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January - February 2021

Dear Friends Colleagues, Donors and Supporters,

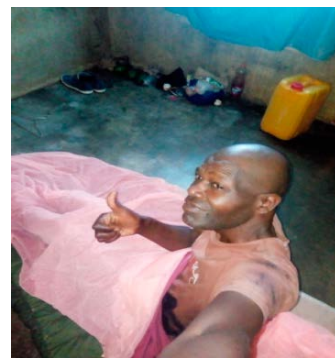
**RE: UP-DATE ON THE SITUATION OF MULTIMEDIA ACADEMY
YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPOWERING SCHOOL PROJECT:-**

Hello, Hallå, Tâi-gí, Hallo, Olá, Nǐ hǎo, Sawubona, Hujambo, Bonjour, Hola, Kon'nihiwa.

WELCOME TO BUSIA COUNTY:-

Once again, I send you greetings and this time all the way from Busia County in Western Kenya. But before I give you any update, I would like to thank you for the help and for all your support in finance, in advice, technical and in material support, that you gave me and the school in the past years. Thank you.

After a long time of absence, I have gained both spiritual. Psychological and physical energy, to start all over again and make it happen.



It is a good morning my dear friends. I hope that all is well with you. Today I feel blessed, happy that I have waken up and I am alive and well.

To prove and to show you my friends, supporters and donors of my commitment to the success of this youth training and empowering project, I have given up everything moved to the area to live as simple as possible in a single room to make sure that I am on the ground, I am near or within the potential area we are re-building the school, to be on the ground to make sure that I lay down the bridge to have this project started and that it grows.

The Place called Matayos and this room is near the BIG CATHOLIC CHURCH. My being on the ground will involve talking to the community, the landlords, the local authorities, the ministry and of course our nearby esteemed clientele within the area.



This is how my room looks like and as you can see, there is hardly anything in the room apart from my clothes in the suitcases. The room has no furniture, no kitchen utensils, no bed, no chairs etc., etc., because I can't afford them at this moment.

But even without all these things, I believe that this situation is just temporality, since it is a passing wind. My focus is a complete picture of the school running once again.

My focus is on the school and I am ready to lose everything to make it happen. That is the kind of commitment that I would like you my supporters to see and to know how committed I am to this project. But in order for this to work, I need your help and your continuous support in order to make this project a reality.

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I SAID GOODBYE

I was in Mombasa by the Indian ocean last end year with my family members including and my Sweet Grandmother, when Kenya was under Lock-down. When the lockdown was relaxed, I moved to Nairobi preparing to move to Busia County in the new year to start preparing for the new school.



ON THE BUS TO BUSIA COUNTY

On the Morning of January 1st, I was helped together with my luggage by my colleague Andrew Chonge to the Guardian Bus terminus very early at 6am to travel to Busia county. I embarked on this new phase of restarting this school training and empowering youth project again. But 2Km at city stadium in Nairobi his vehicle broke down and it was pushed to the terminus only to be stuck at KPCU hill about 100meters to the terminus and so he called me and I went to pick the luggage with a mukokoteni Cat/trolley man.



BADLY HIT FOR THE THIRD TIME BY MALARIA:-

By the end of the second week, I was badly hit for the third time in three months, in Mombasa, Nairobi and now in Busia, with yet another serious fever and I got very scared even to go to the clinic, because I was new to the area, and so because I was a stranger in this place, I did not want them to associate this fever with Corona, since Corona happens to be the new song that is now being associated with every illness. And so for over two weeks I tried to keep of the streets and I quarantined my self indoors.

However I could not hide it because I became more ill and so I went to the Royal Community Medical clinic. With luck the Doc at the Medical clinic took blood samples and finally identified the root course. I had serious Malaria.

So I got a 3X Jabs in three days and antimalarial-pills. These pills are a nightmare to bare, for they hit-up your body and you go into a frenzy of unbearable dreams and you sweat almsat 1 half a litter of sweat.



GOT WATER ETCHING BLISTERS:-

In between this saga, I went to a the neighboring village researching and it was very hot that day. (we are at 0-degrees at the equator at this place and so its almost hot everyday). I drank a glass of un-boiled water from a good Samaritan and for two weeks I started getting water blisters and for the first time in my life. I have drunk dirtier water and I got away with it but this time, I was nailed and so I got a reaction from this stream water and that is not all. These blisters etch and you feel like scratching them to the borne. So irritating was this experience.

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GRAND MOTHER IS HIT BY MALARIA:-

By the time I was getting better, my Grandmother who was also hit by malaria was also fighting for her life. In early December last year 2020, I said goodbye to her in Mombasa and I told her that I was heading to Busia via Nairobi to restart the school project.



SHE PLANNED TO GO BACK TO HER HOUSE

She told me that she was also planning to go back to her home in Luanda-Bunyore, near Maseno, before Christmas. And so we wished each other well and off I went. Because the journey from Mombasa is far, takes over 13 hours by bus and would be a back breaking one for a 100 year old lady, my Aunt got her an air ticket from Mombasa-Airport to Kisumu-Airport and there after 45 minutes by taxi to her house, which took less than 1/2 of the time by bus. So in 5 hours she was drinking tea at her home.

GRAND MOTHER IS RESTED:-

But two weeks later, she got a serious Malaria. But because Grandmother had sugar, HBP and other controllable complications, everyone concentrated on her usual complications, while malaria which was discovered late, was eating her guts out. Unfortunately she rested on the morning of the 4th-02-2021 and we buried her on 19th/Feb/2021 in Vihiga County. My grandmother had 12-kids of her own, 36 grand-children, 74X-greatgrand kids and 5X great-great grand kids. Grandmother Elipha Omari Otinga, sunrise 1918 and sunset 2021. RIP.



MY CONDOLENCES AND WISH TO A QUICK RECOVERY

I know that many people friends and colleagues have lost loved ones. My sincere condolences to all of you. And I wish all these in agony and all those who are ill a quick recovery, health and strength.

REST IN PEACE GRAND MA- ALWAYS BE MISSED

I will always remember your word, when you told me that
"" WITH GOD AND YOUR FRIENDS ON YOUR SIDE, EVERYTHING WILL ALWAYS BE OKAY, LIGHT AND EASY TO CARRY OR SORT, NO MATTER HOW HEAVY OR BAD IT SEAMS ""

Also Remember,

"Laugh a lot, love a lot, and help all without measure"

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BACK ON THE ROAD:-

Now after the emotions, the funeral drama, the sickness and this heavy and trying period to lose a loved one is well behind me, I am back on the road in Busia county to locate a suitable place to place the school.



This is going to be very exciting new venture with lots of new things to do, to experience and to make them work.

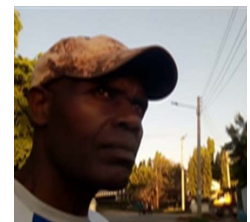
PLACES THAT HAVE BEEN OFFERED TO US FOR THE SCHOOL PROJECT:-

I have been given several tips and have been shown several possible places to lease/rent and possibly to buy, but I am yet to meet the landlords to hear what they have to offer us. One of the properties is 15 meters just next to high-way. It is an attractive offer, but we are yet to talk. We will seriously consider to see and compare several things to why we can/should place our school project there in a particular piece of land.



TOUGH YEAR BUT STILL GOING STRONG, POSITIVE AND MOVING ON:-

So for me its been a tough and heavy starting period of this year, but I will not give up. Sickness has put me down thrice in 3months and the death of my grandmother, But I am up again, positive, still strong, gaining my strength to keep on moving until the objective is fully achieved.



As long as I am breathing and I am able to stand, walk and work and you give me support, I will never give up until the objective of this project are full accomplished. I will continuously focus on the success of this project no matter how many times I will fall I will wake up wipe off the mud and move on and keep moving. That is a promise you can take to the bank.

WE NEED YOUR HELP, YOUR DONATION AND CONTRIBUTION IN ORDER TO MOVE SCHOOL THINGS AND ITEMS TO THIS NEW PLACE IN BUSIA COUNTY TO RE-START THIS PROJECT:-

As I said and mentioned here above, my entire focus now is on the school and I AM READY TO LOOSE everything to make it happen. That is the kind of commitment that I would like you my supporter's to see and to know how deeply committed I am to this project.

But in order for this to work, I really need your help and your continuous support in order to make this project a reality. And with the help of supporting colleagues, I have put together some documents that will guide us to run and manage this school project in the next 5 years and beyond.

The first step is to move the school things in the containers and the trucks to this new location. This is the first important help I need from you to donate to and contribute to the same.

Once this is done and we have put things in place, we shall request you for a small monthly donation to assist in logistical expenditure. This monthly contribution will be greatly needed to help us run our school for at least three years until we can achieve our financial income to cater for all our logistical expenditure.

Thank you dear friends for your support then, for your support now and for all your future support. On behalf of all my colleagues here, I am looking forward for your full support and working with you for the benefit, education, training and financially empowering the youth in this area. Thank you.



COMMENTS/ADVISE AND CRITICS:-

Your comments, critic and advise is always most welcome to make this project better. Please forward the to multimediaacademy@gmail.com.

IN THE NEXT NEWS-LETTER:-

In the next newsletter, we shall show and tell you the forward steps we have taken toward the establishment, building and development of this youth empowering and development training project.

VOTE OF THANKS TO YOU:-

On this note, thank you to all our friends, colleagues, donors and sponsors. we are looking forward to hearing from you and we look forward for your support in, material, technical and indeed in finance to make this project a successful and a long-lasting one to continuously, train, educate, support and empower the youth.

Yours sincerely.

Mabwa Gerison
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