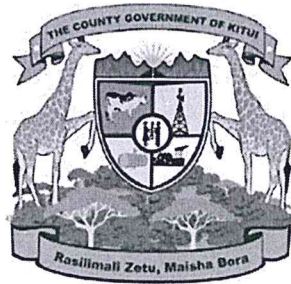


**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI**



**THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY**

**SECOND ASSEMBLY- (FIFTH SESSION)**

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**COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, SPORTS AND CULTURE**

**REPORT ON**

**STUDY VISIT TO ETHIOPIA ON DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE  
CULTURAL HERITAGE.**



**The Clerk's Chambers  
P.O. Box 694  
Kitui**

**OCT 2021**

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

C.B.Os-----Community based organisations

CECM-----County Executive Committee Member

GVB -----Gender Based Violence

PWDs ----- Persons with Disabilities

GDP ----- Gross Domestic Product

## **1.0 CHAPTER ONE**

### **1.1 PREFACE**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

On behalf of the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order Nos. 179(6) and 190(5) (g), it's my privilege to present to the House, the committee report on Development of Sustainable Cultural Heritage undertaken from 13<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2020 in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia.

### **1.2 Mandate of the Committee**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture is established under Standing Order No. 190(1) of the Kitui County Assembly Standing Orders. Pursuant to the Standing Orders No. 190 (5), the Committee is mandated to:-

- i) investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;
- ii) study the program and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- iii) study and review all county legislation referred to it;
- iv) study, assess and analyze the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- v) investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
- vi) to vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 184 (Committee on Appointments) ; and

- vii) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation;

### **1.3 Membership of the Committee**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The Committee is comprised of the following Members:

- |                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter | Chairperson      |
| 2. Hon. Deiys M. Mukala        | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Annastacia M. Mutunga  | Member           |
| 4. Hon. Alex Ngau Musili       | Member           |
| 5. Hon. Alexander Munuve Mbili | Member           |
| 6. Hon. Jefason N. Kiruru      | Member           |
| 7. Hon. John Mbaki Kisangau    | Member           |
| 8. Hon. Mary Ndumbu            | Member           |
| 9. Hon. Muteti Nding'uri       | Member           |
| 10. Hon. Nelson Kivali Musyoka | Member           |
| 11. Hon. Stephen Katana        | Member           |

### **2.0 COMPOSITION OF THE DELEGATION**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The delegation consisted of the following members;-

1	Hon. Elizabeth N. Peter	Chairperson of the Delegation
2	Hon. Deiys Mukala	Member
3	Hon. Annastacia M. Mutunga	Member
4	Hon. Anne Mumo	Member
5	Hon. Dr. Grace Mutua	Member
6	Hon. Mary P. Ndumbu	Member
7	Mr. Dennis Makuthu	Committee Clerk.

### **3.0 JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY VISIT**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Our heritage provides clues to our past and how our society has evolved. It helps us examine our history and traditions and enables us develop an awareness about ourselves. It helps us understand and explain why we are the way we are.

Cultural heritage is concerned with a country or region's culture especially the lifestyle of the people, their art, architecture, social interest and other elements that helps to shape their way of life. .This diversification has attracted foreign tourists who come to cherish and gather information about the culture of Ethiopia.

Ethiopia is a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic country. Religion is a major influence in Ethiopian life and nearly half of the population belongs to the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. Nevertheless, there is also a large Muslim population and other religions that adhere to an ancient form of Judaism.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Besides providing economic gain, cultural heritage preservation protects local and national identity and pride, and reminds people of their common history and progress. Keeping old stuff around, reflects a time long ago and reminds us that people and things were different in the past. Historic preservation is a sign of respect. Culture is a matter of pride. Unique historical and cultural sites give places a sense of identity.

It is on this basis that the committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture organized a study visit to the Country to expose and enable Honorable members get acquainted with knowledge and skills pertaining to sustainable cultural heritage.

#### **4.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY VISIT**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The study visit was in furtherance of the committee's mandate and its work plan. Members undertook the study visit to the Country to expose and enable them get acquainted with knowledge and skills pertaining to developing a sustainable cultural heritage. The visit was tailored to achieve the following objectives;-

- To enable members gain knowledge on how to build social capital.
- Acquire know-how on promotion and preservation of local traditions, customs and culture.
- To gain knowledge on how cultural heritage helps improve community's image and pride.
- To further understand how Ethiopia as a nation has been able to promote community beautification.
- To be exposed to Ethiopian successful and fascinating history.

#### **5.0 VISITS TO VARIOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

During the visit, the delegation was given a guided tour on major cultural heritage sites within Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The areas visited included;

- i. Entoto Park
- ii. The Unity Park - at the National Palace of Ethiopia
- iii. Debre Libanos Monastery
- iv. The Kuriftu Water Park
- v. Africa Park
- vi. The Ethiopia-Korea Memorial Site Park
- vii. The Ensera pottery centre
- viii. Ethiopian Airlines Group Facilities

**6.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The Committee is grateful to the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support extended to it in facilitating the study visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

I also wish to express my appreciation to the Honourable Members of the committee who travelled to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to undertake this assignment and preparation of this report.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Finally, on behalf of the members of delegation, it is now my pleasant duty and privilege, to present the report to the House for adoption by the Assembly.

Thank You.

Signed: .....  .....

**HON ELIZABETH NDUNGE PETER.**

**CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, SPORTS AND CULTURE**

Date: ..... 21/10/2024 .....



## 7.0 BACKGROUND OF ETHIOPIA

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Ethiopia is located in the Horn of Africa, bordering Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya, Somalia, Eritrea and Djibouti. The country has the second largest population in Africa, with over 50% of people being under 25 years of age. Due to the vast size of the population, it is important to recognize that descriptions of Ethiopian cultural customs can vary significantly. There are many distinct cultural practices that are specific to people's region, ethnicity or religion. Despite this diversity, Ethiopians are generally united by their patriotism and pride in the country's overarching cultural identity.

Ethiopia is the oldest independent country in Africa that was once ruled as a dynasty by a series of monarchs. It is distinct from most other African nations as it is one of the only countries that successfully resisted European colonisation. The Ethiopian Empire also known as *Abyssinia* was one of the last active empires in the world. Its strong statehood was key to Ethiopia's successful resistance of colonisation. The fact that the culture was untouched by colonialism and continues to be taught in its original form by its own people is a massive source of pride for Ethiopians.

Ethiopians are also often keen to point out that they are one of the only African nations that were not introduced to Christianity by Europeans. Rather, Ethiopia was one of the first countries to declare Christianity as the official state religion in 333 CE. As such, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church is a strong national symbol and continues to be practised in reflection of its historic roots. While it is often understated, one may find that Ethiopians are very confident in the righteousness of their faith. Their sense of morality and cultural refinement are shaped by centuries of practice, and continue to inform how they see themselves in the contemporary setting.

In addition to the monarchy, whose imperial line can be traced to King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church was a major force in that; in combination with the political system, it fostered nationalism with its geographic center in the highlands. The combination of church and state was an indissoluble alliance that controlled the nation during the adoption of Christianity in 333 until the overthrow of Haile Selassie in 1974. Thereafter a socialist government (the Derge) known for its brutality governed the nation until 1991. The Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) defeated the Derge and established a democratic rule, which currently governs Ethiopia.

Ethiopia is currently an ethnic federation composed of eleven states that are largely ethnically based. This type of organization is intended to minimize ethnic strife. The highest official is the prime minister, and the president is a figurehead with no real power. The legislative branch consists of a bicameral legislation in which all people and ethnicities can be represented.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Ethiopians generally identify as '*habesha*'. This term is used to describe the unique culture and people of the Ethiopia regardless of ethnicity. While there are certain cultural traditions that represent a national or 'habesha' culture, practices differ between religions and ethnicities. Ethiopia contains over 80 different ethnic groups. Their ancestries vary, with some tracing back to Bantu or Nilotic tribes of sub-Saharan Africa whilst others have closer heritage to the Cushitic tribes of the Middle East.

Amharic is the only language that has official status throughout the entire country. However, Somali, Oromiffo, Afar and Tigrinya have official status in the regional states relating the majority ethnicity. English is also the most widely understood foreign language.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

In sports, track and field is Ethiopia's most successful sport, in which they have won many medals in the Olympic Games. Abebe Bikila, an Ethiopian marathon runner, was the first African to ever take home an Olympic gold medal. He bagged the coveted prize in 1960 in the Rome summer Olympics and shocked the world. Not only because he won in record time, but he was also barefoot. He won again four years later in Tokyo, this time with shoes. Football is the most popular sport in Ethiopia. Despite lack of success by the national team, it is supported by a significant part of the population.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Gender inequality is still prevalent. Men often spend their free time socializing outside the home, while women take care of the household. If a man participates in domestic activities such as cooking and child rearing, he may become a social outcast.

The education of boys is stressed more than that of girls, who are supposed to help with household work. Girls are restricted from leaving the home and engaging in social activities with friends much more than boys are. Nevertheless, the gender division in urban areas is less pronounced than it is in the countryside. Many women work outside of the home, and there tends to be a greater awareness of gender inequality. Women in urban areas are still responsible, with or without a career, for the domestic space. Employment at a baseline level is fairly equivalent, but men tend to be promoted much faster and more often.

The country also has its own ancient alphabet and calendar that are still in use. The Ethiopian New Year, or “Enkutatash” in Amharic language, falls on September 11<sup>th</sup> or September 12<sup>th</sup> during a leap year. The calendar, counts its year seven to eight years behind the Gregorian calendar.

Remarkably the coffee ceremony is a common ritual. The server starts a fire and roasts green coffee beans while burning frankincense. Once roasted, the coffee beans are ground with a mortar and pestle, and the powder is placed in a traditional black pot called a “*jebena*”. Water is then added. The “*jebena*” is removed from the fire, and coffee is served after brewing for the proper length of time.

Meat, specifically beef, chicken, and lamb, is eaten with a local bread known as “*injera*” on special occasions. Beef is sometimes eaten raw or slightly cooked in a dish called “*kitfo*”. Traditionally, this was a staple of the diet, but in the modern era, many of the elite have shunned it in favor of cooked beef.

During Christian fasting periods, no animal products can be eaten and no food or drink can be consumed from midnight until 3 P.M. This is the standard way of fasting during the week, and on Saturday and Sunday no animal products may be consumed, although there is no time restriction on the fast.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Culture is an increasingly important element of the tourism product as it creates distinctiveness in a crowded global marketplace. For this reason, it is suffice to say that culture and tourism have a mutually beneficial relationship which can strengthen the attractiveness and competitiveness of places, regions and countries.

## **8.0 KEY AREAS VISITED BY THE DELEGATION**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The member managed to visit the following areas;-

### **i. The Entoto Park**

Entoto Natural Park is a park of serenity and resounding joy. It’s a unique place to discover the most breathtaking ancient mountain nature with streams

flowing from clear springs and waterfalls. The Park lies on the south-eastern slopes of Mt Entoto, between the northern limit of the city of Addis Ababa at an altitude of 2,600m and the track along the mountain ridge at altitude over 3,100m.

Historically, Entoto Mountain was where the palace and the royal court to Emperor Menelik was based in the 1800s. Later, the Ethiopian Prime Minister started Entoto Natural park of Addis Ababa as a tourist attraction.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

As Fascinating and captivating as Entoto Natural Park is, it lacked the necessary infrastructures and stayed under developed for long .To establish these necessary infrastructures and to make it a world-class visitor experience, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed initiated “The Entoto Project” alongside “The Sheger River side projects” . Built with great imagination and ingenuity, the planning and construction of the park was undertaken by Ethiopians only in terms of knowledge and finance.

Currently, the Park is fully equipped with various indoor and outdoor facilities including sport centers, library, entertainment joints, restaurants and coffee shops, artificial lake and fountains walk ways, bike, scooter and cart roots. Most of these facilities were constructed using local material so they blend in beautifully with the natural environment of the park.

Other Sights that can be seen on foot in the natural environment of Entoto Natural Park include views of Addis Ababa, Entoto Mariam Church, the Historical Museum, Menelik’s Palace, two Kedus Raguel and Kedus Elias Churches from different eras, the Washa Mikael Church ruins and runners training on the forest trails.

Some 400 women who used to make a living by collecting fire woods in the forest have got training by BGI Ethiopia and Coca Cola to be able to provide inputs for the restaurants and cafes in Entoto Park.

The park continues to be a particular interest to birdwatchers with some 200 bird species registered in the mixed habitats of forest wood land, rock sloop cliffs and marshes. Of the total species recorded The Abyssinian Catbird (*Parophasma galiniei*) and Yellow-fronted Parrot (*Poicephalus flavifrons*) are endemic to Ethiopia.

## **ii. Unity Park -National Palace of Ethiopia**

The Park which is located within the National Palace of Ethiopia, embodies generational legacy of Ethiopia and Ethiopians.

The National Palace which rests on 40,000sqm of land was built under Emperor Menelik II over a century ago. For generations, the park has been viewed as the epicenter of political power, where the most powerful family in the land resides. The renovated compound incorporates several sights of interest to visitors, including an arena, a playground, a zoo, three churches, House of Royals and an imperial banquet hall.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The unity park is divided into four sections;-

### **a) Banquet Hall**

The Banquet Hall which was built during the reign of Emperor Menelik II has a capacity to entertain almost 8000 guests at a time. Emperor Menelik used to organize feasts three times a week. In 1963 following the establishment of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Emperor organized a feast for the founding fathers of OAU in the same Hall.

In 2019 Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, arranged a 5-million-birr dinner as part of raising money for the project 'Beautification of Addis Ababa'.

### **b) The Throne Hall**

The "Throne Hall" or "Throne House" as it is popularly known, is where Ethiopia's monarchs would meet with the provincial lords of aristocratic backgrounds and royal lineage to discuss local issues and make important decisions on subjects such as land tax. On special occasions, the space was also used to welcome nobles and foreign dignitaries.

#### **Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Currently, the "Throne Hall" houses the main exhibition of the Unity Park museum. The exhibition celebrates the history and culture of Ethiopia which is shaped by its ethnic and religious identities and its politics.

During the Derge regime the Throne House served as a meeting point for the Derge Central Committee in which numerous matters were deliberated, including the famous rural land expropriation proclamation and the decision to kill high officials of Emperor Haile Selassie.

Queen Elizabeth II of British, Charles De Gul of France and Joseph Broz Tito of Yugoslavia were among the few distinguished world leaders to be received in the hall during the reign of Emperor Haile Selassie.

### **c) Menelik II's Palace Complex**

Menelik Palace Complex refers to the octagonal structure and other collection of historical buildings that were built at the time of Emperor Menelik II. This Complex consists of Emperor Menelik II's private prayer room, watching tower, office and reception room, bedroom, Etege Taytu Betul's Bedroom, the Minister of War waiting room, The Princes' bedroom, Council of Ministers and a small banquet hall.

The first telephone for the entire country was also installed to this building.

#### **d) Ethiopian Zoo**

This section of the park is dedicated for preservation and exhibition of diverse types of fauna and flora of the country. Over 20 species of animals and plantations are parts of this extraordinary zoo which is famous for black-manned lion.

#### **iii. Debre Libanos Monastery**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The monastery complex sits on a terrace between a cliff and the gorge of one of the tributaries of the Abbay River (the Blue Nile). It was founded in 1284 by Saint Tekle Haymanot as Debre Atsbo and was renamed as Debre Libanos in the 15th century. He meditated in a cave above the current monastery for 29 years. The cave where the saint lived contains a spring, whose water is considered holy and is the object of pilgrimages.

The monastery's chief abbot, was the second most powerful official in the Ethiopian Church.

None of the original buildings of Debre Libanos survive. Current buildings include the church over Tekle Haymanot's tomb, which Emperor Haile Selassie ordered be constructed in 1961; a slightly older Church of the Cross, where a fragment of the True Cross is preserved; and five religious schools.

Emperor Haile Selassie's interest in Debre Libanos dates to when he was governor of the district of Selale. The Emperor notes in his autobiography that during the reconstruction of the church at Debre Libanos, an inscribed gold ring was found in the excavations, which he personally delivered to then Emperor Menelik II.



#### **iv. The Kuriftu Water Park**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The amusement park is East Africa's largest water park and Ethiopia's first. It boasts over 30,000 square meters of fun while featuring a wide range of activities, such as: Boomerang Slide, Triple Spiral Slide, 2 Water Houses, Wave Pool with a Performance Stage, Fekat Circus and a Food Court.

The park is also home to the Kuriftu Ethiopian Cultural Village. This is Ethiopia's premium outlet shopping center, featuring over 100 exciting brand name stores in one location. The Village truly features something for everyone, ranging from high-end luxury stores to family-friendly children's clothing stores. The Cultural Village is designed with the country's rich history in mind. The impression is to provide an exhilarating space where guests can socially engage with Ethiopian crafts and activities in a comfortable and safe environment.

#### **v. Africa Park- Addis Ababa**

The park situated along Menelik II Avenue in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It stretches from Menelik Palace to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. Established in 1963, the park commemorates the foundation of the Organisation of African Unity.

There are plants planted by great leaders of Africa such as Emperor Haile Selassie and many others, including contemporary leaders. While walking through the park you will see beautiful and rare indigenous plants of the wild flora of Africa. There are some ponds in the park too.

## **vi. The Ethiopia-Korea Memorial Site Park**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The Korean War Memorial Site Park in Addis Ababa is located inside the Ethiopian Korean War Veterans Memorial Park, right outside the Korean War Museum. There is a massive structure and 121 individual plaques honoring the fallen on which their names, ranks, ID numbers and the dates they were killed in action are etched.

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia participated in the Korean War from May of 1951 to April of 1953. Emperor Haile Selassie sent his elite forces, the Imperial Bodyguard, to Korea. Ethiopians were highly regarded, as they never left the dead behind, never surrendered to the enemy, and never lost an engagement.

In total, Ethiopia deployed 1,271 soldiers and suffered 657 casualties. According to the statistics provided by the South Korean government, there were 121 soldiers killed in action, 536 wounded in action, and no prisoners of war.

## **vii. Ensera pottery centre**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The Pottery Centre, which is located in Gullele District's in front of the Nigerian embassy is a working space built to accommodate 1,000 potters. The City Administration built the Centre with the goals of fostering traditional pottery arts and transforming the lives of the people engaged in the sector.

The City Administration chose the location, a former minister's office, as it had been unoccupied and within close proximity to the potter's homes. The Centre's aim was primarily to provide better working conditions for the potters. The Centre has its own electronic combustion centre, a welcome respite from the dried cow dung that was used for centuries.

At the centre, mud is brought to life every day through the potter's hands. They mould, burn, smoke and wield the soil from the ground into pots, dishes, mugs and vases for a living'; a mastery of craft that has been handed down from one generation to the next.

The centre has demonstrated to be a success story in that, the country has been able to showcase Ethiopian traditional pottery arts to the rest of the world thereby, transforming livelihoods of the people engaged in the sector.

#### **viii. Ethiopian Airlines**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Ethiopian Airlines is the national airline of Ethiopia with its main hub at Bole International Airport. The airlines grew extremely quickly between 2011 and 2019, with the full-service carrier more than doubling in size. It added nearly 15 million seats that is, over five million more than all of the others in the top ten combined. The airline has an extremely mixed fleet that currently has 128 aircraft.

During the past sixty plus years, the airline has become one of the continent's leading carriers, unrivalled in Africa for efficiency and operational success, turning profits for almost all the years of its existence. It has also become one of Ethiopia's major industries. The airlines serves 53 international destinations with 157 weekly international departures from Addis Ababa and a total of 410 weekly international departures worldwide.

Ethiopian Airlines was founded on December 30, 1945, by Emperor Haile and commenced its operations on April 8, 1946, with a weekly service between Addis Ababa and Cairo with five Douglas DC-3 propeller-driven aircraft. The airline started long-haul services to Frankfurt in 1958 and inaugurated its first jet service in January 1963 from Addis Ababa to Nairobi. In the early 1960s it

provided some initial aviation support to the Ethiopia-United States Mapping Mission in its operation to provide topographic maps of Ethiopia.

Although it relied on American pilots and technicians at the beginning, by its 25th anniversary in 1971 Ethiopian Airlines was managed and staffed by Ethiopian personnel. In 1998, it started transatlantic services. In 2007, Ethiopia Airlines provided basic pilot and aviation maintenance training to trainees from African countries including Rwanda, Tanzania, Chad, Djibouti, Madagascar and Sudan. Other training was given to employees of Kenya Airways, Air Zimbabwe, Bellview Airlines, Cape Verde Airlines and Air Madagascar.

Ethiopian has an advanced maintenance base, which is fully operational for Airframe maintenance up to D-Checks, Engine, Overhaul, Components repair and overhaul, Light Aircraft maintenance and technical, and management assistance for other airlines. The maintenance base is certified by the US-Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Ethiopian Airlines slogan is *The New Spirit of Africa* and has maintained its number one ranking as the best African airline in 2021. It is self-sufficient in all aviation training systems. The Ethiopian Aviation Academy offers training for Pilots, Aircraft Technicians, Cabin Crew (Service Trainee), Marketing and Sales as well as Management and Finance staff.

Captain *Alemayehu Abebe* is the first black African commercial Jet pilot and the first black African to command a commercial jetliner across the Atlantic. He was appointed as the first Ethiopian aircraft commander in January 1957. He is a central figure in Ethiopian aviation history as the pioneer in the field.

## 9.0 COMMITTEE'S GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The delegation made the following observation from the study tour; - **THAT:-**

1. The customs of Ethiopia continue to be deeply rooted in centuries of practice, and many aspects of daily life are ritualized. Cultural heritage has given Ethiopians a sense of unity and belonging and this has helped them to better understand previous generations and the history of where they come from. Heritage is a keystone of our culture that plays an important role in our politics, society, business and world view.
2. The responsibility of marketing and managing of cultural heritage sites rests with the Ethiopian Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Ethiopia has succeeded in maintaining most of her cultural heritages and landmarks. This outstanding act has made it one of the most fascinating countries in Africa. The sector has also created job opportunities to hundreds of Ethiopians.
3. Ethiopia has invested in three (3) types of heritage; cultural, natural, and mixed. The Cultural heritage sites includes archaeological sites, ruins and historic buildings; Natural heritage sites refers to natural features, geological and physiographical formations and delineated areas that constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals and plants; and; Mixed heritage sites contain elements of both natural and cultural significance. Kitui County has a lot of historical and cultural sites which if well-developed and properly managed, can expand the economy of this County.
4. For a landlocked country without any fancy ocean-view beach resorts, it's suffice to say that Ethiopia's cultural and tourism industry is doing well. The Country has so many historical and natural site attractions. In recent years, the sector has grown immensely due to the development

of infrastructure like; roads and hotels, and; the crucial role of the government in relation to marketing. This has positively changed the image of the country throughout the world.

5. In an era of globalization, the Government of Ethiopia through the recently established Tourism Transformation Council, has implemented a number of strategic measures to further develop and sustain the country's cultural heritage and tourism sector by investing in capacity building on destination management and product development.
6. The Heritage sites are under threat from human activities hence the Government of Ethiopia has been steadfast in taming the appetite for short-term economic gains that take priority over conservation. The Government of Ethiopia has continually involved the locals and civil society in conservation programmes. This is because corporations and governments often prioritize on immediate profit and ignore the necessity to safeguard and preserve the heritage. The Government of Ethiopia maintains that with carefully laid out programs and projects, the cultural heritage and tourism sector's growth will continue to provide additional financial resources for local government units.
7. There is gradual loss of interest and displacement of local culture and traditions in most of the African States. For instance, the conservation of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in Kenya is largely dependent on the practitioner's willingness to embrace contemporary practices. To a large extent, adoption of new practices and the subsequent discarding of traditional ways reduce as one moves away from urban areas. Most rural areas have maintained and continue to perform some of their traditional cultural practices with little interference. However, with the introduction of formal education and Christianity, several cultural practices are being abandoned due

to the perception that they are 'ungodly' and therefore transmission from the bearers to the next generation is unachievable.

## **10.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

In respect to the above observations, the Committee makes the following recommendations; **THAT;-**

1. To ensure that cultural heritage development is sustainable, the County's financing structure must not be based solely on government grants. The revenue structure must have a plan to become self-sustaining and continue in perpetuity.
2. The County Government of Kitui should conform itself to the regulatory frameworks set out in Article 227 of the Constitution of Kenya and Public Private Partnerships Act, 2013. This will encourage prudent use public funds and accountability.
3. The County Government should invest in Cultural heritage tourism through revival of local traditions and development of heritage sites and monuments. This will help in creating employment opportunities and also help in achieving revenue collection target for the County.
4. The County Government should develop pro-development policies and regulations that will enhance the growth, development and safeguarding of cultural and historical sites.
5. Technical staffs should be trained regularly to equip them with relevant knowledge and skills that will enable them make informed decisions on the management of heritage sites and recreational park.

## **11.0 CONCLUSION.**

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

Ethiopia is endowed with incredible rock-cut churches and other monumental and historical sites embodying great architectural, aesthetic and artistic

significance built over its past. The Country has successfully managed to develop and sustain its cultural heritage with carefully laid out programs and projects.

The absence of governmental attention in Kenya towards heritage management, is costing the country with a profound loss of its incredible built heritages particularly in the remote areas. All the evidences presented in this study tour are indicators that the country's cultural heritage management is at its critical situation which needs the engagement of concerned stakeholder to preserve the country's past.

For that reason, it's prudent that the County Government of Kitui creates awareness on cultural heritage and conservation and also develop effective legal frameworks that will guide the growth and development of this vital sector.

In this regard, the committee has come up with this report, and hereby requests the Honourable members to support and approve the recommendations therein for implementation.



**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE**

**We, Honourable members of the Delegation, do hereby append our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm accuracy, validity and authenticity of this report:-**

**Name**

**Signature**


1. Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter

  
.....

2. Hon. Deiys M. Mukala

  
.....

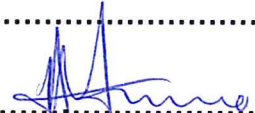
3. Hon. Annastacia M. Mutunga

  
.....


4. Hon. Mary Ndumbu

.....

5. Hon. Ann Mumo

  
.....

6. Hon. Dr. Grace Mutua

  
.....





*Figure 1. A view of the Entrance at the Entoto Park.*



*Figure 2. A view of the Plaque at the Memorial Hall for Ethiopian Veterans in the Korean War.*

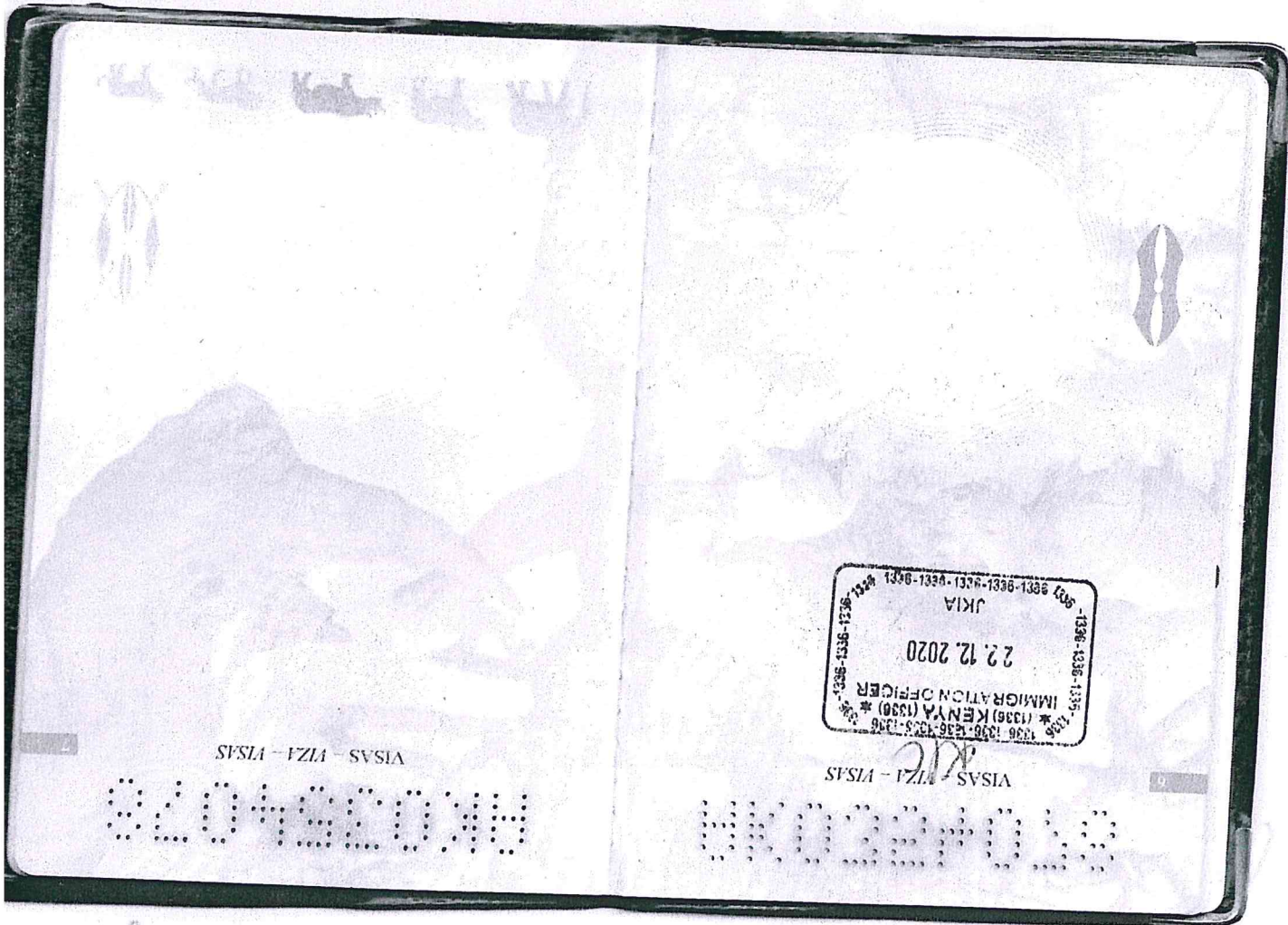


*Figure 3. A tower at the Unity Park.*



*Figure 4. Hon. Members at the Entoto Park.*





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IMMIGRATION OFFICER  
KENYA (1336) \*

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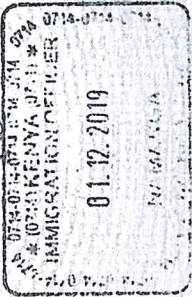
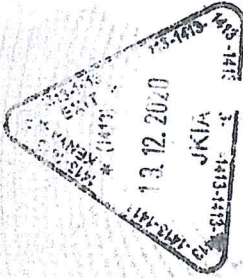


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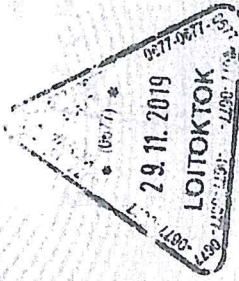


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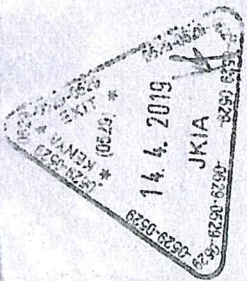
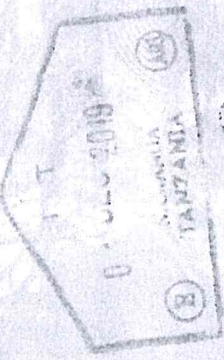
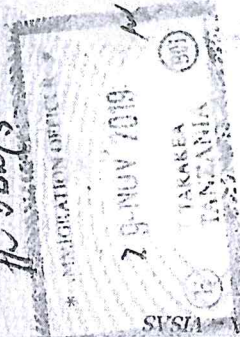
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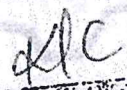


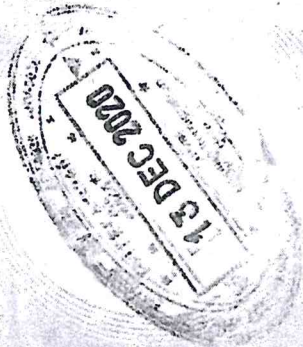


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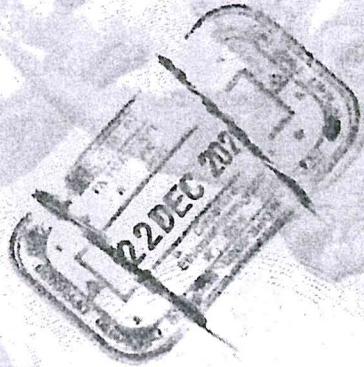
  
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BOARDING PASS

PETER/ELIZABETH

ECONOMY  
EETVXT

CLASS G

FLIGHT DATE

ET318

22 DECEMBER, 2020

A11

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ADD NBO

BOARDING TIME 10:25 BOARDING GATE WILL BE CLOSED 15 MINUTES BEFORE DEPARTURE TIME  
DEPARTURE TIME 11:10

Ethiopian  
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BOARDING PASS

MUKALA/DEIYSMAIT

ECONOMY  
EETVXT

CLASS G

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ET318

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BOARDING PASS

MUTUNGA/ANASTACI

ECONOMY  
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CLASS G

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CLASS C

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MAKUTHU/DENNISMAUS

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MAKUTHU/DENNISMAUS

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22 DECEMBER 2020

ADD

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CLASS C

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ADD TO NBO BOARDING TIME