

## Business:

Meet Mukuru's only female *bodaboda* rider

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## Art:

Kibera artisan finds rare beauty in wild animals

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February 2017

# Ghetto Mirror

*Real life stories from the slums*

ISSUE 38



Ghetto Mirror



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# Women of Stone



In a world where the building and construction sector is dominated mostly by men, a brave new crop of women is emerging.

These women have taken construction sites by storm and are performing heavy tasks which have always been known as 'manly'.

Ghetto Mirror reporters caught up with some of them to share their story.

Story >>> Page 3



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# TALKING POINT

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You can also drop your letters at our offices in Gatwekera near PAG Church.

## Creating a culture of independence

In this month's issue of Ghetto Mirror, we feature an array of stories about women who are making a big difference in the society.

Our main feature is about women who have flooded the construction industry in the country and are doing difficult tasks which were previously known as 'manly'.

In our entrepreneurship section, we have featured a female motorbike rider who has carved out a special niche for her clients in a male-dominated field.

We have also shared with you the story of a female artiste who was born and raised in the slum but has grown to become a voice of reason through her music.

These stories carry a significant message to the community and the world at large; they carry a message of freedom and liberation.

For many centuries now, women have been known as the weaker sex. Their opinions often come second despite the fact that they carry the heavier burden in society.

Seeing these women walking out of their comfort zones to successfully handle tasks which were deemed too tough for them is a great awakening for the community. It indeed shows a mind-shift and is an indication of a future filled with independent women.

These are women who are charting new paths for themselves; paths where they do not have to beg for resources or for attention. They are brave, strong women who have learnt how to fend for themselves and their dependents.

We hope you enjoy our features this month as we welcome the new generation of liberated women amongst us.



## Big number of street children is a symbol of a failed state

Jane Macharia

The big number of street children who are roaming the streets during the day and night are a sign that the government has failed in providing the needs of the society.

Every day, the city centre in Nairobi is filled with children rummaging through dustbins looking for food to eat.

Some of these children sleep on the corridors and alleyways, covering themselves with polythene paper and rags.

At night, little children follow pedestrians tugging on their clothes while begging for money and food while others stand outside supermarkets borrowing.

While the source of the children is not clearly known, it is suspected that most of them come from the several slums dotting the county.

To date, there is little data from the government showing the number of street children in Kenya, which is the major part of the problem.

The only available data is from a local non-governmental organization, the Consortium of Street Children (CSC), which estimated in 2007 the number of street children to be 250,000 countrywide.

In Nairobi alone, they were estimated to be around 60,000.

These numbers are staggering and the fact that the government has not made any move to confirm or refute them is a cause for worry.

All children require utmost care and attention from the time they are born until they reach adulthood.

However, street children lack this critical care, leaving them in the hands of a cruel world. The stronger ones often survive while the weaker

children succumb to the harsh conditions of the street.

Others harden up and become criminals and thugs.

The government has clearly turned a blind eye to the plight of these children, but it is time to wake up and act.

Acting means rescuing the children from the streets, rehabilitating those who are addicted to drugs and providing them with shelter, food and clothing.

The children also need to be enrolled in school as the older ones are empowered to become economically independent.

Ignoring them is only buying time for the children to increase and the problem will be much harder to deal with in the future than it is now.

*Jane Macharia is a correspondent of Ghetto Mirror*

## Quote of the month

If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.

*Napoleon Hill*

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## YOUR SAY

### Youth and adults should be encouraged to join literacy classes

By Eddy Ngila

I recently visited the library at SHOFCO Mathare and was impressed by the big number of children who were in the library reading.

What surprised me most was that the children brought themselves to the library and they knew how to select books from the shelves without any assistance. This alone goes to show that the children already have an established reading culture and a positive attitude towards learning.

This scenario got me thinking on how we can motivate and encourage youth and adults who missed a learning opportunity when they were young, so as to enable them pursue education and improve their lives.

So far, the best avenue we have is through the government's adult and continuing education (ACE) programme through which youth and adults can go back to school and study. The government has also covered considerable ground through the free primary and subsidized secondary education programmes.

However, even with the government's efforts to enhance literate communities through these initiatives, enrolling learners into the programmes remains a challenge. As of June last year, the Ministry of Education had enrolled a total of 306, 228 learners into ACE programs across the country.

This number is still very low considering that almost eight million people in Kenya are still illiterate. This calls for a massive enrollment

campaign which will see more numbers recruited into the learning programme.

Each and every person should be encouraged to join adult literacy classes from the level where they left off so that they can at least complete their primary and secondary studies.

Earning these basic literacy skills like reading and writing will go a long way in empowering members of the community, especially traders who will now be able to account for their money and take charge of their lives.

Like the children at the library, youth and adults should also be encouraged to take charge of their literacy and take advantage of resources around them to empower themselves.

*Eddy Ngila is the Sub-county Adult Education Officer for Starehe Constituency*

# Female construction workers break the stereotype



## KIBERA

Jennifer Achieng' lifts the concrete block skillfully from the ground and places it on her head.

The block sits comfortably on a shawl which Achieng' has rolled into a bun and put on her head to aid with balance.

She rises carefully from her squat and walks swiftly across the compound, up two floors of staircase and on to the third floor where she puts down the block and quickly goes back for another.

On the third floor of the rapidly rising building located in Jamhuri area, 21-year old Roselina Moraa who works as a bricklayer picks the concrete block from a pile and carefully places it on a layer of concrete mix which she has evened out with a trowel.

Moraa has to work quickly because the blocks are coming in fast and the foreman has made orders to complete the wall today.

Moraa and Achieng' are just two among hundreds of women who have flocked construction sites in different parts of the city. You will often see them digging trenches along highways, pushing wheelbarrows filled with sand while others carry buckets of mixing concrete.

These labourers are popularly known as *watu wa mkono* (handymen) as their work literally involves lifting and carrying construction materials.

Over time, these women have adapted to carrying out duties which were originally a preserve for men.

This is because of the masculine

nature of the job which requires heavy lifting and tough working conditions.

"It is a hard job because on the construction site there is no time for sympathy. You work long hours and carry heavy loads but in the end *wira ni wira* (work is work)," says Ruth Maithya, the 'gateman' at a Kibera site.

Maithya has been a construction worker for close to four years and she says she is now familiar with almost all the construction work.

Her first construction job was sandpapering walls before the painting process.

She then worked as a storekeeper at different sites in Highrise and South C estates before landing in Kibera.

Her current job as a gateman involves many coordination tasks because she has to manage the entry and exit of people and materials into and out of the site.

Maithya, who is a tailor by profession, says she prefers construction work and hopes to pursue engineering in the future.

"I love construction work

because it is very fulfilling," she says.

The site she works at has around 10 women who are carrying out different tasks from cleaning, plastering and ferrying loads.

She says the women have tremendously grown in their work and stepped up to the bar of their male colleagues.

Site duties are often shared out in the morning when all workers arrive on site, meaning there is no specific duty for men or women.

This scenario has enabled the women on site to familiarize themselves with different tasks and to gain diverse construction skills.

Maithya says she and her female colleagues are proof that women can excel in any career or profession and she is encouraging other women to join the bandwagon.

"We need to get rid of stereotypes which put women down and instead encourage them to work hard to utilize their gifts and potential."

Story compiled by Kevin Oswago,  
Felix Mutinda & Jane Macharia



(Top) A female laborer cleans a window at a construction site in Kibera. (Right) A woman mixing cement, sand and water for plastering.

Photos | Jane Macharia

# Nubians make desperate cry for justice

## KIBERA

By Veronica Kaveza

Members of the Nubian Community in Kibera have given the government a 45-day ultimatum to issue them with their identification (ID) cards or else they will march to the State House in protest.

Speaking from his office in Makina, Kibera, chairman of the Nubian Rights Forum (NRF) Shafi Ali blamed the government for failing to assist Nubians in obtaining their ID cards and other important documents.

"We Nubians have to wait for one to three years to get an ID card and that is after undergoing an exhaustive vetting process.

We are often ordered to produce extra supporting documents besides the normal ones required by the registrar," says Ali.

He says that the process is worse for Nubians living outside Kibera because they are sent back to register for the documents there, regardless of where they live.



Shafi Ali, Chairman of the Nubian Rights Forum in Kibera

Photo | Veronica Kaveza

Ali goes on to reveal he has waiting cards of some Nubians who made their applications in 2012 and have still not been issued with the cards.

Some Nubians have not been able to change their ID cards from first to third generation ones due to similar restrictions. Such is the case of Ahmed Khalili Khafe.

The 71 year old says he applied to change his ID card to a third generation one in 2014 after losing his documents.

"Since then, every time I go to the Kibera office for my ID card, they give me a different excuse and tell me to check the following day.

Am I not a Kenyan? Other people get their ID cards in three weeks' time but what about us?" he poses.

The former policeman says the government has denied him access to his social, civic and economic rights.

"I want to vote in the coming elections but now I can't because I don't know when I will ever get my ID card," he says, agitated.

The Nubian community is estimated at 100,000 people with

most of them residing in the sprawling Kibera slum.

"Despite this large number, we have not been registered as a tribe in Kenya and we are referred to as "others". The government must stop this discrimination immediately," says Ali, unable to conceal his anger.

He says the rampant discrimination facing Nubians is a threat to their youth who cannot open bank accounts, apply for scholarships or even vote.

"We are giving the government an ultimatum of 45

days to issue us the pending cards. If it doesn't issue us with the cards within this period of time, then we will march to the State House to petition our case to President Uhuru Kenyatta himself."

### Highlights

- Nubians say government is discriminating them by denying them ID cards
- Lack of ID cards excludes them from the voting process
- Community gives state 45-day ultimatum for justice

# Kibera welder finds Beauty in the Beast

## KIBERA

By Tonny Oluoch

Many people fear wild animals because they are known to be fierce, dangerous and in some cases, man-eaters. However for Samuel Ochanda, wild animals are his best friends

Ochanda is the proprietor and owner of a welding business at Area 42 in Kibera where his signature identification is the life-size animals he welds using iron sheets.

When you pass by the roadside, you will often see a tall giraffe or a huge elephant standing confidently on the ground, unabashed.

Today we find him busy at his stall making the final touches on a male buffalo. "This is the actual size of a real life buffalo," he says.

The animal has already been welded together and the craftsman together with his protégé worker is adding small details to the eyes before he embarks on painting it.

On the ground barely two



Top: Samuel's protégé welder makes finishing touches on a buffalo model. (Bottom left) Samuel Ochanda at his workshop. (Bottom right) A band of metal frogs playing their guitars.

Photos | Tonny Oluoch.

He can also make the figure of an elephant which is nearly four meters long and two meters wide.

Ochanda says that he gets his raw materials from Industrial area and Gikomba markets and transports them to his workshop in Kibera. It takes him a day to assemble the lining using wires and three days to patch up the lining using iron sheets. After this, he paints the animal and it is ready to go to the market. Ochanda says that while he makes the smaller animals in bulk and displays them at his stall, the bigger animals are only made on order.

"My main customers are hotels in Maasai Mara, petrol stations, supermarkets and home owners who have large gardens," he says. The smaller animals sell for any amount between Ksh3,500 and Ksh5,000 while the bigger ones are more expensive.

"I am really passionate about this work, and that is why I wake up every morning to do it," Ochanda quips adding "I don't intend to change my job ever."



meters away stands a band of four metal frogs which are comically strumming on guitars.

Ochanda says he began his welding business back in 2011 where his main products were steel windows. However due to the monotony of making windows, and also considering that there was stiff competition from other welders, Ochanda quickly got bored.

"One day I made a small bird by welding together pieces of metal," he says. "I used to be an artist so making the bird was very easy for me." On seeing the final product, an

idea sprung up in his mind: he could weld animals using iron sheets and sell them.

Ochanda quickly began his research by cutting out animal pictures from newspapers and magazines.

After observing the pictures, he would then weld iron sheets together to make the final model.

At first he began by making small figures, but as his confidence grew, so did the size of his models.

Today Ochanda can weld the model of an adult giraffe which is about 15 or 16 feet tall.



# one on one: Winnie Aluoch



## MATHARE

By Antonne Okoya

Your song *Mama* is inspiring people everywhere you perform. Tell us about it.

The song is called *Nani kama mama yangu* (who is like my mother) and I wrote it as a special dedication to my mother to thank her for the love she has shown me over the years.

What motivated you to write the song *Mama*?

My mother raised my sister and I as a single parent since our father passed on when we were still very young. Being born and raised in the slum by a single parent was not easy at all and I saw the struggles my mother went through to put food on the table for us.

So the song is to appreciate not only my mother, but also millions of mothers out there who sacrifice their lives for the sake of their families and their children.

How did you rise up from the

challenges of being disadvantaged to become successful?

First of all, being born and raised in a slum is not a mistake, and I would encourage youth in the slum to be responsible for themselves and the community.

I believe in God and I have always told myself that it does not matter what other people say about me; what matters is what God says. Therefore I work hard to do my best and God does the rest.

Have you produced any other tracks?

I am still working on my new tracks but meanwhile I intend to join music school so as to sharpen my skills.

Did you always want to pursue music as a career?

I discovered I have a passion in singing when I was in class two. My teacher helped me to nurture my talent and I would lead the school as well as the praise and worship teams in singing.

Which other artistes do you look

up to in the industry?

I am inspired by several gospel artistes, especially Christina Shusho, because her songs are biblical and she sings to acknowledge the power of God.

I hope that as I grow in my career I will one day do a collabo with either Christina Shusho, Mercy Masika, Lady Jay Dee or Everline Wanjiru because I love their music and their style.

What else do you do besides music?

I am a Youth Peer Provider in Mathare.

I studied social work and community development through a scholarship from Mathare Community Outreach which is a local organization.

Five years from now?

I am working hard to produce three albums of purely gospel songs. I believe that talent can change someone's circumstances and anything great comes from humility and patience.

# Fungua Roho **NA**



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Children from Kibera slum carry bundles of firewood which they collected from Ngong' Forest to take home.

Photo | Mavado Ondivou'r



Youth in Mukuru kwa Njenga prepare for a cleanup exercise organized by Thomas Makambora, an aspirant MCA in the area.

Photo | Philip Ocheche



Dorothy Wasonga, a Youth Peer Coordinator in Mathare speaks to a group of women during a community outreach.

Photo | Jane Macharia



Scholar Atieno and Terry Akinyi from SHOFCO Kibera clean the pavement during an environmental clean-up exercise organized by the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) department.

Photo | Adan Ibrahim



A woman gathers soil from a hole in Sarang'ombe village, Kibera as her daughter looks on. The soil will be sifted and used to make charcoal briquettes for sale.

Photo | courtesy

## BIZNA

# Mukuru female *bodaboda* rider treading the path of men

By Philip Ocheche

Liz Nduku Katweme, popularly known as Yap Yap in Mukuru kwa Njenga slum, is not your ordinary woman.

Just looking at her, you may easily assume her politeness and calm poise, but when she boards her motorcycle ready to ride, the tough woman in her comes out.

Nduku is a *bodaboda* (commercial motorcycle) rider in the sprawling Mukuru kwa Njenga slum. Rumor has it that she is the only female rider in the entire slum, with all other riders being male.

Indeed riding a commercial motorcycle is known to be a man's job because of the hurdles associated with it.

"In the slums especially, there are many dangerous corners and



narrow alleyways which require a rider to be extra careful," says Nduku. Besides that, most traders in the slum use motorbikes to ferry their wares which are very heavy. Therefore when a female rider offers

to do the job, it is obvious that many people become skeptical.

Nduku says when she started riding commercially, this was the biggest hurdle she faced. "People laughed and scoffed at me saying

that I was too weak to carry them. Women were actually terrified because they thought that I would drop them," says Nduku laughing.

But as time went by, one satisfied customer turned into two and now Nduku proudly boasts of having a chain of customers, some who can only be carried by her and not any other rider.

She says people still stare at her as she maneuvers her way around the slum despite the fact that she has been riding for close to eight years now. Even so, the mother of three does not relent because with each passing day, she gets better at the job.

Surprisingly, the same women who used to doubt her services at first have now become her favorite clients because they feel safe with her.

She says "I have never had

an accident nor encountered a robbing incident in all my years as a rider because as a woman, I am extra careful with my passengers. I observe the traffic rules and ensure that I am always on the right."

Nduku reveals that she learned to ride motorcycles during her free time when she was still working at a company in Industrial Area.

With time, what began as a simple pastime has now become a career and she loves it. Although she is still hired to work as a rider, she intends to purchase her own motorcycle soon.

She says the biggest challenge so far is dealing with errant male clients who refuse to pay her in cash for her services and instead ask for sexual favors. This notwithstanding, Nduku remains firm and is determined to succeed at her career against all odds.

## Children in Mathare dropping out of school due to water crisis



**Children scramble to wash their hands from a makeshift tap. The acute water shortage in the country is forcing children out of school.**

Photo | File

### MATHARE

By Felix Omondi

As drought continues to ravage many parts of the country and water rationing overwhelms Nairobi and its environs, school-going children in Mathare slums are dropping out of school to search for the scarce commodity.

A spot check by Ghetto Mirror in the slum revealed that school children have been adversely affected by the shortage, resulting in dire consequences such as delayed

meals, decreased sanitation levels and increased risk of contracting water borne diseases.

Samuel Muendo, the head teacher at Hope Primary School in Gitathuru village says that they have experienced delays in serving meals as children are forced to fetch water from far.

“This situation has really affected our school time table because lunch-break runs into class time and therefore the children do not have enough time to study,” he says.

The Nairobi City Water and

Sewerage Company (NCWSC) started the nationwide water rationing plan on 1st January this year and is expected to run it for four months until April when the country is expected to receive rainfall.

The water rationing was due to a decrease in water levels at the Ndakaini dam which supplies water to Nairobi residents.

Although majority of households in the country are affected by the rationing, residents of slums are carrying the weight of the plan since most water points are shared communally thus increasing the demand for water.

It has now become a common sight to see women traversing the slums with their jerry cans in search of water.

At the St. James Day and Boarding Primary School in Mathare 3C area, the head teacher Mr. Peter Mutuku says they have been facing an array of problems since the water rationing began.

“Our sanitation levels have greatly decreased as there is no water to clean the compound, the toilets cannot be flushed and our boarding students can’t shower or do their washing well,” said Mr. Mutuku.

### No time

Mutuku further explains that he has noted increased cases of absenteeism since children are forced to help search for water for family use.

“These children don’t even have enough time to do their homework and this situation has sometimes

forced the school to close for the day earlier than usual so as to give both the students and the teachers time to fetch water.”

The school has also been forced to dig deeper into its pocket so as to run its feeding program and sustain its boarding department.

Mutuku says that they currently spend Ksh700 each day to purchase water, an expense which is not sustainable.

Businesses have not been left out of the water crisis.

Eunice Mwikali, a trader who runs a kiosk in Mathare Kosovo area, says she has suffered great losses caused by the water shortage.

Mwikali says she spends a lot of time fetching water and is therefore not able to serve her customers well.

She says that she is forced to fetch water for three hours daily, a process which makes her miss out on customers.

“In fact it’s very expensive, we used to buy water for three shillings per 20 liter jerry can but now the same jerry can is being sold for 25 or 30 shillings.” She states.

Besides the untenable cost, Mwikali says the cleanliness levels of her kiosk been compromised because there is not enough water to clean the compound and the utensils.

According to the Kenya Meteorological Department, there are two months left before the anticipated rainfall is seen and residents will be forced to use the available water sparingly so as to sustain them through this tough period.

## Nairobi County Government Rescues Hundreds of Street Kids



**Street boys beg for bread from passersby at night.**

Photo | Fred Maingi

### NAIROBI

By Fred Maingi

The Nairobi County Government has rescued more than 2,000 street urchins in an ongoing initiative to rescue and rehabilitate the children from life in the streets.

The County executive for Education, Social Services and ICT, Anne Lokidor, said the rescue programme was launched in December last year with the aim of ridding the central business district (CBD) of street children who have made it their home.

Lokidor further said that more than 2,000 street children have been rescued in the swoops and taken to different rehabilitation centers.

This comes after numerous complaints were made by members of the business community in the city center concerning the urchins who pose a security threat to the businesses and clients.

In many cases, the street boys often collude in gangs to attack and rob unsuspecting pedestrians of their valuables.

### Drug addiction

While commending county officers for the successful swoops, Lokidor said she was happy about the initiative because the street children will now receive good care in the rehabilitation centers.

The rescued children will undergo counselling and receive treatment from drug addiction. Besides that, they will be enrolled in school where they will get crucial training on life skills.

Nairobi County has five rehabilitation centers where rescued children are placed for treatment. Just last year, a total of 17 children in these centers sat their Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) examinations while seven others sat their Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examinations.

In recent months, there has been an influx of street children in the CBD which the county government blames on unstable homes, domestic violence and poverty.

## SUN compensates family of slain Kibera woman



**SUN Coordinator Erick Okwama presents a compensation cheque to Zena Ahmed as members of the Luwali sisters look on.**

Photo Henry Muchuati

### KIBERA

By Henry Muchuati

The SHOFCO Urban Network (SUN) has awarded family members of the late Bi Nasra Ahmed a sum of Ksh50,000 as compensation for their loss after Nasra was brutally murdered early this year.

Nasra met her death at her Kibera home in a chilling incident which left neighbors and family

members in shock.

During the incident, her son went berserk from an alleged drug overdose and hit his mother with a gas cylinder, killing her instantly.

He went on to stab his two sisters with a knife before neighbours could intervene.

The two women are still recuperating from their injuries.

While presenting the cheque to the bereft family members, SUN Coordinator Mr. Erick Okwama remembered Nasra as a valiant

member of SUN who had helped largely in opening up the network to the Muslim community in Kibera through her group Luwali Sisters.

“We have lost a very important member in our network and we sincerely share in your loss,” said Okwama to family members who had gathered to receive the cheque.

### Drug addiction

In a show of compassion, Mr. Okwama invited Zena Ahmed, daughter of the deceased, to take

up her late mother’s position in the network where she had been a key member.

He also commended the Luwali Sisters for their active participation in the network and assured them of SUN’s continued support.

Through its welfare committee, SUN has so far compensated eight families in the month of January, including two in Makina area.

Asha Ali, the chairlady of Luwali Sisters called on the government and local authorities to help curb the drug menace in Kibera slum which she said has claimed the lives of several youth in the area.

“Our young children are being initiated into drug abuse and so many of them have already lost their lives.

We are appealing to the government and our local organizations to curb this menace and set up rehabilitation centers where our youth can be treated,” she said.



# Sports

## Gogo Boys makes it to the Provincials



Members of Gogo Boys FC during training at the Woodley Stadium in Kibera. The team has been promoted to the Nairobi Regional League.

Photo | Abdulrazak Roba

### KIBERA

By Adan Ibrahim

Gogo Boys FC has been promoted to the Nairobi Regional League of Nairobi West Branch after an exhilarating performance at the Nairobi County Maisha League last year.

This elevation will see them pit against other Kibera teams in the provincial Regional League such

as Kibra United, Quarkestomaz, Uweza and Shofco FC.

While commending his players for the achievement, the Chairman Omar Abdul Suleiman said the club has grown over the years with the vision of making Kibera a nurturing ground for footballers.

“Our aim is to change one person at a time through sports. Vices which are rampant in slum areas can be overcome if we focus on harnessing talent from our youth,” he said.

Gogo Boys FC, which has been in existence since the nineties,

was registered as a CBO and a football club in the year 2014 under sponsorship from Pathologist Lancet Kenya Limited. Since then, the club has established itself as a center for nurturing talent with a mission to keep the youth from drug abuse and engaging in criminal activities.

Some key players who have passed through the club include Ahmed Yusuf, formerly of Sofapaka FC and Lamine Dialo, formerly of AFC Leopards.

“We operate under the Mantra “playing for change”, a guideline

which is meant to encourage the youth in Kibera who are talented in sports to pursue a career in football,” said Suleiman noting that with the right amount of guidance and dedication, one can pursue it as a career because it is lucrative.

Gogo FC’s journey to the top began in 2015 when the team embarked on a mission to take at least seven years to go through the various stages and eventually become the first team from Kibera to play in the Kenya Premier League by registering in the Nairobi Sub-county League, a mission which has taken off successfully.

In future, the football club plans to establish a fully-fledged football academy complete with youth teams of various age groups as well as a women team.

### Gogo Boys FC Highlights

2014 - Ramadhan Cup Champions

2015 - Ramadhan Cup Finalists

2015 - Nairobi Sub-county League Champions

2016 - Winners, Best Youth Group category, EA Nubian Awards

## Governor’s cup in quarter finals

### NAIROBI

By Fred Maingi

Parklands Baptist were forced to dig deep before edging out the well drilled Deep Sea United by a solitary goal in one of the ongoing Nairobi Governor’s Cup matches staged in Nairobi.

In another entertaining clash, City Park FC and Kipande FC managed a 2-0 win over Bora United and Sevie FC respectively.

Nyabinge, Bufallo, Dama and Uptown FC also managed a 2-0 win in their matches while the clash between Gesta and Matrix ended 3-2 in favour of Gesta.

The tournament is aimed at educating the youth on the dangers of alcoholism and is organized by Nairobi County in conjunction with Football Kenya Federation (FKF). The tournament, which involves slum teams, has entered its quarter final stage with a total of 26 goals realized so far.

### Results at a glance

#### Kawangware Ward

Nyabinge 2 - Kamboni 0  
Buffalo 2 - Young Peles 0  
Gesta 3 - Matrix 2  
Yope 0 - Dama 2

#### South C Ward

Green Zone 0 - Uptown 2  
Disaster 1 - AFC Youth 3  
Cheza Africa 0 - 12C FC 1

## Blackstars through to Div 1

### NAIROBI

By Adan Ibrahim

Kibera Black Stars FC has made it to nationwide Division 1 (2016), making it the only team in history of Kibera to have played on that level.

The team, popularly known as Kibera’s number one, made it to the top by being first in the league three times in three consecutive years.

In 2014, the club was top of their provincial group at the Regional F.K.F League. They broke the record again in 2015 and were promoted to Nationwide Division 2.

This was before their ground-breaking win last year which qualified them as being the first slum team to be on top of their league for three times in three years.

The team has now been promoted to second tier in the National Super League after beating Coast Stima 3-2 at Marist grounds. They finished on top with a gap total of 7 points on their table standing.

## SHOFCO senior football team selection



SHOFCO FC players pose for a photo at Umeme grounds

Photo | Adan Ibrahim

### MATHARE

By Felix Omondi

The SHOFCO senior football team, from the 23rd of January to the 3rd of February, successfully conducted trials and selection

sessions at the PCEA grounds in Eastleigh.

The two weeks trial sessions were meant to pick some of the best players from Mathare and its environs so as to strengthen the team as they head over to a new season of the Football Kenya Federation

(FKF) Nairobi West League.

Lucas Bwire, the SHOFCO senior team coach added that the sessions were also aimed at replacing some of the players they had lost to other teams and also to choose a new 30-man squad for the team.

“We are looking for four things in a player; positive mentality, technical, physical and tactical attributes,” said Bwire.

The coach went on to say that they were mostly looking to bolster their attacking position with new wingers who had fast speed, great dribbling skills and those who can float in crosses to assist the strikers.

The team was also in dire need of an alternative goalkeeper as they had been relying on the services of only one keeper in the previous season.

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**Lucas Bwire**  
Senior Team Coach

Dominic Omondi are still eyeing a top 10 finish this season as an improvement from their middle table finish last season.