



THE KENYA SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

# Scout Online

## The diary of Scouting in Kenya...

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## Scouts in Kenya hit the 1 Million Mark in First Ever National Registration Exercise



**T**he Kenya Scouts Association has successfully registering **1 Million Scouts** in the country, making it the **Largest Scouts Movement in Africa and Sixth (6) in the world.**

The Association, which has been in existence in Kenya since 1910 takes pride in offering a value based educational programme to the youths in the country.

This Programme aims at giving young people the opportunity to achieve their full physical, intellectual, social, spiritual, emotional and character potentials as individuals, as responsible members of their local, national and international communities.

The over 1 Million registered Scouts will be socialized into an education programme, which enables them to be men and women of character and integrity. Through the Scouts Youth Programme, Scouts learn to be responsible, self-reliant, servant leaders and agents of change in their communities who promote and advocate for peaceful coexistence of members in their communities and country as a whole.

Scouts are passionate about nature, and commit to the conservation and protection of the environment. Scouts in Kenya working closely with the government to champion tree planting in the country have planted over 17 million trees in various initiatives including the trees for peace and the green patrol initiatives.

Announcing the 1 million registration milestone, Mr Musau said "We decided to embark on a national registration exercise so that we could tell exactly where our Scouts are. This way, we are now able to plan and distribute our resources, including training opportunities equally across the country, because we now have the database in one place.

Mr Musau stated that the Association has rolled out a national calendar of events across the country, which ensures scouts are enjoying a variety of educational activities while also having fun with a purpose.

"We are inviting more young people to register for Scouting as it is a valuable way of spending free time constructively. Through Scout activities on weekends and holidays, Scouts are kept away from harm while also learning life skills that will help them in their journey of life. We urge parents to encourage their children to come forward, register with the Kenya Scout Association and enjoy the game of Scouting", he said.



Left: Chief Commissioner KSA Mr Ray C. Musau and the Chief Scout KSA Hon. Francis Ole Kaparo during the launch of the Scout registration exercise.

Passion for changing the world



Mr Musa receiving his beads from the National Training Commissioner Mr Ireri at Rowallan Scouts Camp. In the middle: Mr Mukenya his PA.



**I**t is not a typical Friday at the Kenya Scouts Association for one Mr Caleb Musa. Today, neatly dressed in his Scout uniform Mr Musa will receive his four beads. As I sit down with him for this interview, I cannot help but share in his zest in the quest of creating a better world by empowering young people through the Scout Programme.

Despite his disability, the fulfillment of molding the young men and women of this nation into responsible adults is more than he had hoped for.

Mr. Musa is Scout Leader whose journey in Scouting started in 1987 by chance. He has witness first-hand the impact the Scout Youth Programme on the young people of this nation and beyond. "I have witnessed young people making a difference in their own unique ways" he says.

Before joining the Scouting movement, Mr Musa had heard about the amazing things Scouts did other than raising the national flags in schools but it is only in 1987 as a deputy head teacher at Mutoma primary school that this become real.

"I was impressed by the preparedness of those young Scouts and the difference they made by giving other students and members of their community what I call a second chance" he said with a smile as he remembered the first aid services Scouts in his school provided at a school function that ended up saving a student's life.

It is through their selfless acts that I got interested in the movement and I have never looked back. I wanted to make a real difference and Scouting has given me a chance to do so.

**Scouting journey:**

After that incident, I took upon it upon myself to offer my support to the Scouts and their Scout leaders by hosting various training sessions at the school with an aim of empowering the Scouts through their Scout Leaders.

"In 1996, I decided to get trained and I took my Introductory Course (ITC) in Scouting followed by a Preliminary training course (PTC).

In 1998, I took my Wood Badge (WBII) course and was awarded 2 beads. After this I was privileged to be elected as the Butere Divisional AAC in 2000.

"In 2011, I was trained as an Assistant Scout Leader (ALT) and qualified for three beads and I have just been awarded my four beads as a Leader Trainer" says Mr Musa with a look of fulfillment on his face.

I am excited to receive the four beads because I have always wanted to be great at everything I do. Reaching the apex in Scouting is a great fulfillment and I know I still have a lot to learn he adds.

"I can now direct a Wood Badge, ALT and LT Course and nature more Scout Leaders who will in turn mould the character of or young people" says an exited Musa and I believe through these young men and women this nation will rise again.

**Achievements**

Despite various challenges including lack of resources and mobility issues, Mr Musa has directed various ITC and PTC courses around the country and contributed to the development of the Scouts curriculum. He has been awarded several awards including Meritorious and Long Service awards as a result of his contribution to the Scouting movement in Kenya.

As a Scout Leader Mr. Musa thrives because he adheres to the Scout principles and urges fellow leaders to do the same. "Lead by example", he says sighting the fact that his family members are Scouts because they see the impact of the same not only on him but also on young people. I used to revise my notes with my family as I prepared for a training and through this without consciously knowing it, my family got to learn about Scouting and their interest in the movement grew.

My first and second born children are both two bead holders and what more can a father wish for than his children to follow in his footsteps of transforming this nation one young person at a time.

He advices Scouts to hold on to the fundamental principles of Scouting so as to live a joyful and fulfilled life. He adds that the Scout Programme is rich in character building and lives are changed as Scouts play the game of Scouting.

" I thank Mr. Mukenya my Personal Adviser (PA) who made sure I did not give up in my trainings", he says as he bids me farewell.