996. A comprehensive and accurate introduction to the Museums, the booklet will be an invaluable source of information for tour operators, visitors and residents.

Col. (rtd.) J.N. Nguru, the Chief Executive of Kenya Association of Tour Operators (KATO), was the Chief Guest. In his speech, he pointed out that (perhaps without consciously knowing it), the Museums are one of a growing number of institutions projecting what is positive about Kenya as a nation and a rich tourist destination.

The launch brought together friends, supporters and sponsors. The event was generously sponsored by Bustani Cafeteria, The Winemasters, Sarova Hotels and Coca Cola Nairobi bottlers.

### *Street Children's Fete*

On Kenyatta Day 20 October, 1995 street children had an open day at the Nairobi Museum. These less privileged members of our society had a day filled with fun in which

they were introduced to the basics of natural and cultural history through environmental films and a tour of the galleries and the Snake Park. Food, drinks, music and dance were all part of the festival.

### *Other Activities*

On July 13, 1996 an Open Day was held at the Nairobi Museum and all Kenyans were invited. Guests were taken on guided tours during the inauguration of the new Plant House and renovated snake park, and were

institutions who pay rental fees contribute to the Museums' annual budget.

### *Visitors*

The Museum received many VIPs and dignitaries, among others Mr Ali O.M. Taha, Sudan Foreign Minister; Mr Rund J. Treffers, Ambassador of the Netherlands; Kachi Matsumoto, JICA Vice President; Frederick Lyons, Resident Representative UNDP, Nairobi; Dr Yousif I. Al Salloum,



*Dr Mohamed Isahakia, Mrs Theresia Nganga and members of the Smithsonian Women's Commission.*

treated to demonstrations of poison milking of the snakes. The department ran a competition for children: the winners were treated to a visit to the Nairobi National Park.

The Public Relations team works closely with volunteers of the Kenya Museum Society to ensure proper liaison between the society and Museums. The organisation of a number of international private events held by corporations and

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Hon. Mrs. W. N. Mwendwa E.G.H., M.P. Minister of Culture and Social Services; Hon. Mr. Francis Lotodo, Minister of Home Affairs and National Heritage; Gloria Hamilton, Chairman Smithsonian Women's Commission.



## KABARNET MUSEUM

Kabarnet Museum was the first Museum in Central Rift Valley. Opened in 1995, it is situated on the Tugen Hills (Kabarnet Horst) in the heart of the Rift Valley. On the west is the magnificent Elgeyo Escarpment with its fluorspar mines, to the east is Lake Baringo, the well known fishing, boating and birdwatching spot, and to the south Lake Bogoria, internationally known for its hot springs and geysers and vast flocks of flamingos.

This ethnographic museum is meant to represent mainly the material culture and history of the communities living around it.

The National Museums of Kenya was allocated approximately 8 acres of land by the District Committee on 23 March, 1994. A letter of allotment from the Commissioner of Lands

was received thereafter and 95% the total perimeter has been fenced.

A building on the land was also donated to the National Museums of Kenya. It is probably the first permanent building in Baringo District, constructed by the Italian prisoners of war in 1930, and of historical significance. The available records reveal that colonial and African District Commissioners have occupied the house ever since it was built.

### Development

The former DC's house has been rehabilitated and divided into a modest gallery that will soon be open to the public, a store for the ethnographic collection and an office. Traditional houses of the Tugen, Pokot and Njemps peoples have been constructed in the

compound. A traditional Turkana house is planned for future construction.

A large part of the material preserved and conserved for the exhibits is part of a donation from the Ministry of Culture and Social Services of materials collected for the National Culture Festival in 1983 and 1984. The collection includes about 400 objects.

A small exhibit of reptiles and amphibians is being constructed thanks to a donation of materials by the Kirdam construction company, while the Audio-visual department of Nairobi Museum has provided a projector and films to initiate educational programmes. Already, Kabarnet Museum is working closely with the Kenya Wildlife Service to create awareness about biodiversity conservation

## KAPENGURIA MUSEUM

This Museum was opened in 1993. It was created as a commemoration on the struggle for Kenya's Independence. The Museum house was the jail of the Late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, and five others during the pre-independence trial at Kapenguria.

The Museum houses the Political Development exhibit which depicts historical issues in the region's politics, including slavery, the colonial period, and resistance to colonial rule by local, political

movements such as the Mau Mau Movement and Dini ya Msambwa.

Students of history and politics continue to visit Kapenguria from the western region of Kenya. Of particular interest are **the Heroes' Cells** which reflect the struggle for independence by Kenya's freedom fighters.

### Documentation

The Museums' cultural collections include material from the

Cherengani and Sengwer tribes, including their traditional homesteads. Documentation of these was carried out by Anky Mulder from the Netherlands, assisted by Jane Chebitwey and Boniface Njoroge of Nasokol Secondary School. The Arid and Semi Arid Lands Programme (ASAL) funded the exercise. The work will now be compiled according to ICOM's set documentation standards.

## KITALE MUSEUM

The Museum was founded by Lt. Col. H.F. Stoneham who had extensive collections of material culture and natural history. After his death in 1966 his collections formed the nucleus of today's Kitale Museum. The exhibits at the public galleries include those on evolution of man, mammals, birds, reptiles and insects. The Museum also has a nature reserve which facilitates environmental education. This small reserve has made the Museum a major reference centre in the area in matters related to agroforestry.

### Cultural representation

The Museum's traditional homesteads are a major attraction to visitors, both foreign and local, who are interested in the cultural life of the peoples of Western Kenya. The Luo, Luhya, Elgon Maasai and the Nandi are well represented. Associated with these homesteads are casts of these people and a wide variety of ethnographic collections exhibited in the Museum's Ethnographic section.

### Environmental Awareness Symposium

This symposium was officially opened on 23 October 1996 at the Olof Palme Agroforestry Centre by the Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage, Hon. F.L. Lotodo. Its theme was 'Creating

Environmental Awareness and looking for solutions for the Ecological problems of the lake Victoria Basin'.

The symposium ended in Kisumu with the official launching of a video documentary, 'Soldiers of Nature', based on a script written by English teacher Olilo Odhiambo. The documentary reflects the role Kitale Museum plays in sensitising the public on environmentally related issues.

The symposium was supported by the Swedish African Museum Programme (SAMP) in collaboration with NMK.

### Snake Park

The Education Department organised and supervised the construction of a snake house which now houses a live exhibit of snakes. They include a Black Mamba, a Forest Cobra, an Egyptian Cobra, a Puff Adder and a Spitting Cobra.

Giant-size murals of some of the reptiles drawn on the outside and inside walls of the snake house provide an added attraction.

### Preventive Conservation Seminar

The seminar was convened by the Conservation Unit from NMK headquarters for Kitale Museum staff involved in collection,

documentation, guiding and exhibition. The one-week seminar concentrated on the nature of Museum objects and their characteristics, factors causing deterioration and preventive conservation of collections.

### Education Programmes

Education Programmes have continued attracting the schools. The Education section offers topical subjects such as:

- Environmental Conservation, including use of Nature Reserves, agroforestry and zero-grazing.
- Natural History
- Cultural Programmes, especially on peoples of Western Kenya
- Ecology and Geology.

All programmes are supplemented with relevant film shows. A local drama group has also been assisted and hosted by the Museums with the aim of attracting more schools and providing topical entertainment and education.

Special higher education programmes were offered for Moi and Egerton Universities, examining the role of Museums in Kenya's history and in present-day research and education.

## LAMU MUSEUM

### Lamu Fort

The Fort was built in the 19th Century as a garrison by Omani Arabs. It was handed over to the National Museums of Kenya in 1984 and opened as an

Lamu is a beautiful and serene island on the northern coast of Kenya. The most attractive aspect of Lamu island is perhaps the way that it has managed to retain its Swahili character over the centuries. A part

of the old town was gazetted as a national monument in 1986, a massive conservation effort has begun to protect its unique cultural and architectural heritage.

# A

## PPENDIX I

# C

# K

# N

# O

# W

# L

# E

# D

# G

# M

# E

# N

# T

### DONOR

United Nations Education, Science  
& Culture Organisation;  
World Wide Fund for Nature-Kenya  
German Embassy  
British Council  
United Nations  
World Health Organisation  
Eugene Miller  
British Institute  
P.P.L.S  
Rockefeller Found  
N. Stern & R.Cocorand  
International Development Research Centre  
Rick Potts  
Mayfair Bunbank Der Spiegel  
Earres Office, California  
Coast Forest Conservation  
Mafield P. Comp  
Tencan Books Ltd  
Visual Unlimited  
Random House Inc  
Trust Bank  
Havard University  
Dr Meave Leakey  
MSDN  
MPALA  
Food and Agriculture Organisation  
6TH Biodiversity Workshop  
Tim Pearce (PCPU)  
Food and Agriculture Organisation  
Havard C. CAMB  
UNESCO  
Dr Knox  
Link Programme  
SAREC  
British Council

### PROJECT TITLE

Marine Biodiversity  
Wood Carving  
Old Post Office-Lamu  
Science Teachers  
Marine Biodiversity  
Molecular Genetics  
West Turkana Archaeology  
West Turkana Archaeology  
Children Science Museum  
Children Science Museum  
Koobi Fora Field School  
Elada 21  
Ologesailie Storage Project  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
Kalokol-West Turkana  
G.E.F Biodiversity  
G.E.F Biodiversity  
G.E.F Biodiversity  
G.E.F Biodiversity  
G.E.F Biodiversity  
G.F.F Biodiversity  
Koobi Fora Field School  
Kenya Wood Carving  
Herbarium Minor Expenses  
Herbarium Minor Expenses  
R.P.S.U.D  
R.P.S.U.D

- Bennun, L. & Fasola, M. (eds) 1996.** Resident and migratory waterbirds at Lake Turkana, February 1992. Quaderni della civica stazione Idrobiologica di Milano 21: 762
- Karega-Munene 1996.** The future of Archaeology in Kenya. *African Archaeological Review* 13: 140-144.
- Karega-Munene 1996** The East African Neolithic: an alternative view. *African Archaeological Review* 13: 247-254.
- Karega-Munene (co-authored with Kathleen Ryan, Samuel M. Kahinju and Paul N. Kunoni) 1996** Ethnoarchaeology in Kenya Maasailand: managing livestock. In *Aspects of African Archaeology: papers from the 10th Congress of the PanAfrican Association for Prehistory and Related studies*, edited by Gilbert Pwiti and Robert Soper, Harare: University of Zimbabwe Press, pp. 745-754.
- Benson Odeny-Obul 1996** Unstandardised stone tool assemblages in the context of Pastoral Neolithic technological variation in the central Rift Valley, Kenya. In *Aspects of African Archaeology: papers from the 10th Congress of the PanAfrican Association for Prehistory and Related studies*, edited by Gilbert Pwiti and Robert Soper, Harare: University of Zimbabwe Press, pp. 281-290.
- Mzalendo Kibunja 1996** The status of archaeological collections and resources in Africa. In *Aspects of African Archaeology: papers from the 10th Congress of the PanAfrican Association for Prehistory and Related studies*, edited by Gilbert Pwiti and Robert Soper, Harare: University of Zimbabwe Press, pp. 783-786.
- Bennun, L.A. 1995.** Arabuko again. *Swara* 18(5): 22-23.
- Bennun, L.A. 1995.** Birding at... Olorgesailie Prehistoric Site. *Kenya Birds* 4(1): 16-22.
- Bennun, L.A. 1996.** Training water bird counters to monitor wetlands in Kenya: Progress and prospects. Pp. 183-189 in Beilfuss, R.D., W.R. Tarboton & N.N. Gichuki (eds) *Proceedings of the 1993 African Crane and Wetland Training Workshop*. Baraboo, Wisconsin: International Crane Foundation.
- Bennun, L.A. 1996.** Threatened birds of Kenya. 7: Corncrake. *Kenya Birds* 4(2): 109-110.
- Bennun, L.A. 1996.** Name games: changes in the new Kenya checklist. *Kenya Birds* 4(2): 97-104.
- Bennun, L.A., Crafter, S.C. & Aman, R. (eds) 1995.** Conservation of biodiversity in Africa: Local initiatives and institutional roles. *Proceedings of an International Conference*, Nairobi, September 1992. Nairobi: National Museums of Kenya.
- Jackson, C. 1996.** What is that bird? Identification and submitting records. *Kenya Birds* 4(2): 84-88.
- Lens, L., Nasirwa, O., Nemeth, E & Bennun, L. 1996.** Response to simulated intrusions by territorial Yellow-Whiskered Greenbul *Andropadus latirostris*. *Ibis* 138: 561-563.
- Oyugi, J.O. 1995.** Rakewa: Breeding site for Pink-bacacanth *Eichhornia crassipes* by macroinvertebrate fauna L. Naivasha.
- Anyonge, W. 1995.** Locomotor behaviour in Plio-Pleistocene sabre-tooth cats: a biomechanical analysis. *J. Zool. Lond.* 238:395-413
- Mbua, E. 1995.** Holocene human remains from lake Turkana, Northern Kenya. MPhil thesis. 168 pages. University of Liverpool, UK
- Leakey, M.G., Feibel, C.S., Bernor, R.L., Cerling, T.E., Harris, J.M., Stewart, K. M., Storrs, G.W., Walker, L., Werdelin, L. & Winkler, A. 1996.** Lothagam: a record of faunal change in the late Miocene of East Africa. *Journal of Vertebrate Palaeontology* 16:556-570
- Macho, G.A., Reid, D.J., Leakey, M.G., Jablonski, J., & Beynon. 1996.** Climatic effect on dental development of *Theropithecus oswaldi* from Koobi Fora and Olorgesailie. *J. Hum. Evol.* 30:57-70
- Spoor, F & Leakey M.G. 1996.** Absence of the subarcuate fossa in cercopithecids. *Journal of Human Evolution*. 31:569-575
- De Meyer, M. 1996.** Short note on fossil Pipunculidae from Dominican amber. - *Journal of the New York Entomological Society* 103: 208-214.
- De Meyer, M. 1996.** Systematic revision of the subgenus *Ceratitis* (*Pardalaspis*) (Diptera, Tephritidae). - *Systematic Entomology* 21: 15-26.
- De Meyer, M. L. De Bruyn & J. Blasco-Zumeta. 1995.** Zoogeographical and phenological annotations to the Pipunculidae (Diptera) fauna of Spain. - 2nd Benelux Congress of Zoology, Leiden: 103.
- Bernadini Mosconi, R.K.N. Bagine and M. Zunino, 1996.** Identification and Localisation of urban Termites, in Kenya: Biological and Ecological Problems of Control. *Ins. Soc. Life* 1:31-38.
- H. A. T Oketch-Rahab, 1996.** Leaf Compounds in potential plantation species of Aloe in Kenya. *Journal of Herbs, Spices and Medicinal Plants*, 25-33. 4.
- D.M.N. Gakunju, E.K. Mberu, S.f. Dossaji, A.I Gray, R.D. Waigh, P. G. Waternam and W. M. Watkims, 1995.** Potential Antimalarial activity of the Alkaloid Nitidine isolated from a Kenyan Herbal Remedy. *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*, 2606-2609, 39.
- Beilfuss, R.D., Tarboton, W.R. and Gichuki, N.N. 1996.** Africa Cranes and Wetlands. International Crane Foundation, Baraboo, Wisconsin.
- Gichuki, N.N. and Bagine, R.K. 1996.** Ecological Problems behind the symptoms currently affecting Lake Victoria. SAMP Symposium, Kisumu, Kenya.
- Gichuki, C.M. 1996.** Community Participation in Wetland Conservation in Africa: a case study of Lake Ol Bolossat, Kenya *Proceedings of International Wetlands Conference*, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia.
- Muthuri, F., Ntiba, B. And Gichuki, N.N. (eds), 1996.** Towards a National Wetlands Policy GOK and IUCN, Nairobi.

# NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

## ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 1995/96 AND AUDITOR-GENERAL [CORPORATIONS] REPORT

The duly Audited Final Accounts for the year ended 30 June, 1996 as tabled before the Board of Directors.

### COMMENTS ON THE ACCOUNTS

Save for the qualification on valuation of Land and Buildings of the Inland Museums and lack of issue of the Title Deeds by the Commissioner of Lands for the Assets owned by the National Museums of Kenya, the Auditor-General [Corporations] is satisfied that the Accounts do show a true and fair position of the National Museums of Kenya finances and performance.

In the year under review, we registered a surplus of K£. 768,084 compared to a deficit of K£.889,795 in 1995. This good performance was made possible by an increase in Government Grant-in-Aid by 57.09%, that is from K£. 3,730,000 in 1994/95 to Kshs. 5,859,353 in 1995/96. The Revenue performance was not encouraging as it increased by only 0.32%, that is from K£. 2,730,761 in 1994/95 to K£.2,739,597 in the year under review.

Projects income increased from K£.976,676 in 1994/95 to K£.1,049,749 in 1995/96, which is an increase of 7.48%.

Development Grant amounting to K£. 41,000 allocated for the Regional Museums, Sites and Monuments was not received from the parent Ministry.

### FIXED ASSETS

The Management is making all the efforts to obtain the Title Deeds for the Assets owned by the National Museums of Kenya. The Management has already made arrangement with the Commissioner of Lands to undertake the valuation exercise of the Land and Buildings of the Inland Museums.

# NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

## Revenue Report for the period from July-June 1995/96

Group Code	Nairobi		Kitale		Coastal		Other Dist.		L.L.M.B		Jomo K.		Pre-hist		Herbarium		Koobi		Museum		This Year		Last Year	
	Museums	Ksh	Museums	Ksh	Museums	Ksh	Museums	Ksh	Building	Ksh	House	Ksh	Sites	Ksh	Fora	Ksh	Projects	Ksh	Total 1996	Ksh	Total	Ksh		
501	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(30,000)
502	(3,759,353)	0	0	0	0	(2,100,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(5,859,353)	(3,730,000)		
503	(1,366,675)	(22,655)	(1,288,522)	(46,118)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(15,627)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(2,739,597)	(2,730,761)		
504	(12,358)	(5,090)	(3,228)	(110)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(38)	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	(21,824)	(132,501)		
505	(13,180)	(11,751)	(1,930)	(1,693)	0	(18,108)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(46,662)	(32,006)		
506	(75,477)	0	0	0	0	(88,479)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(163,956)	(145,932)		
507	(364,620)	(3,352)	(56,667)	(5,926)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	448	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(430,334)	(495,385)		
508	(15,515)	(1,852)	(79,355)	(7,680)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(104,402)	(98,458)		
509	(329,384)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(329,384)	(221,574)		
510	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(7,701)		
511	(300)	(860)	0	(1,267)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(2,427)	(2,229)		
514	(39,650)	(347)	(16,379)	(3,941)	(515,058)	(2,693)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(40)	0	0	(75)	0	0	0	(578,183)	(370,205)		
515	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1,049,749)	0	0	0	(1,049,749)	(976,676)		
TOTALS:	(5,977,511)	(46,122)	(1,446,082)	(66,734)	(2,721,644)	(2,693)	0	0	0	0	0	(15,217)	(40)	0	0	0	(1,049,824)	0	0	0	(11,325,867)	(8,973,429)		
	(5,977,511)	(46,122)	(1,446,082)	(66,734)	(2,721,644)	(2,693)	0	0	0	0	0	(15,217)	(40)	0	0	0	(1,049,824)	0	0	0	(11,325,867)	(8,973,429)		

### ADMINISTRATION

# NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

## GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1996

	NOTES	1996 K.£	1995 K.£
TOTAL INCOME (APPENDIX 1)		11,325,867	8,973,431
<u>LESS EXPENDITURE</u>			
RECURRENT (APPENDIX 2)		10,460,057	9,672,666
DEVELOPMENT (APPENDIX 3)		97,726	190,560
		10,557,783	(9,863,226)
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		768,084	(889,795)
BALANCE AS AT 1ST JULY, 1995		1,069,562	1,959,357
EXCESS/(DEFICIT) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		768,084	(889,795)
BALANCE AS AT 30TH JUNE 1996		1,837,646	1,069,562

# NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE, 1996

	1996/96 K.£	1994/95 K.£
<b>CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net Income from Museums Operations	768,084.00	(889,795.00)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	<b>263,767.00</b>	<b>214,229.00</b>
Operating Income before working Capital Changes	1,031,851.00	(675,566.00)
Decrease in Debtors	40,927.00	(6,629.00)
Decrease in Stock	141,137.00	(35,394.00)
Increase in Creditors	119.00	22,798.00
Net Cash from Operating Activities	<b>1,214,034.00</b>	<b>(694,791.00)</b>
<b>CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of Equipment	(151,565.00)	(133,899.00)
Purchase of Motor Vehicles	(78,862.00)	(152,000.00)
Net Cash from Financing Activities	<b>(230,427.00)</b>	<b>285,899.00</b>
Net Increase in Cash	983,607.00	(980,690.00)
Cash at beginning of the Period	1,064,936.00	2,045,626.00
Cash at end of the Period	<b>2,048,543.00</b>	<b>1,064,936.00</b>



# NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

## 10. (b) FIXED ASSETS SCHEDULE AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1996

	LAND K£	BUILDINGS K£	EQUIPMENT/ FURNITURE K£	COMPUTERS K£	VEHICLES K£	TOTAL K£
<b>COST/VALUATION</b>						
As at 1st July, 1995	-	-	2,047,837	-	353,892	2,401,729
Additional during the 1995/96	-	-	151,565	-	78,862	230,427
Revaluation during the year	23,339,250	13,500,000	385,027	184,533	-	37,408,810
	23,339,250	13,500,000	2,584,429	184,533	432,754	40,040,966
	23,339,250	13,500,000	2,584,429	184,533	432,754	40,040,966
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>						
As at 1st July 1995	-	-	1,134,634	-	102,581	1,237,215
Change for the year 1995/96	-	-	181,224	-	82,543	263,767
	-	-	1,315,858	-	185,124	1,500,982
<b>NET BOOK VALUES</b>						
As at 30th June, 1996	23,339,250	13,500,000	126,857	184,533	247,630	38,539,984
As at 30th June, 1995	-	-	913,203	-	251,311	1,164,514

## 10. (c) DEPRECIATION

Depreciation on all fixed assets is provided on a reducing balance basis to write-off the cost over their expected useful lives

### The depreciation percentage rates

i) Motor Vehicles	=	25%
ii) Equipment and Furniture	=	12.50%
iii) Computers	=	25%
iv) Land	=	0%
v) Buildings	=	1%

These rates are based on reducing balances

**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL  
(CORPORATIONS) ON THE ACCOUNTS OF THE  
NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 30 JUNE 1997**

I have examined the accounts of the National Museums of Kenya for the year ended 30 June 1997 in accordance with section 29 (2) of the Exchange and Audit Act, (Cap 412). I have obtained all the information and explanations which were required for the purpose of the audit. Proper books of account were maintained by the National Museums of Kenya and the accounts are in agreement therewith.

In my opinion, the accounts when read together with the notes thereon, give a true and fair view of the state of financial affairs of the National Museums of Kenya as at 30 June 1997 and of its excess income over expenditure and its cash flows for the year then ended.

W.K. KEMEI  
AUDITOR-GENERAL (CORPORATIONS)

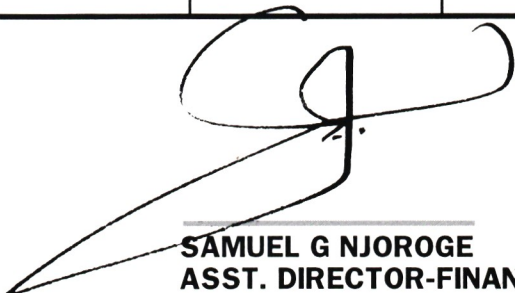
*4 June 1997.*

# NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1997

	<u>NOTES</u>	1997 K.£.	1996 K.£.
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	(9 A, B & C)	46,762,436	38,539,984
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock	(5)	67,108	60,172
Debtors, Deposits & Pre-payments		138,716	27,655
Cash at Banks		2,452,134	2,048,543
		2,657,958	2,136,370
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors & Accrued Charges		588,244	298,548
Projects Deposits	(6)	1,112,930	1,131,350
		1,701,174	1,429,898
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)</b>		956,784	706,472
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		47,719,220	39,246,456
<b>FINANCED BY:</b>			
General Fund		2,750,260	1,837,646
Capital Reserve		44,968,960	37,408,810
		47,719,220	39,246,456

  
**DR. MOHAMED A ISAHAKIA**  
 DIRECTOR-GENERAL  
 NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

  
**SAMUEL G NJOROGE**  
 ASST. DIRECTOR-FINANCE  
 NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

## NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

Development Expenditure for  
July-June 1996/97 Appendix III

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u> <u>K. POUNDS</u>
NAIROBI MUSEUM	21,178
KITALE MUSEUM	3,400
COASTAL MUSEUMS (FORT JESUS)	1,483
KISUMU MUSEUM	2,413
NJURU NJEKE MUSEUM	3,646
COASTAL ANTIQUES (F.J)	32
COASTAL ANTIQUES & MON. LAMU	20
BARINGO MUSEUM	7,510
	— — — —
TOTALS	39,681
	— — — —

END OF REPORT

# NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE, 1997

	1996/97 K.£	1995/96 K.£
<b><u>CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u></b>		
Net Income from Museums Operations	912,614	768,084
<b><u>Adjustments for:</u></b>		
Depreciation	<b>536,989</b>	<b>263,767</b>
Operating Income before working Capital Changes	1,449,603	1,031,851
Increase in Debtors	(111,061)	40,927
Increase in Stock	(6,936)	141,137
Increase in Creditors	271,276	119
Net Cash from Operating Activities	<b>1,602,882</b>	<b>1,214,034</b>
<b><u>CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</u></b>		
Purchase of Land	(279,262)	0
Purchase of Equipment	(314,221)	(151,565)
Purchase of Computers	(44,144)	0
Purchase of Motor Vehicles	(331,028)	(78,862)
Purchase of Buildings	(230,636)	0
Net Cash from Financing Activities	<b>(1,199,291)</b>	<b>230,427</b>
Net Increase in Cash	403,591	983,607
Cash at beginning of the Period	2,048,543	1,064,936
Cash at end of the Period	<b>2,452,134</b>	<b>2,048,543</b>

# **NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA**

**NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1997**

## **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

1. **Basis of Accounting**

The accounts are prepared under the Historical Cost Convention

2. **Grants**

Government grants are credited to the Income and Expenditure Accounts on the basis of the payment made by the Government of Kenya.

3. As an Accounting Policy, no value has been placed on Exhibits, Study Collection and Fixtures. Museum Exhibits have no Commercial Value, and the Study Collection is Priceless.

4. **Purchase of Animals**

Purchase of Primates are charged to the Income and Expenditure Account at the time of Purchase.

5. **Stock**

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

6. **Projects Fund Income and Deposits**

These are funds earmarked for specific Projects mostly dealing with Research in particular areas. The projects funds are credited to a Deposit Account when received and only transfer the amount spent each month to income. In this case the Income and Expenditure are always the same. The balances remain in the respective Deposit Accounts.

7. **Development Grant**

Government of Kenya Grants-in-Aid amounting to K£.25,000 allocated to the National Museums of Kenya for Development was not received in 1996/97 Financial Year from the Parent Ministry.

8. **Taxation**

The National Museums of Kenya is exempt from Income Tax and Stamp Duty. VAT and Excise Duty are exempt on case by case on application to the Treasury.

9. (a) **Additional Assets - Land, Buildings and Computers**

Land, Buildings and Computers were not previously reflected in the Accounts. They have now been valued and brought into the Accounts at Net Values. The valuation of Land and Buildings is being carried out by the Commissioner of Lands.