

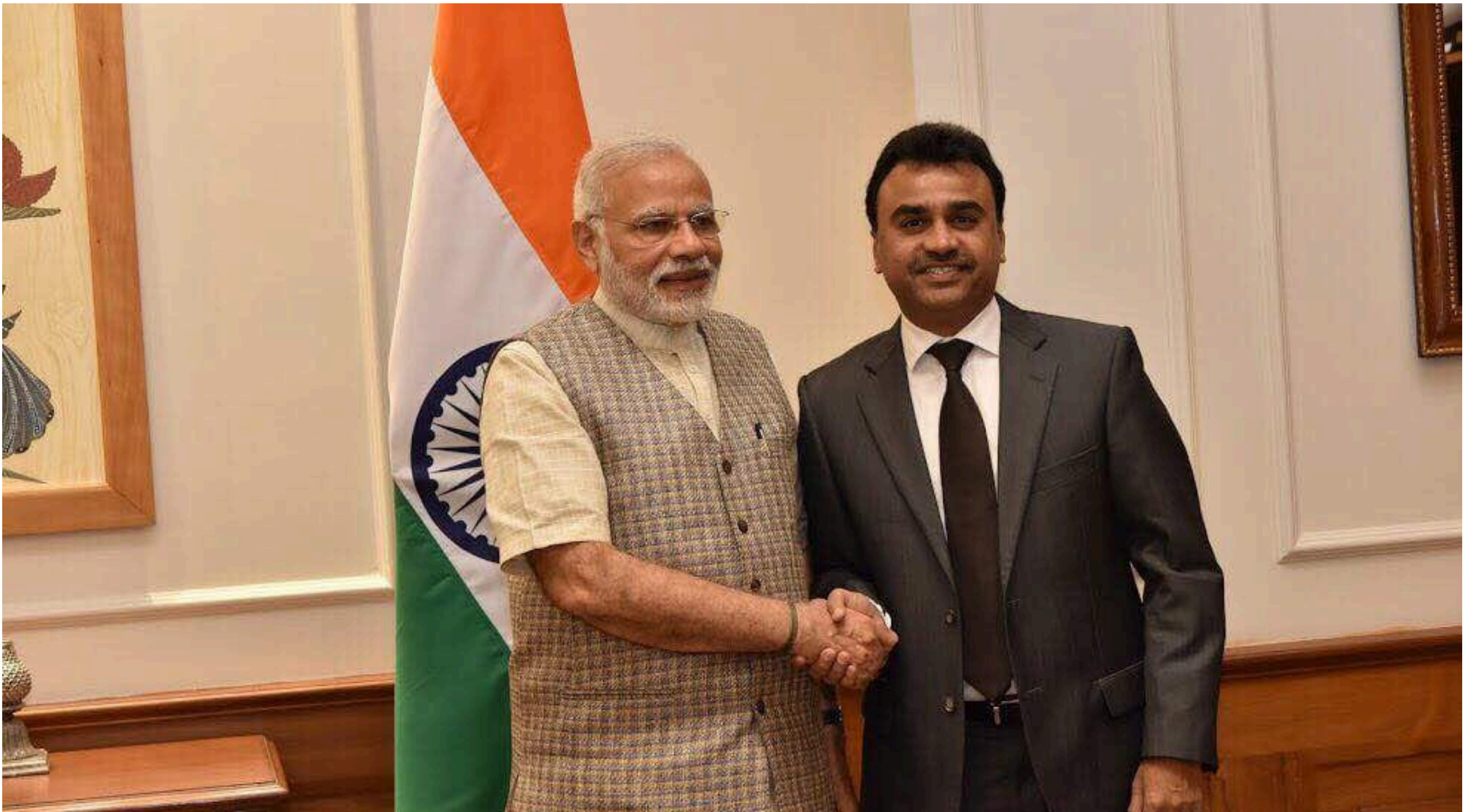
be the difference

CITYBITE

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I'm Indian by birth, African by heart.

Through sheer commitment, RAF Global has made an immense impact on our thematic areas such as economic integration and livelihood support for women and youth by training over five thousand young people and equipping them with varied skills in over fifteen trades. The organization has also supported programs of over one thousand self-help groups and over five hundred women-led small and medium enterprises..

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Sports and Sports Tourism

Tunza, which means "to nurture" in Swahili, is a USA-based non-profit organization formally known as the Tunza Sports Foundation. The organization operates in Kenya, leveraging the power of sports to address significant societal issues faced by rural communities far from urban centers. At its core, Tunza focuses on education, aiming to provide underprivileged, underrepresented children living in extreme poverty with the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education. This educational opportunity is crucial for breaking the cycle of poverty and empowering individuals to return and contribute to their own communities.

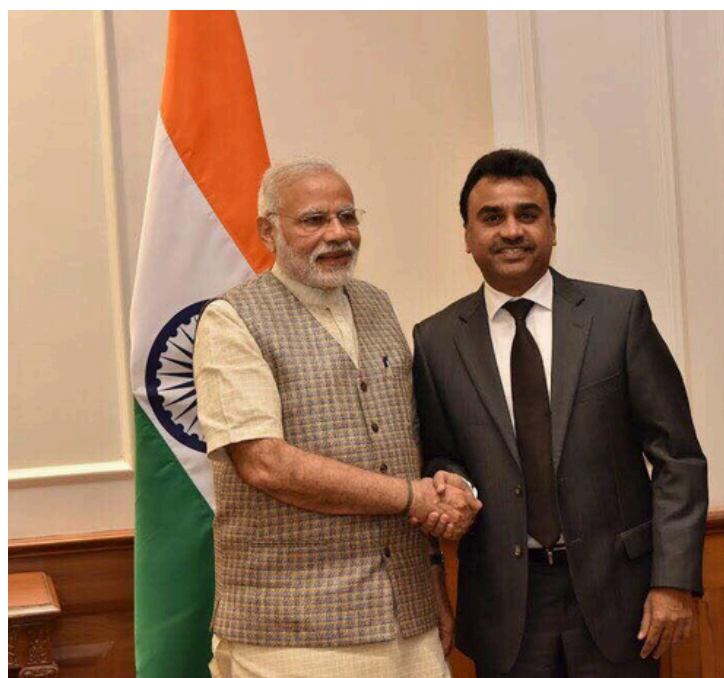


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IS SHE FOR KEEPS?

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We feature the amazing story of Tunza Sports, a talent nurturing non-profit organization founded by Rael Nyte in 2016, that is making the difference for young girls in Kenya and in the United States of America.



Kamala is the Presidential Candidate for the Democratic Party, Is she for keeps?

- Chronology of events leading to her rise to Vice Presidency
- Her tenure as the first female Vice President and her achievements
- Chronology of events leading to her nomination as the Presidential candidate for the Democratic Party
- What lies ahead in her path to potentially making history.
- What happens if she wins?

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CBM STORIES...

Many more other stories, including advertisements are featured from page twelve moving forward.

A lot have taken place since the last volume, Over 40 protesters have died in Kenya, Uganda attempted a protest, Nigerians have started their own anti-bad governance demonstrations while FESTAC 24 is roughly three weeks ahead.

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She ruled the fashion Industry in India and now she is on top of the textile business. She is a chairperson for one of the committees of the ruling party and is a multi-talented PhD holder. Who is she really? What does she do? What's her history? Where did she come from?

We find out on page 12

Who is Dr. Maya?



Community News

Locals of Kapuotho community in Nyalenda B Ward, Kisumu County have taken matters into their hands to prepare for the September rainy season by clearing silt reported to exacerbate floods in the area by stultifying the flow of Nyamasaria River during rainy seasons.

In May, residents of that area were among the most affected by the extra-ordinary downpour experienced in Kenya that led to flooding which left many people displaced.

However, as the next season nears, the group dominated by young people has decided to take responsibility in order to mitigate the far reaching negative impacts of the floods caused by overflow from the river and surface run off.

According to Vivian Kobe, the founder of Viba Explore Tours, this is a noble initiative that shows the willingness of the natives to make an impact by themselves, without necessarily waiting for intervention by government agencies.

"It is defeatist to wait for leaders to solve even the least of our problems, some of which do not even fall within the purview of their constitutional roles," Vivian said.



Wisdom from a matron

"Our current education system was tailored to glorify the cultures and traditions of those who imposed it to us," says Dr. Mary Okello, the trailblazing female banker and entrepreneur. "We should, therefore combine and channel our efforts towards cultural restitution. The new generations do not understand that the backbone of our societies are our original traditional belief systems, thus lose sight of our traditions by immersing themselves in alien cultures, some of which are misleading and violate the virtues that we once held so dear," she said. "We should appreciate advancement and adoption of new ways of doing things, without necessarily losing our own values in the process."



Event News

Join us for our upcoming FESTAC AFRICA festival to network and make a difference in the community. Let's work together to promote culture, exchange ideas and develop brands:

- Date: 25th Aug- 1st Sept 2024.
- Time: 9am-6pm daily
- Location: Jomo Kenyatta International Stadium -Mamboleo
- All are welcome to participate and volunteer.
- Registration for exhibitors, vendors and participants ongoing.
- Let's make a positive impact in our community through cultural restitution and exchange of ideas..

Monthly Newsletter



Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

Welcome to our 18th volume. We thank you for continued support and belief. Throughout the last month, a lot has taken place both externally and internally, leading to the evolution of City Bite Magazine.

Throughout last month, Kenya experienced a moment of awakening, that has sent all and sundry into meticulous reflection of the exact trajectory of the country.

The discoveries that came with the Gen Z protests were both appalling and mind-boggling to both legacy and fifth estate media, leaving a lot to be desired by those who care about the country's trajectory.

This has re-shaped our approach to operations and given a need for rigorous advocacy and civic education. We therefore have decided to intensify our publications through daily blogs and collaborations with partners in

the CSO spaces, within and beyond borders. Our magazine publications will feature select stories of importance that emerged throughout the month, including occasional surveys on different issues touching life directly like diseases and politics.

Finally, we will partner with Inspire Africa Media and FESTAC AFRICA Renaissance team to tell the beautiful story of mother Africa, the continent under the brilliant rays of the sun.

Together, we can make a real difference in our communities and beyond, when we tap into the synergies by making meaningful connections for impact maximisation.

Enjoy volume 18 of City Bite Magazine.

In this volume you can expect:

Community Updates

FESTAC AFRICA festival 2024 updates

Stories of Impact

U.S.A elections and International news.

Call for Volunteers and support for City Bite Magazine

Cultural stories.

I'M AFRICAN BY HEART!

The inspirational story of Rizwan Adatia

“A film on The Life of Indian businessman and philanthropist Rizwan Adatia, titled RIZWAN will be screened during the eagerly awaited FESTAC AFRICA festival 2024 in Kisumu,” City Bite Magazine has most recently been told. Via a telephone conversation, Rizwan narrates his life story, his work as a philanthropist, why Africa is so dear to him, and the bearing of the FESTAC AFRICA festival on the growth trajectory of Africa. Mr. Rizwan is the founder of RAF Global, an international organization whose main objective is to catalyze development among marginalized communities and families in India, Africa, and other parts of Asia.

“I was born in Western India, Gujarat to be specific. My story began in Porbandar, the same town as the legendary Mahatma Gandhi. I come from an extremely humble background, a family of seven siblings. Growing up, my father was the sole breadwinner and he had to take extremely casual jobs to provide for us and fund our education. As such, at some point, I could not manage to proceed with my education and decided to quit school. Afterward, I ventured into religion, because I made peace with the fact that God and spirituality were above all forms of vanity. I started getting up early in the morning to practice self-care and meditation, morning prayers, and with time, yoga. As I grew into my morning routines and religion, I gave myself to God at the age of 14.”

“As a young man out of school and looking at my father’s struggle, I decided to look for a job in 1985, which I got and as such I started to earn 175 rupees (\$10) per month. Being fed by my parents, I did not have much to do with the money, so I donated a significant part of it to struggling friends and family. I would support them in purchasing basic commodities and foodstuff. This emanated from my inner drive to support those in need. God works in his ways and at 17 years old, he opened ways for me in Kinshasa, DR Congo. This was back in the year

1986. In my new job, I earned a monthly salary of \$200. With this improved salary, my passion for helping people grew deeper and I decided to help poor people in India and D.R.Congo, my new home. “

“At the beginning, I didn’t know a lot, and balancing between helping people and personal development was a herculean task. But as I grew, I realized that the more I was helping, the more satisfied I became. It was extremely fulfilling to lend a hand and my soul was serene. For me, in life, personal development is more important than everything, but when you help another person, there is immense value to your individual growth. Note-worthy also is the fact that I continued to meditate and practice mindfulness, and religion, which played a pivotal role in my development into who I am now. I could wake up at 3.00 am as I said before and spend three-four full hours on myself before getting into my daily businesses.”

What is RAF Global?

RAF Global is a non-profit organization that works with marginalized communities to catalyze their development across Africa, India, and other parts of Asia. It was founded in the year 2015 and since then we have made an impact on the lives of over 1.5 million people. Out of these, 700,000 are in Africa alone while the rest are spread across India and other parts of the world. It is, in fact, amazing to look back and see the beautiful results of consistent small acts of random kindness in such a short period. Our core objective in Africa and the marginalized communities that we work with is to promote development at the grassroots.

At the onset, we were only based in D.R.Congo, Mozambique, and India but currently, as we speak, we have worked in over seven countries across different continents. The aforementioned three countries are extremely dear to me because I was born in India but both Congo and Mozambique made me who I am today, having spent 22 years in the former and 13 years in the latter.





Indian businessman and philanthropist Mr. Rizwan Adatia poses for a photograph with P.M Narendra Modi during a past event [Coutersy]

Our mission is to work with the most marginalized individuals and families to support development using modern technologies and education. We tap into technology to improve the quality of life while we also advocate for better policies for the welfare of the general society. Our approach to achieving our main objectives is pedastalled on synergies and pulling of resources together, to maximize impact through synergy.

Another ironclad part of our core objectives is to alleviate food insecurity among the communities and families we serve. This therefore informs our commitment to capacity building in natural organic farming and sustainable agriculture. Education, as they say, is the ultimate equalizer, and as a development agency, RAF supports the education of young children from vulnerable families. Across our scope, we have supplied books and learning equipment to many young people. An educated youth is empowered to courageously face the harsh realities of life. They are given the instruments to deal with whatever comes their way in the world. This is why we insist on supporting the education of young people.

As I mentioned earlier, I was born in an extremely humble background. I did not find the privilege of going to school and only found refuge in religion. Watching my father struggle with casual jobs to fend for us motivated me to work hard to become a better person. A part of being a better person is to add value to communities especially the needy and the vulnerable. This was my bottom line from the beginning. Additionally, you can see from my background that the organization started in three countries, India, D.R.Congo, and Mozambique. This is because, as mentioned earlier, the three countries played a pivotal role in my development. I left India as a boy, but I became a man in Africa and that makes the continent so dear to my heart.

The little we have, we must use to make a difference. Rizwan believes in drawing inspiration from all religions, embracing the good and positive aspects they offer to uplift and support humanity.

RIZWAN ADATIA

What are the thematic areas of focus for the organization?

As hinted in the beginning of our conversation, RAF Global works with vulnerable communities and families to alleviate standards of living. Our main focus is on harnessing modern technologies to better the lives of those who can access and use them to cushion their living standards, support education and educational programs, promote organic agricultural practices, and improve livelihoods across Africa, India, and parts of Asia. In this regard, our framework encompasses economic integration, climate-smart agriculture, health and nutrition initiatives, education and technology programs, good governance, and humanitarian programs.

RAF Global as of this minute has served people in over seven countries including DR Congo, Mozambique, Madagascar, Eswatini, Afghanistan, India, and Bangladesh.

What is the scope and Key outcomes of RAF Global?

Through sheer commitment, we have made an immense impact on our thematic areas such as economic integration and livelihood support for women and youth by training over five thousand young people and equipping them with varied skills in over fifteen trades. We have also supported programs of over one thousand self-help groups and over five hundred women-led small and medium enterprises. We have also spearheaded interventions in over 100 villages to advocate for and support chemical-free farming, which is not only pivotal for human health but also environmental conservation.

We have also spearheaded the culture of kitchen gardening to cushion food security, among vulnerable families. We have also established farmer resource centers to train subsistence farmers on the basics of efficient natural farming.

In general terms, over five thousand households have benefitted from the policies we have advocated for. We have also supported over one hundred Government schools with learning infrastructure, stationery, and technology for improved quality of education.

Additionally, across our scope, over one million people have gotten access to safe potable water while an additional seven hundred teachers have gotten extra training and many other key performance indicators.

What do you make of FESTAC AFRICA festival 2024?

First of all, allow me to commend the planners of the festival. The concept of FESTAC AFRICA is close to my heart because Africa is like my second home, ergo anything, any project that contributes to the growth and unity of Africa inspires me a lot. This is why the festival excites me. I have been to Kenya multiple times and visited cities like Mombasa and importantly Kisumu where the festival will be hosted and I can confidently say that I am looking forward to it.

In this regard, I want to come there to enjoy myself but most importantly to network and to learn. When people come together, great things happen, so said the wise men of the past, and indeed with its key objective being bringing Africans together, I expect conversations on how to amplify growth in Africa through intra-continental resources and dialogues to dominate the event.

I am saying this because I have been to different parts of the world and can say with the confidence of a cock that with unity, Africa has what it takes to outshine other continents, but that depends on her willingness to go out on a limb. These are the conversations we want FESTAC AFRICA to spearhead and to make a substance out of.

Additionally, as a young man who grew from nothing to something, a movie of my life story will be screened during the festival.

The documentary about your life story will be screened during FESTAC AFRICA Festival 2024. Can you elaborate more about the movie?

The movie was produced in the year 2022. It is entitled Rizwan as my name goes, and it tells the story of my life. This movie was produced to motivate young people and to tell them that no matter their backgrounds or race, all their dreams are valid and can come true if they give an extra effort towards achieving them.

FESTAC AFRICA, as a platform for arts and culture, also plays an important role in the promotion of cultural films. Film, they say is the only mode through which we can communicate our different cultures.

Additionally, if you look at their strategy, they have a whole segment for youth mentorship and empowerment. Screening this movie therefore will add to this specific objective. I want young people to appreciate the struggles in their journey to a better destiny by learning that every little effort they make is not in vain. I want them to also understand that not every success story is preceded by money. You can rise from grass to grace if you employ the right strategy. That is the story of Rizwan Adatia. He did not come out of nowhere, but trusted a process, toiled through the process, and became a face, known not only in India but different parts of the world for making a difference in the lives of over 1.5 million people across continents. Such is the value in what this movie brings and what FESTAC AFRICA does to all host countries.

FACT

RAF Global has impacted more than 1.5 million people in vulnerable communities across Africa, India and other parts of Asia.



Your parting shot?

As we end this interview, I want to take a moment to thank everyone who has contributed to my development. I want to thank, first of all, the Almighty God who has guided me thus far. Further, I would like to thank everyone who taught me the good values of hard work, resilience, and diligence. I also want to thank the people who have put their energy into ensuring that our organization is effectively run. We have an extremely supportive and instrumental board of advisors, who have immensely contributed to our meteoric growth. Additionally, I would like to thank the FESTAC AFRICA team for creating such a solid platform for people of African descent to unite and chart a path for a brighter future for Africa. I will humbly join in, take part, and make a difference.



TUNZA SPORTS FOUNDATION

In a rapidly evolving world, sports, as a fundamental aspect of life in society is also experiencing rapid development, especially due to globalised rigorous talent exchange programs. Talented young people continue to emerge in different kinds of sports. Some of these talents come from underprivileged backgrounds, where they have neither the opportunity nor the tools and mentors to support their growth into the pinnacles of their abilities. To bridge such gaps, therefore, interest groups have emerged to promote both sports tourism and talent identification and development. In a recent interview, City Bite Magazine was made aware of the scope and objectives of Tunza Sports, a U.S based talent identification and nurturing organization, that was founded in the year 2016, by Rael Nyte, a U.S based Kenyan.

What is Tunza Sports? Our interviewers asked. " Tunza, which means 'to nurture' in Swahili, is a USA-based non-profit organization formally known as the Tunza Sports Foundation," a loquacious Rael declared. " The organization operates in Kenya, leveraging the power of sports to address significant societal issues faced by rural communities far from urban centers. At its core, Tunza focuses on education, aiming to provide underprivileged, underrepresented children living in extreme poverty with the opportunity to pursue free post- secondary education.



Tunza Sports Foundation founder Rael Nyte poses for a photograph during a past hockey event

This educational opportunity is crucial for breaking the cycle of poverty and empowering individuals to return and contribute to their own communities. " she said. Sports, is a major co-curricular activity in Kenya, and goes hand in hand with the education system of the country. According to Rael, It would be incredibly beneficial if the government provided free education at pre-college levels. This, to her, would allow organizations like Tunza to focus on college assistance, significantly accelerating their mission to eradicate poverty.

It is noteworthy that according to research published in the nalandaschool.org website, Integrating sports in education is not only a fun way to transform the learning experience, but it can also have some pretty positive effects on a child's overall development. In fact, they can play a role in helping students become more confident and have better self-esteem. That notwithstanding, sports have also earned some students high value scholarships, accentuating the approach employed by the organisation to support both sports and education.

Asked of the status of the Organisation, Ms. Nyte responded with details, that the organisation is fully registered both in Kenya and in the United States of America. "Tunza Sports Foundation is registered as an NGO in Kenya and as a non-profit in the USA," Rael said. "Our key principle is centered on the virtue of giving back to the society, with those who receive support encouraged to help others in the future, whenever they can," she declared.

" The primary issue the organization addresses is the persistent cycle of poverty in Kenya's rural communities, particularly among girls. Many girls are unable to continue their education beyond primary school due to financial constraints in their families. This situation often leads them into ordinary jobs with meagre pay like working as a house help while some unfortunately resort to sex work or even forced into child marriages," she told us.

According to statistics published in girlsnotbridges.org, 23% of Kenyan girls are married before their 18th birthday and 4% are married before the age of 15. This leaves a lot to be desired with regard to girl-child protection, empowerment and education, which requires concerted efforts to achieve.

" Tunza begins supporting girls as young as eight years old. By the time they are ready for high school, the organization helps secure free tuition for them, as many of these girls are raised by grandmothers, single parents, or are orphans. Without this support, they face harsh life choices such as early marriage, child labor, teen pregnancies, health issues, or even death from complications related to female genital mutilation (FGM). Providing them with the opportunity to attend high school represents a critical chance to escape these dire circumstances and build a better future," she said.

She then did a flashback of the humble beginnings of the Organisation. "As the founder, I launched this program by reaching out to my friends for sports gear and equipment," she recounted. In response, "I shipped the equipment to Kenya which we used to establish hockey and other sports such as baseball, lacrosse, and boxing. Field hockey, however, remains the heart of the program, and we have achieved remarkable progress in a short time. Donations of uniforms, sticks, and shoes alleviate the financial burden on our budget, allowing us to focus on other pressing needs such as meals and school uniforms," she said. "This project is so dear to me and I am the primary funder of Tunza Sports," Rael appended. "Therefore, without the generous support from my networks in hockey from the U.S, the organization wouldn't be in this level," she declared

It is to be understood that Tunza celebrated its first major successes by participating in the annual youth hockey tournaments for Under-11 and Under-13 teams in Mombasa, usually held by Mombasa County Hockey Association. This initiative not only introduced the children from places like Ratta in Kisumu to sports tourism by taking them out of their villages for the first time but also led to consistent victories. The return home with medals was met with enthusiastic celebrations from parents, teachers, and the entire community -Ratta-. The reception was a grand affair with singing, chanting, dancing, and traditional celebrations, symbolizing the community's support and pride. This level of community-based support exemplifies the profound impact of Tunza's work. A hockey team has truly transformed the community by instilling hope and solidarity.

The organization also initiated a hockey-related scholarship program, securing placements for girls in prestigious county high schools in Kenya. According to Rael, Tunza has also collaborated closely with their partner schools to advance their mission in promoting talent nurturing, education and sports tourism.

"Tunza also addresses gaps in sex education and life skills through workshops designed to empower young girls," Rael said. "We provide essential resources, including sanitary pads, to help address menstrual poverty and hygiene related challenges," she said. "Annually, 200 girls benefit from these resources, promoting their health and well-being and reducing the need to sell their bodies to purchase pads. In the past two years, Tunza has achieved significant sporting success."

"For instance, one of our high school partners, composed entirely of Tunza players, won the National Trophy for the first time in 32-years, and triumphed at the East Africa Games in Rwanda, marking their first international travel experience. We were also featured in the inaugural NOCK



The emblem of Tunza Sports Foundation

(Kenya National Olympic Committee) Beach Games as the only all-female field hockey team competing against co-ed adult teams," she added.

Asked about the scope of the Organisation, Rael told City Bite that Tunza has its headquarters in New Jersey, U.S.A with the center for field operations based in Ratta in rural parts of Kisumu County, Governor Nyong'o's backyard and the host for FESTAC AFRICA festival 2024. Additionally, it has four key locations for field offices in Kenya, including in Kwale-Kilifi County, Oyani-Migori County, Samburu County, Marsabit County and Nyalenda in Kisumu County where they have a boxing facility.

She then went ahead to highlight the importance of working with marginalized communities in the northern regions of Kenya. "These remote areas are vital for donor visits due to their isolation. In Samburu, for instance, we have introduced a lacrosse program and partnered with the Mary Immaculate Girl Child Rescue Education Center in Suguta, a Catholic-led rescue center for girls escaping FGM and early marriages. At Suguta, we support their existing soccer and athletics programs and have introduced field hockey and lacrosse. We have also introduced hockey at the Samburu Girls Foundation in Loosuk," she stated.

"In other parts like Migori, however, the centre serves as a refuge for girls attending schools located further from their homes. It also functions as the training base for children from Mukuyu Primary and surrounding schools while in Kwale, Kilifi County, We focus on girls' hockey and collaborate with 'The Grandsons of Abraham,' -an organization dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating street children-, she said. "In a nutshell, our operations in different locations are tailored to adapt to the unique needs of beneficiary communities," Rael told City Bite. "We use sports to identify and address challenges bedeviling communities in the grassroots, with respect to their cultures notwithstanding."

What is the role Tunza Sports will play in FESTAC AFRICA festival 2024?

"Tunza's activities extend beyond sports to include talent discovery in the arts and tourism, aiming to reduce reliance on foreign aid," City Bite was made aware by Rael.

"While sports serve as a powerful vehicle for progress, our mission is to make a broader impact by improving lives and breaking the cycle of poverty within our target communities," she stated.

"Through guided and purposeful initiatives, Tunza seeks to foster self-reliance and diminish dependency on aid, aligning with our core message to FESTAC. As a former Kenyan International Hockey player and current member of the USA Masters Women's Hockey squad, I also serve as a field hockey Technical Official with Junior Premier Hockey, USA Field Hockey, the Pan American Hockey Federation, and have had opportunities to officiate at FIH series and Pro-League matches."



Tunza Pioneers at the Launch of Tunza sports in 2018 at a newly constructed indoor hockey facility in Ratta, Kisumu. [Coutersy]

"In the US, I have been honored with the New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Awards in the "Against All Odds" category for exceptional volunteerism and public service. This award category, recognized by the United States Senate and the Governor's Council on Volunteerism, celebrate individuals who have triumphed over significant challenges to serve others."

"In Kenya, I have also received numerous accolades for my contributions to community service. My ground breaking efforts in hockey development in Kenya has garnered international recognition from esteemed bodies such as the International Hockey Federation (FIH), the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Pan American Hockey Federation, and USA Field Hockey."

"Moreover, I have been prominently featured in local Kenyan print media, spotlighting the significant impact on girls' lives. These accolades offer a comprehensive view of the importance of my initiatives relative to peers in similar fields in Kenya, highlighting the transformative effect of the material donations received thus far."

"With a career in Diplomacy at the United Nations and academic qualifications including master's degrees in diplomacy, Public Administration, a B.A. in Political Science, and a B.Sc. in Telecommunication Engineering, I have continued to drive change through sports and education."

"At FESTAC, we approach our involvement as 'participants' rather than mere 'recipients,' reflecting a core philosophy that we instill in every beneficiary of our program. We believe in using sports to actively engage children, enabling them to shape their own futures rather than just receive donations. Our commitment is to ensure that every participant's hard work, discipline, and dedication to community service contribute to their journey with Tunza. Early morning practices, completing household chores on time, and balancing schoolwork with sports are all integral parts of this effort."

"Tunza is dedicated to generating all the necessary resources to offer our services at no cost to the participants. However, we prioritize maintaining a sense of pride and dignity among those receiving help. We believe in providing support in a way that allows recipients to feel they have earned it. This approach teaches our kids that hard work and dedication lead to tangible rewards."

"For those outside our academy who seek assistance, we encourage them to volunteer at our events, fostering a sense of involvement and enabling them to give back in their own way. We believe that everyone has something valuable to contribute. Our philosophy has proven successful in many areas. For example, the pilot program's success led to improved hockey performances and better livelihoods for the girls and their communities."

"One of our milestone achievements is that we successfully re-introduced hockey to Primary public schools, after decades. Our program demonstrated that with good academic performance, students could attend reputable schools with hockey programs, leading to an increased demand for the sport. Consequently, other primary schools have requested the introduction of hockey, expanding our network of partner high schools from 2 in 2019 to 10 as of January 2024."

"The impact extends to the high schools our girls attend, where coaches value their advanced skills and experience. Our continuous feeder program has elevated hockey performance in these schools, enhancing their competitiveness at regional and national levels."

"This success has set a blueprint that other high schools are adopting, resulting in more competitive environments and a higher demand for our talented players. A significant and measurable success story emerged from Nyamira High School, one of our partner schools in 2023, which became National and East Africa Hockey Champions after 32 years of being confined to county level competitions," Rael stated. As a result, Nyamira Girls was recognised by the Governors of both the two counties – Siaya where the school is based, and Kisumu where the players were born



A tent for Tunza sports Foundation at Masters Field Hockey Series in Nakuru, 2022 [Coutersy]

and bred into pioneers of hockey at Tunza-. Additionally, they received cash rewards from both governors.”

“The introduction of field hockey into these previously underserved rural areas has had a profound impact on the community, families, and schools associated with Tunza. This achievement has not only opened doors to greater opportunities for the participants but has also touched the lives of equipment donors from the USA, Canada, Australia, and Argentina, who find immense satisfaction in the difference they’ve made. Field hockey, as our flagship sport, has inspired growth in unexpected places. This ripple effect has led to the development of youth hockey programs in inner cities, estates, and villages across Kenya, all following Tunza’s example. ”

“We have demonstrated that hockey can thrive even in the most remote locations, starting with just one stick, one ball, and one child. Our success has debunked the myth that hockey is limited to urban areas and has sparked a wave of grassroots hockey initiatives, with more people seeking guidance and equipment to start their own programs. In addition to hockey, our boy-child boxing program has also made a significant impact. This program, aimed at keeping youth off the streets, teaching discipline, and encouraging school attendance, owes its success to our partnership with Aces Boxing Club in Boonton, NJ, USA. The compassion, dedication, and remarkable achievements of Tunza have garnered significant recognition.”

“ Our Hockey-for-Tuition program has successfully supported over 135 girls in high school with scholarships funded by the schools themselves, demonstrating our trailblazing efforts. Tunza has also become a movement that celebrates African Arts, Culture, and Sports Tourism. Being part of platforms like FESTAC allows us to showcase what’s possible and reinforces our genuine commitment to empowering youth in Kenya’s rural communities, where hope is scarce and external support is crucial.”

“ In conclusion, Tunza’s presence serves as a beacon of hope for families, schools, future players, and the sport of hockey throughout Kenya. To share our work and achievements through Hockey, Boxing, and Dance at FESTAC would present an unforeseen financial challenge, which is surprising given our lack of financial sponsors.”

To support Tunza Sports, please visit tunzasports.org, where you’ll find a donation button offering various ways to contribute. While we can’t capture all their success stories in a single reading. Explore their channels below

–YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram–using the handle (@tunzasports) to learn more about their impact. <https://youtube.com/@tunzasports1920?si=AJgFQkai8DEJlyGz>



Rael Nyte and CEO Elmada Ja'Hockey, being introduced to players as she flags off a past hockey match.[Coutersy]



Tunza Juniors hold their sticks for the Passout of the senior's High school sendoff event in Ratta Village, Kisumu [Coutersy]

Is she for Keeps? 2024 Polls



On the 20th of July, a week after a futile assassination attempt on former President and Republican Party's Presidential candidate Donald Trump, a decision that could play a key role in the outcome of the forthcoming Presidential election in the United States of America was made; Joe Biden announced, via a statement posted on X, that he had withdrawn from the race to be re-elected to the Oval Office.

This decision was so furtive, that it caught all players by surprise, at least those in the outer circles of the Democratic Party. Via the statement, Mr. Biden indicated that he had to prioritise the interests of the country over self, and went ahead to endorse his Vice President Ms. Kamala Harris to take over from him.

This came in the backdrop of a lackluster performance in the Presidential debate, that saw his approval ratings plummet, unlike Mr. Trump's, who was overwhelmingly voted as the best performer, in the debate that was hosted by CNN. While the online criticism that followed the debate night forced some high ranking Democrats, including former president Barack Obama to come out and publicly defend the incumbent president, it planted a seed of doubt among some of the most vocal members of the ruling party, key among them, California Congressman Adam Schiff.

Nonetheless, Biden was forced to repeatedly defend his performance in subsequent rallies, as he could be heard blaming age for his under performance in the debate. However, the events of July 13th acted as a major turning point in the trajectory of this year's campaigns as attention shifted towards Donald Trump, who despite escaping death by a whisker, publicly raised his hands in defiance, calling on his supporters to 'keep fighting.'

The image, sensitive as it was, influenced public opinion to his favor, unlike Biden, who was widely blamed for it. However, things happened so fast that today, against all odds, the 46th President of the United States is officially a one term President, headed straight to retirement after transition in January, while his Vice President is officially the presidential candidate for the Democratic Party, and stands in the vicinity of history.

If elected, Ms. Harris will be the first ever female president of the country, let alone the trailblazing woman of colour to be nominated as the flag bearer by the party, after Hillary Clinton became the first Woman to be named presidential candidate in 2016.

However, there are two major stumbling blocks between herself and the prestige of going to history books. First one of them is the fact that she must first convince Americans, in such a short span of time, that she is up to the task. Then, she must ensure a convincing victory over Donald Trump, to meet both the necessity and to spice things up. If both are achievable, then she will be sworn in by January next year, in what could be a watershed moment in the history of the country.



Who is Kamala Harris?

Born on 20th October 1964, Kamala Harris is an American politician and Attorney, who is the current and the 49th Vice President of the United States, after ascending to power in the year 2021. It goes without mentioning that she is the first ever female Vice President in the history of the U.S as well as the first ever half Asian half black Vice President in the Country.

As a member of the Democratic Party, she served as a U.S. senator from California from 2017 to 2021, and earlier as the attorney general of California. She is the official nominee for the Democratic Party in 2024 presidential election after President Biden withdrew from the race late July.

Born in Oakland, California, Kamala graduated from Howard University and the University of California College of the Law in San Francisco. She then began her law career in the office of the district attorney (DA) of Alameda County, before being recruited to the San Francisco DA's Office and later the city attorney of San Francisco's office. In 2003, she was elected DA of San Francisco. Later on, she became the attorney general of California in 2010 and was re-elected to the same position in 2014. Harris then served as the junior U.S. senator from California from 2017 to 2021 after defeating Loretta Sanchez in the 2016 Senate election to become the second Black woman and the first South Asian American to serve in the U.S. Senate.

As a senator, she championed stricter gun control laws, the DREAM Act and federal legalization of cannabis, as well as both healthcare and taxation reforms. Due to her pointed questioning of Trump administration officials during Senate hearings, including Trump's second Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, she gained a national profile.

In 2020, Kamala sought the Democratic presidential nomination, but withdrew from the race before the primaries. Biden then settled on her to be his running mate, and their ticket outdid the incumbent president an Donald Trump. Harris and Biden were inaugurated on January 20, 2021 and presided over an evenly split Senate. Upon assuming office, she played a crucial role as president of the Senate with her power to cast tie-breaking votes, helping pass bills such as the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 stimulus package and the Inflation Reduction Act. After Biden's withdrawal from the 2024 presidential election, Harris launched her own presidential campaign with Biden's endorsement.



What lies ahead for Kamala Harris?

While there's a decent mystique surrounding her candidacy, some political pundits have argued that the Democrats took too long to make the inevitable decision, and that this has exposed Ms. Harris to a potential embarrassment in the polls. Trump, her main opponent, via his MAGA populist rhetoric, has already imposed and established himself as a candidate to the public, for the past six months while Harris, was just confirmed a candidate on the 3rd of August, with less than 100 days left to the election date.

While a number believe that she carries on Biden's ideology, it is worth mentioning that Kamala is a whole new individual and the idea of her presidency could take time to sink in the minds of some. Not all who supported Biden would support her, and this could divide votes towards Trump and other under-dog candidates like Kennedy.

This therefore leaves a significant gap, that requires rigorous attention to detail when settling on the right strategies to pursue. The question of Vice Presidency for example is a decision that will heavily impact the outcome of her campaigns on the ballot. The force that is Donald Trump needs an energy that matches his populist and almost extreme rhetoric.

Many candidates have been prominently rumored to be the best for her as running mate, including State Secretary for Transportation Mr. Pete Butigieg, who is, in fact the most popularly talked about.

A second debate featuring Mr. Trump and his new prime adversary has also been rumored. If it happens, the Democrats will have a chance to convince voters that their new candidate is worthy of their trust. While Kamala has consistently waxed lyrical about the possibility of debating the former president, some experts have argued that the damage done on the Democratic Party by the lackluster delivery by Mr. Biden will only be undone by an extremely impeccable performance by Harris, that is if the debate ever take place.

However, as aforementioned, the most crucial part of the next steps will be the choice of a running mate.

History in the offing

Regardless of the stumbling blocks that still lie ahead, Harris is on the verge of making history and the prestige this may come with shall be crafted with an indelible mark in the annals of history. Her eloquence and capability to move the masses is evident, and if given a podium with Trump, she is capable of going toe to toe with him in a debate, and even outdoing him, but with less than a hundred days left, she has to be extremely rapid with planning and execution. Either way, her nomination alone is historical, because it is a first, that will be talked of for generation to come.

TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY CORNER

WESTERN REGION TOURISM SYMPOSIUM

VOLUME 18 | CITY BITE MAGAZINE | 2024

LOVELY GARDEN GUEST HOME



While addressing the audience, Mr. Savula underscored the need for stakeholders in the Western Region Tourism Circuit to expose the beautiful tour destinations in the region, in order to attract more tourists.

"Budget cuts have impacted the economy of the counties and this will reflect in the funding of Key sectors such as tourism," Savula stated. "This is why we must maximize our own source revenue," he stated. "Tourism, is an important source of the revenue herein," he said. "Narok County, for instance survives solely on tourism. In western region, there are in fact enough tourist attraction sites, that can contribute to our GDP and sustain the economy pretty well."



In his speech, the Kakamega County Deputy Governor also took the opportunity to applaud the Gen Z movement for 'opening' the eyes of many and proving that Kenya can be a better place if citizens persistently demand accountability.

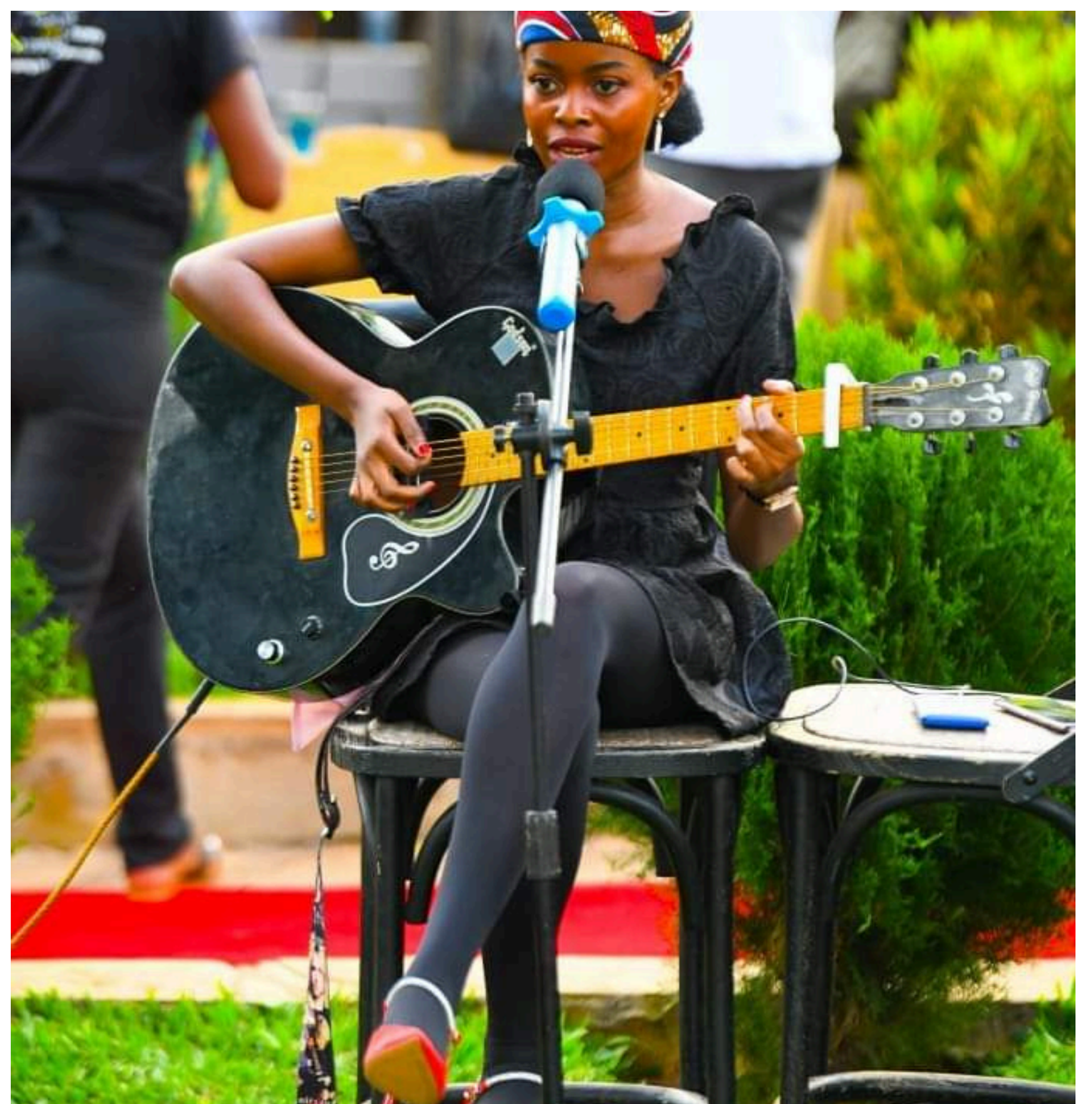
On her part, the CEC for Trade and Tourism in Kisumu County Ms. Farida Salim commended the planners of the symposium and encouraged for more forums of such calibre, as a way to promote the tourism sector in the region and beyond.

It was a colorful day, at Lovely Garden Guest Home in Kisumu, where stakeholders in the hospitality & tourism industry came from different parts of the country, to grace the Western Region Tourism Symposium.

In attendance was Kakamega County Deputy Governor Hon. Ayub Savula, while the keynote address was given by Prof. Herman Manyora, the renown political pundit and U.O.N lecturer.

Present also was Vivian Kobe, the chief executive of Viba Explore Tours, who joined alongside Miss. Grace Mumo, the CEO of FESTAC AFRICA, who while addressing attendees decried high cost of intra African flights unlike extra- continental flights.

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LAB TESTING

PRODUCTION

INSPECTION

LOGISTICS

THE FOUNDER



With a decade of experience as a Buyer in the Textile industry under her belt, Maya Pradeep embarked on founding Haute Couture in 2008 with a mission to elevate Indian Textiles and Crafts while showcasing the nation's manufacturing capabilities worldwide. Her vision was to establish an organization centered on transparency, superior quality, competitive pricing, and effective communication—qualities often sought by apparel customers globally who rely on buying houses situated in manufacturing hubs.

CONTACT : +91 9845594270

DR. MAYA PRADEEP; THE PARAGON OF RESILIENCE



Born into a conservative middle-class family with parents who upheld education as their highest priority, Dr. Maya grew up in a world where excellence was non-negotiable. As the middle child among two siblings, she often felt overshadowed by her parents' high expectations of her to exhibit a high level of academic excellence and impeccable behaviour. However, her brothers seemed to avoid meticulous scrutiny, something she couldn't really fathom it's foundations. In a recent interview with City Bite Magazine, Dr. Maya recounted her story, detailing the ups and downs she had to deal with in her rise to the top of textile business in India.

"My early years unfolded in the culturally rich landscape of West Bengal, and later, in various northern parts of India," Maya said. "The experiences of those days immersed me in the diverse beauty of India's cultures, people, and cuisine," she said. "This fostered in me the adaptability and resilience needed to navigate different environments," she declared. "My schooling took place in Ranchi, a serene hill station where life was gentle and slow-paced," she told us. "Eager for a change, I looked forward to moving to a bustling city upon graduation. "

"That particular ambition led me to Bangalore, India's Silicon Valley. While there, the fast-paced life, bustling roads, towering buildings, and cosmopolitan vibe starkly contrasted with the tranquility in my home town," she stated. "At first, my father resisted this move, but my determination softened his heart," he said. "I then enrolled in a design course, with the aim of proving my worth."

"The day to day living in Bangalore came with challenges, including balancing between modelling gigs and the demanding work at a leather factory where I was employed. However, regardless of the shortcomings of adapting to a new lifestyle, it was a rewarding experience that taught me independence, responsibility, and financial acumen. My role in the factory deepened my understanding of exports, and I soon transitioned to working with prestigious global apparel brands, gaining valuable exposure and honing my professional skills."

"As I advanced and settled into my career, I got married and soon embraced motherhood which instilled in me a lot of patience—a vital trait for any entrepreneur," Maya told City Bite. "After a decade and a half of building my career, I decided to embark on an entrepreneurial journey and I established my own company known as Haute Couture," she said.

"This company facilitated collaborations between global apparel brands and Indian manufacturers, overseeing design, prototypes, fabrics, and bulk production," Maya stated. "The support of global women entrepreneurs who believed in my vision underscored the incredible power of women supporting each other," she said. "As the saying goes, when women support women miracles happen, my life is not short of miracles because as I supported other women, their gratitude reflected in my life as blessings. Consistency in business, however, taught me that patience and persistence are the cornerstones of personal development. I saw the highs and lows but kept moving on persistently, regardless."

"Motivated by the desire to give back to society, I established a skilling centre for women in my community named Bee Chic. There, we trained uneducated women, widows, and housewives in tailoring, patterning, and embroidery."

"Witnessing the transformation of these women into confident, financially independent individuals was profoundly fulfilling. Their success affirmed the meaningful impact of empowering other people."

"Through my efforts and experiences, God opened doors to speaking engagements and invitations from political parties to work directly with citizens,"

"This involvement allowed me to gain insights into the dark realities of the teething challenges faced by the people at the grass root levels of the society," she stated. "This therefore fuelled my aspiration to become a political activist and besides my entrepreneurial pursuits, I am now dedicated to broader societal contributions, actively participating in social and civic activities aimed at enhancing lives and contributing to nation building. I am deeply committed to the belief that women should play a pivotal role in shaping the future of India as a country. "

“In my opinion, in the discussions on women’s empowerment , we must recognize that true empowerment begins with ensuring that men also embrace the importance of providing women with equal opportunities and status. It is through this mutual respect and collective responsibility that we can create a society where both genders are valued and given the chance to contribute fully to the discourses relevant to growth trajectory in our respective countries.”

Today, my life stands as a testament to my courage, determination, and unwavering self-belief. My journey serves as a reminder that regardless of your origins, with ambition and tenacity, you can defy expectations and transform your destiny into something truly extraordinary. It is that possibility of having our dream come true that makes life interesting. I sign off saying Lokah Samastah Sukhino Bhavantu



Dr. Maya Pradeep engages members of the public in India before 2024 elections [Coutersy].



Dr. Maya Pradeep conducts public civic awareness in April, in preparation for 2024 election in India [Coutersy].



Dr. Maya Pradeep conducts leads an open forum during an civic education session in India before 2024 elections [Coutersy].



Dr. Maya Pradeep poses with student leaders after Civic Education session in V.V.S First Grade College in India [Coutersy].



KISUMU CITY

Trends in Apartments 2024

Service provision is rapidly evolving

The apartment business in Kisumu City, is increasingly evolving with owners tailoring their services to meet the needs of clients from all walks of life.

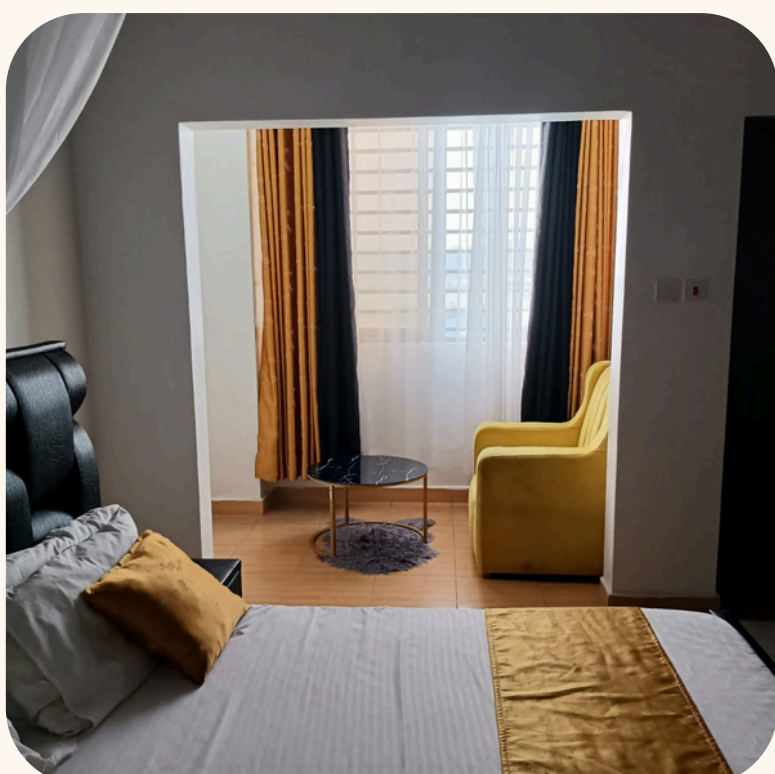
With many guests preferring Air BnBs to hotels and guest homes, many apartment investors have resorted to the business of BnBs, making it a highly competitive venture. This healthy competition has led to creativity in service provision, with each apartment owner striving to be as unique as possible, in order to attract more clients.

New ideas therefore, continue to rapidly emerge, thereby bettering service provision in this sector, in Kisumu.

Needs for differently ables people are being catered for.

This is another trend that is rapidly advancing in the City of Kisumu. Apartment owners are quickly incorporating services that meet the needs of the differently ables people as well.

From the basic ramps to wet rooms for showers, apartment owners in Kisumu strive to ensure that all differently ables clients are catered for and safe throughout their stay in their property.



Receptive hosts

The manner in which a host treats a client determines whether the clientele will grow or remain stagnant. Apartment owners in Kisumu, therefore have resorted to empty properly educated hosts, to ensure clients have the best experiences that stick with them days later.

AUGUST 2024

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO KENYA



Roger Lewis
DA PHOTOGRAPHER

What are the similarities between African and Caribbean Art?

City Bite Magazine understands that Allison Bernard, popularly known by stage name Empress Ajé will take on the mic during the much awaited FESTAC AFRICA festival 2024 in August. In a recent interview, the Trinidad and Tobagonian Chantuelle queen waxed lyrical of the festival, terming it “a colossal platform to showcase the rich and diverse cultures of Africa and the diaspora .” In the interview, we started by asking her about her roots.

“ My name is Allison Bernard, and I am a performing artist,” she commenced her introduction. “My good stage name is Empress Ajé as you already know and I was born in Trinidad and Tobago, hence you can call me a Trinidad and Tobagonian,” she declared. “ I started singing background vocals for Ella Andall, one of the most renown singers in Trinidad and Tobago,” she stated. “My foundation genre is Calypso music, which was created from West African rhythms, brought to Trinidad by our forefathers,” Alisson said. “A Chantuelle was the lead vocalist for the African call and response chants and lavway songs that were sung in the Gayelle where the stick fighting competition would take place.”

Ajé credited Ms. Andall for mentoring her into the immaculate maturity of her talents, and called on veteran artistes to nurture young and upcoming ones. Ms. Andall is famously known as The Chantuelle Queen. A Calypsonian sings about social issues of the country and is a redefined version of a Chantuelle"

“Regardless of my background in Calypso, I prefer to be called a Chantuelle because my performances evokes the call and response participation.”

How has your art impacted communities?

“As a vocalist and a creative, my craft has put me in places where I had to interact with different people and different groups” she said. “Through that, I have been able to entertain, share my positive energy and my messages through music,” she declared. “I have worked with and continue to mentor young people, who are interested in learning songs and the history of music in Trinidad and Tobago,” she said.



“ I have also founded the IBA MUSIC FESTIVAL, where I’m the Executive Producer,” Empress Ajé told City Bite. “ This event revolves around Mother’s Day, to celebrate the sacrifices of our mothers,” she said. “Through the event, families bond and we encourage them to live in harmony. Needless to say, we give art vendors the opportunity to exhibit and potentially sell their craft during this annual festival.”

What is the link between your art and cultural restitution?

“It saddens me to note, that people have embraced a certain ‘modernization philosophy, that has eroded some of our most original cultural practices,” she stated. “ A lot has been lost with ages, pertaining to African culture and art,” she said. “As stated earlier, Calypso originates from West African rhythms. In a world where many prefer western music,revitalizing indigenous African rhythms is not only the ultimate way to communicate our culture and diversity, but also to succeed in the industry,” Ajé told City Bite. “My art, therefore stands as a unique brand of music aimed at restoring, preserving and communicating the cultural origins of our ancestors and I’m proud to say that this is a purpose worth living for.”

“Because of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, our enslaved ancestors from Africa were dropped in different islands in the Caribbean. As they came, they carried their food, music and way of life,” she stated. “The cultures are still visible in our ways of doing things, ” Alisson added. “If you look at our music, food, fashion and spirituality, you can trace the African ways of doing things.”

“In music, Caribbean rhythms are very similar to African rhythms. For instance, in folk music, like in Africa, a lot of drumming and syncopated rhythms are used. This underscored the similarity herein.”

What role will you play in FESTAC AFRICA festival 2024?

“As an entertainer, I will be offering my Caribbean vibe music which’s origin traces roots in Africa. I will also use the platform to showcase my vocal ability in collaboration with the Steelpan, which is the National instrument in Trinidad and Tobago,” she said. “Apart form performance, it is imperative a point to note that the platform that is FESTAC AFRICA helps to foster connections between Africa and other countries,” she added. “Trinidad and Tobago, as it pertains art is a major priority.”

FESTAC, according to its founding fathers was meant to bridge the gap between Africans and people of African decent. To bring the continent together in one platform, for cultural exchange, restitution and preservation. This year’s theme is Sustainable Growth Trajectory for Africa, through Trade, Travel, Tourism and Culture. According to it’s planners, the festival is an impact project, meant to leave a lasting mark in the host community.

How will FESTAC AFRICA festival contribute to your art?

“The festival will expose me to an elevated platform.I will interact with both upcoming and experienced artists, from whom I can learn.This is because of the diverse cultures



Chantuelle Queen Empress Ajé conducts her crew on stage during a past performance [Photo Coutersy]

and varied ways of performances, which will directly impact my way of doing music. Brad based and active networking will definitely change the perspective of how I do things when I go back to Trinidad and Tobago.”

What's your expectations of African artists?

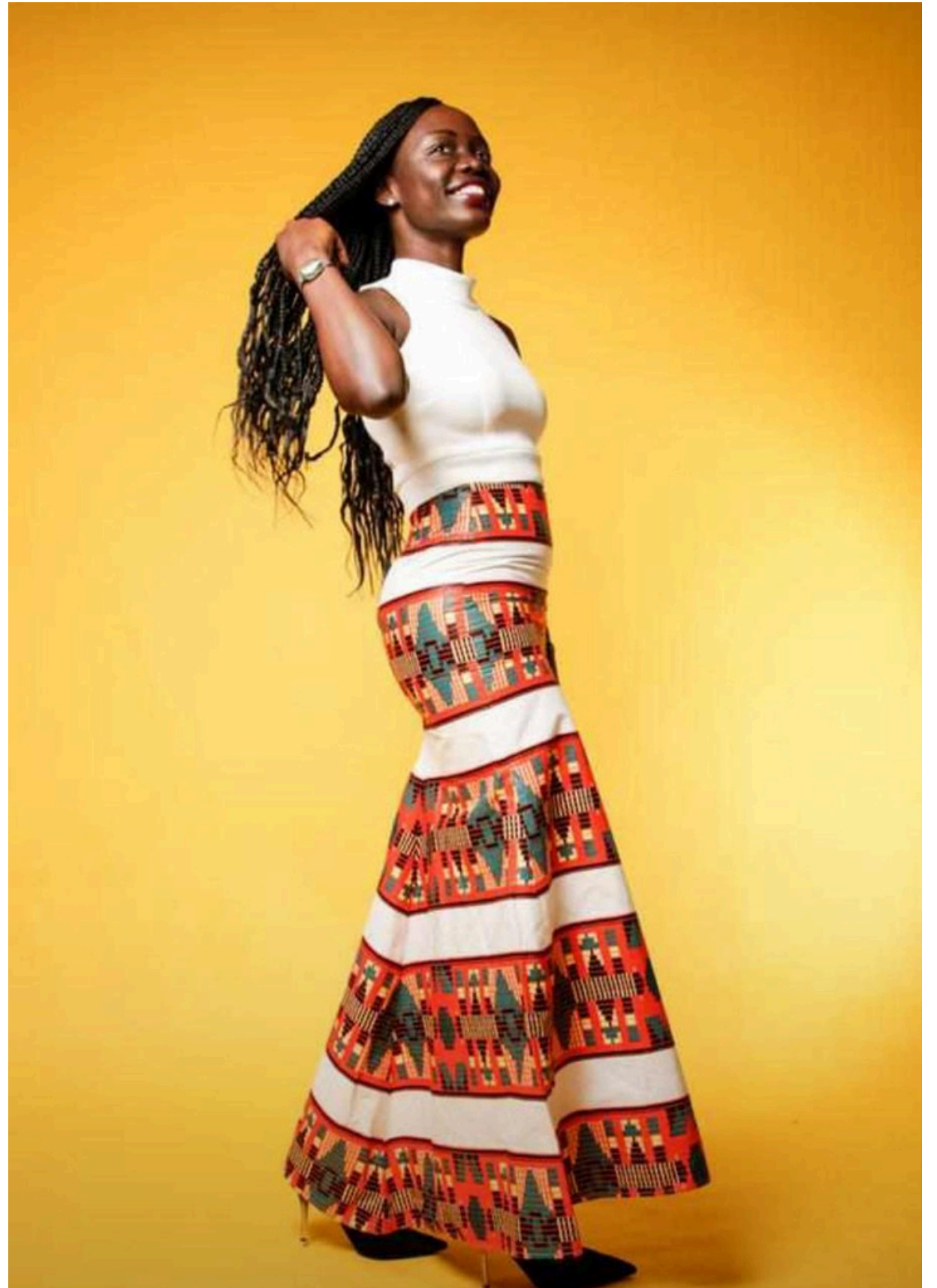
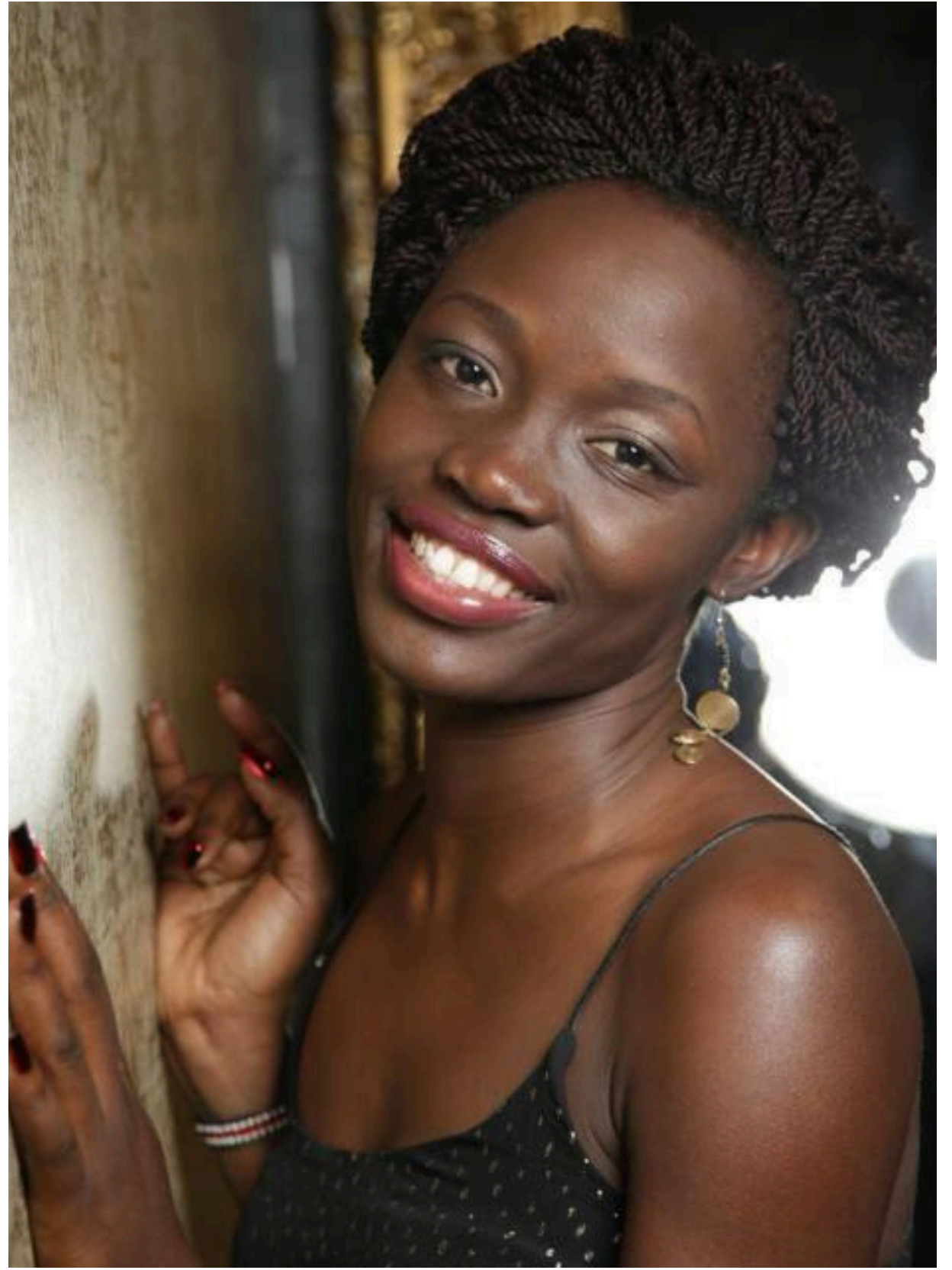
I expect quality African and afrocentric music. This to me will enrich the vibration of all in attendance. We are not coming to Kenya just to leave empty handed. We want to take away new information and new styles of doing things. Most importantly, we want to leave with contacts and collaborations in the works.

Closing remark?

In my opinion, if FESTAC invites exotic artistes to the festival, the inclusion should not compromise its authenticity. Otherwise, I'm excited to come from Trinidad to experience a festival that's of a higher level. Personally, I'll tag along 13 people with whom we will make FESTAC 24 a memorable event



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Fashion rooted in Tradition!
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Each garment is a masterpiece, precisely tailored to celebrate your individuality



Cultural Fusion

Contemporary meets classic, as Western silhouettes blend with African motifs.

Afrychry will be showcasing during the forthcoming FESTAC AFRICA festival 2024 in Kisumu- Kenya. The FESTAC Urban fashion fashion segment was tailored to give opportunity for the legitimization of Afrocentric and indigenous fashion designs.



City Bite

Magazine || Vol. 18 || Aug. 24

Spitter 99

WILL PERFORM IN FESTAC AFRICA FESTIVAL 2024

"I'm looking forward to an elevated talent exchange platform," City Bite Magazine has been told by a 24 year old talented local rapper in Kisumu, the host city for the 2024 edition of FESTAC AFRICA Renaissance festival. Oscar Ochieng' Okoth is his official name, and he is an award winning emerging artist. His stage name? SPITTER 99!

In our interview, we first wanted to know the meaning of his stage name, it's origins and why he settled on it. "Spitter means the total speed through which a human being can articulate or play with words," he said. "As a talented speed rap artist, those who saw my ability advised me to settle on that name," he declared. "Given the feedback I received from my audiences, I decided to add the 99, in reference to the score accuracy of my articulation and rhythmical outlook of my rap pieces," he said.

"For a person my age, I have performed in different stages and entertained people from all walks of life," Oscar said. "These are moments that I can never forget in my life," he proceeded. "I am thankful to God and everyone close to me, that has supported throughout my development, because I have achieved awards and high value recognitions," he said. "Safaricom Chapa Dimba, Kala Comedy Show, Africities, just to name a few are some of the big stages I have performed in," he said.

"However, I don't have to wait all the time for events. I do live shows and live band performances all over the city of Kisumu," Oscar told City Bite. "Through these experiences, I have taken note of the gaps that exist for artists in the county and challenges they face in their day to day living," Oscar told us. "This underscores the importance of festivals in the calibre of FESTAC AFRICA, which glory be to God, is coming to Kisumu, our beloved City," he said. "This is because they expose our artists to the world stage and I am super prepared to showcase my flare to the world and to learn new ideas."



LIFE IN SMARTEST CITIES TO LIVE IN, 2024

Last month,

The BBC speaks to residents in five of the top-ranked cities in the Smart Cities Index 2024 to understand which features are making the most impact to their lives.

With global temperatures rising and environmental changes putting pressure on every country, cities are facing new challenges in their plans for a sustainable future. Some destinations, however, have moved aggressively to implement smart solutions that aim to build a higher long-term quality of life, providing guidance for the rest of the world to follow.

To help chart the progress of these initiatives, the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) puts together an annual ranking of the world's smartest cities, based on the economic and technological strength of each city and how these factors enhance quality of life and provide solutions to societal challenges. Now in its fifth year, the Smart Cities Index 2024 collected data from residents of 142 cities to understand their views on their city's health and safety, mobility, activities, opportunities and governance.

Interestingly, not a single city from North America or Africa cracked the top 20 this year, and all but three cities in the top 20 are located in Europe or Asia. To better understand what exactly made these cities feel "smart", we spoke to residents in five of the top-ranked places to understand which features are making the most impact to their lives.

Ranking third in the index, and one of the few non-European or Asian cities in the top 20, Australia's capital scored particularly well for its low air pollution, its number of green spaces and a high sense of inclusion among minority citizens. This doesn't surprise Bryden and David Campbell, co-founders of Brand Rebellion, a brand and workforce consultancy based in Canberra.

According to the Smart Cities Index 2024, the world's ten smartest cities are:

1. Zurich
2. Oslo
3. Canberra
4. Geneva
5. Singapore

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LONDON EYE [COUTERSY]

6. Copenhagen
7. Lausanne
8. London
9. Helsinki
10. Abu Dhabi

She also mentioned how the city's proximity to nature informs how the city puts sustainability front and centre. "Canberra is advanced in clean energy and renewable initiatives," she said. "The city has ambitious targets to achieve net zero emissions by 2045, and this is evident in the ongoing electrification and adoption of renewable energy sources throughout the area."

Canberra has also adopted technology to make the city more liveable and more attractive to startup founders and other businesses – something that helps create a virtuous cycle of innovation. "The city's smart city initiatives, including smart lighting, waste management and traffic management systems, significantly improve the efficiency and sustainability of city services," said David. A robust high-speed internet supports overall connectivity and the growth of remote work, while innovation hubs and co-working spaces like Canberra Innovation Network help foster tech development and entrepreneurship.

SINGAPORE

odimaosure@gmail.com

Technology is leveraged to spearhead sustainability efforts, and urban farming is becoming a way of life here

KIRK WESTAWAY

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LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND

While three Swiss cities made the top 10 (including Zurich at number one and Geneva at number four), the smaller Lausanne still punches above its weight, ranking seventh in the index even though its population sits at just around 150,000. But the intimacy of the city actually proves to be a strength among its resident

"I love living in Lausanne because it's such a small city with all the amenities of a big town," said Olivia Bosshart, PR manager at Lausanne Tourism. "Everything is so close on foot. From the station, it's just 15 minutes to the lake [Lake Geneva] and 15 minutes to the city centre."

I love living in Lausanne because it's such a small city with all the amenities of a big town – Olivia Bosshart

It's also a city that takes its proximity to nature seriously and invests heavily in parks, gardens and other green spaces – with 360 hectares of urban green space and an initiative to plant more than 1,400 new trees each year.

In addition, the city remains committed to pushing digital initiatives forward in a sustainable way. The City of Lausanne is committed to reducing its digital impact and supports a digital transition of its administration," explained Alexane Borno, communications director at the City of Lausanne, also pointing out the city's efforts in providing digital services to residents and visitors: "A mobile app is available to find practical information for visiting and living in Lausanne," said Borno.



SINGAPORE [COUTERSY]

Ranked fifth in this year's index, Singapore jumped two places in the rankings thanks to high scores in safety (enabled by CCTV), high connectivity that makes schooling and traffic monitoring easier, and online reporting and document processing that enables seamless dealing with government bureaucracy.

"Singapore's public transportation system is greatly enhanced by the strategic use of open data and contactless payment technologies," said Firdaus Syazwani, long-time resident and founder of personal finance resource Dollar Bureau. "Together this streamlines travel and makes it exceptionally convenient for residents and visitors alike."

He mentions that both the government and private companies publish extensive datasets about traffic patterns, bus and train schedules and crowd sizes at stations, which app developers and urban planners can then leverage to build solutions for commuters – helping them optimise their travel routes, save time and ultimately reduce city congestion.

Resident Kirk Westaway, executive chef at two-Michelin-starred restaurant JAAN, also points to the small touches that make a big difference in day-to-day life, especially in public transportation. "[Quick] contactless payments and real-time data mean you're not left waiting wondering if you'll get to your destination on time," he said.

In addition, Westaway highlights Singapore's focus on sustainability within its smart city framework. "Technology is leveraged to spearhead sustainability efforts, and urban farming is becoming a way of life here," he said. The Aquaponics Farm at Swissôtel The Stamford, which optimises growing space without soil and minimises water usage for fresh produce, provides one example of how smart cities can integrate innovative solutions for food production in urban environments.

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

Ranked eighth in the index (down two spots from last year), London continues to rank well for its ease of online services, including booking transportation and easy-to-access Wi-Fi.

“With great transportation both with the Tube, buses, boats and active travel schemes such as bikes and scooters, London is a fun place to be with lots going on every day of the week, including restaurants, pubs, night life, concerts and more,” said Emma Orr of Winning Business UK Ltd. who worked with London’s 32 boroughs on EV charging infrastructure.

Orr has watched the city enact deep commitments to ongoing sustainability over the past few years.

“There is also a rise in smart grids, renewable energy across the city both within building design and energy harvesting,” she said. “London is committed to becoming a ‘clean city’ in terms of both EV infrastructure but also the commitment to green space and active travel [walking and cycling] plans. Transport for London have targets that 80% of journeys should be completed by Active Travel [walking, cycling and public transport] by 2041.

The city’s commitment to sustainability is also evident in its push for electric vehicle infrastructure. “EV infrastructure is a huge technological change, which we see more so in London than any other UK city,” Orr said, adding adds that this initiative is closely tied to the city’s Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) policy, which makes it less expensive to drive EVs than gas-emitting cars (which must pay a fee to drive through).

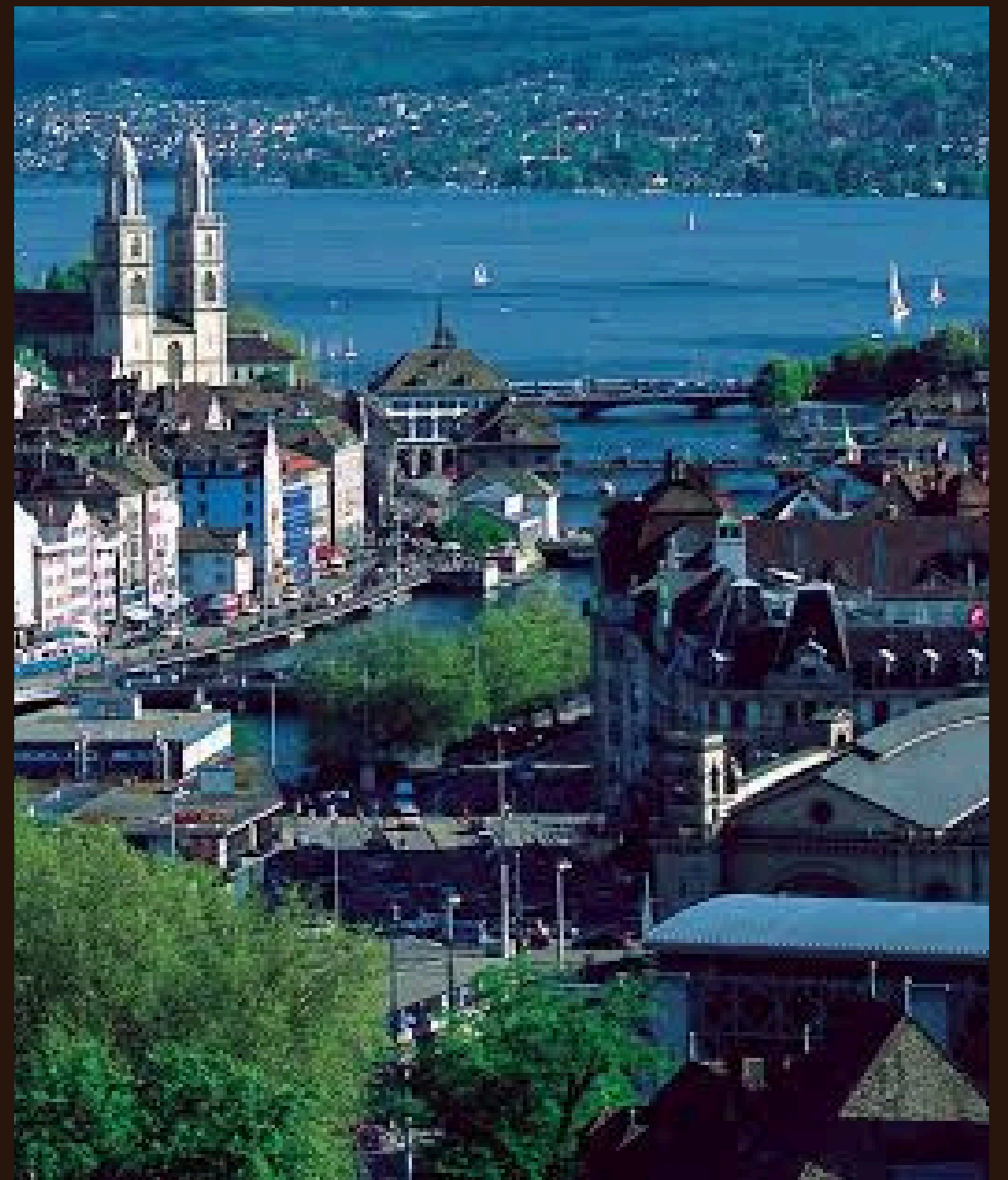
Rounding out the top 10, Abu Dhabi moved up three places in the ratings this year to reach 10th in the index. The city scored extremely well for its ease of transportation and online booking, high sanitation even in the poorest areas of the city, digital skills taught well in schools and as a place where people of different ethnicities feel welcome.

For residents, the smart and convenient features of the city’s transportation system are unmatched. “The city’s integration of vehicle charging infrastructures and autonomous driving solutions has made commuting smooth and efficient,” said Dhanvin Sriram, a resident of Abu Dhabi and founder of AI tool Prompt Vibes. “The intelligent mobility centre ensures that land, sea, air and rail transportation are seamlessly managed. This advanced system not only reduces traffic congestion but also minimises environmental impact.”

He also points to the newly planned neighborhood Masdar City, located within Abu Dhabi as a model for sustainable urban development.

“[Its] design blends traditional Arab architecture with modern technology, providing a naturally cool environment even during the scorching summer months,” he said. “The extensive use of solar panels on rooftops harnesses the Sun’s energy, making it one of the largest photovoltaic installations in the Middle East.”

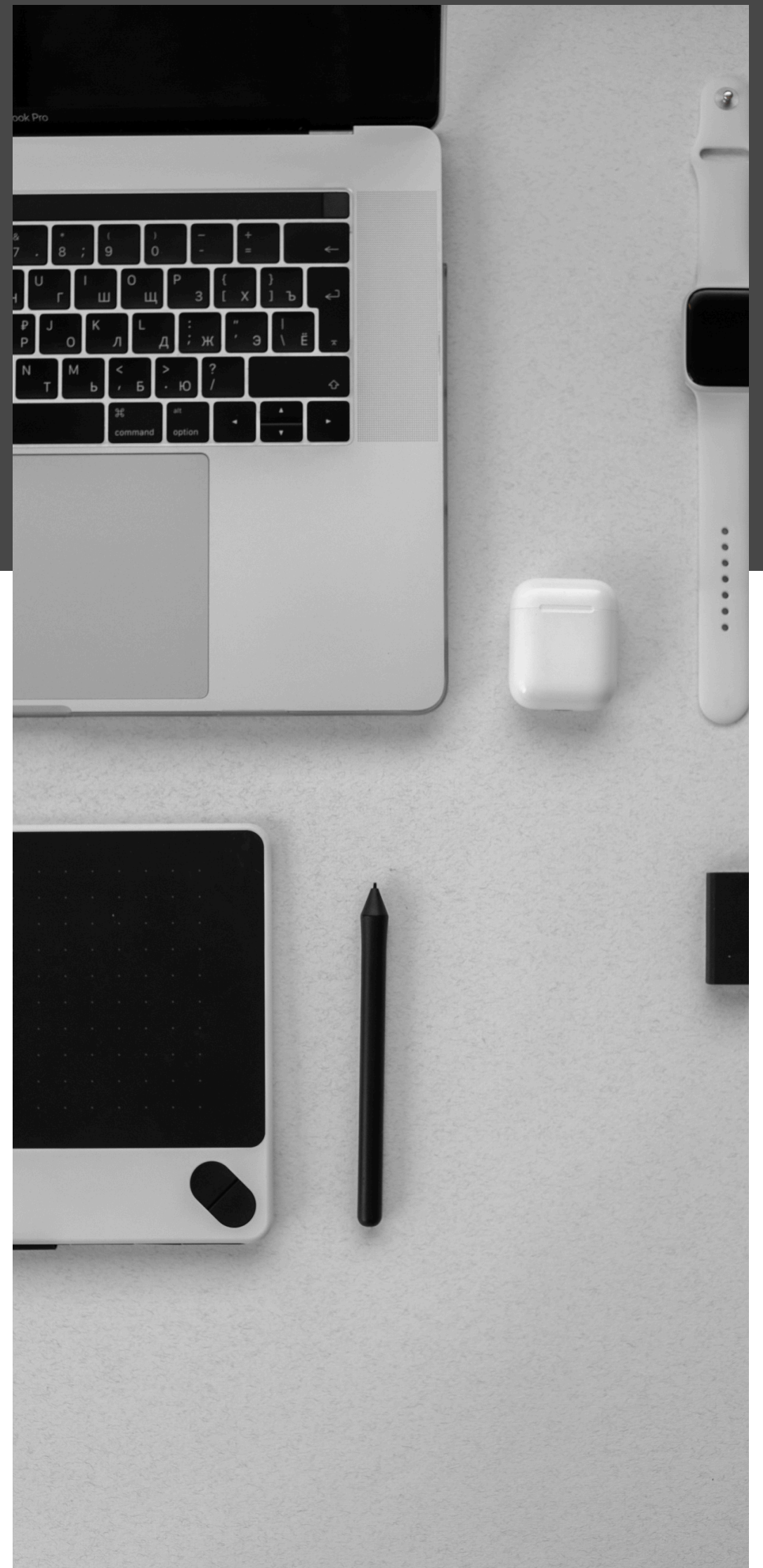
Abu Dhabi is a place where technology and sustainability come together, making life easier and more enjoyable for residents like me – Dhanvin Sriram. Most of the buildings in Masdar City are ranked LEED Gold or Platinum, and the buildings have all been designed to reduce energy and water consumption by at least 40%. Though building progress has been slower than anticipated, the area aims to eventually be big enough for 40,000 residents. “Abu Dhabi is a place where technology and sustainability come together, making life easier and more enjoyable for residents like me,” said Sriram



CITY OF ZURICH [COUTERSY]

LATEST TECHNOLOGIES

2024



Which are the best latest technologies 2024?

Modern technology is undergoing rapid evolution. This enables faster change and progress, accelerating the rate of change. However, not only emerging technologies that are evolving but a lot more has also changed, making IT professionals realize that their role will not stay the same in the contactless world. This has created room for learning, among IT professionals out of necessity.

This requires one to stay alive to both emerging technologies and technological trends, while keeping an eye on the future to know the required skills to survive the diversified career market in the future. Here are the top 24 emerging technology trends to analyze and understand in 2024, that could help you secure some of the highest paying tech jobs that will be created by these new technology.

1. A. I. GENERATED CONTENT

Artificial intelligence can generate high-quality creative content that including texts, images, videos, and music. This technology uses algorithms like GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer) and DALL-E to understand and produce content that resonates with human preferences. The vast applications range from generating articles, creating educational materials, and developing marketing campaigns to composing music and producing realistic visuals. This expedites content creation, reduces costs and democratizes access to creative tools, which enable small businesses and individuals to create content at varied scales and levels.

2. QUANTUM COMPUTING

6. INTERNET OF THINGS

Quantum computers leverages IoT technology in smart cities involves the on the properties of quantum integration of various sensors and devices that mechanics to process collect data to manage assets, resources, and information exponentially services efficiently. This includes monitoring faster than classical computers traffic and public transport to reduce for specific tasks.

This year, we're seeing quantum computing being applied in areas such as cryptography, where it can potentially crack currently considered secure codes, and in drug discovery, speeding up the process by accurately simulating molecular structures. The technology is still nascent but poised to revolutionize industries by solving complex problems intractable for traditional computers.

3.5G EXPANSION

The fifth generation of mobile networks, 5G, guarantees faster internet speeds, wider coverage, and more stable connections. The expansion of 5G is facilitating transformative technologies like IoT, augmented reality, and autonomous vehicles by providing the high-speed, low-latency connections they require. This technology is important for enabling real-time communications and processing large amounts of data with minimal delay, thereby supporting a new wave of technological innovation.

4. VIRTUAL REALITY

Enhanced VR technologies are offering more immersive and realistic experiences. With improvements in display resolutions, motion tracking, and interactive elements, VR is becoming increasingly prevalent in gaming, training, and therapeutic contexts. New VR systems are also becoming more user-friendly, with lighter headsets and longer battery life, which could lead to broader consumer adoption and integration into daily life.

5. AUGMENTED REALITY

AR technology is transforming the retail industry by allowing consumers to visualize products in a real-world context through their devices. This trend is evident in applications that let users try on clothes virtually or see how furniture would look in their homes before purchasing. These interactive experiences enhance customer satisfaction, increase sales, and reduce return rates.

congestion, using smart grids to optimize energy use, and implementing connected systems for public safety and emergency services. As cities continue to grow, this technology helps manage complexities and improve the living conditions of residents.

7. BIOTECHNOLOGY

Advances in biotechnology are revolutionizing agriculture by enabling the development of crops with enhanced traits, such as increased resistance to pests and diseases, better nutritional profiles, and higher yields. Techniques like CRISPR gene editing are used to create crops that can withstand environmental stresses such as drought and salinity, which is crucial in adapting to climate change and securing food supply.

8. AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

Autonomous vehicles use AI, sensors, and machine learning technology to navigate and operate without human intervention. While fully autonomous cars are still under development, there's significant progress in integrating levels of autonomy into public transportation and freight logistics, which could reduce accidents, improve traffic management, and decrease emissions.

9. BLOCKCHAIN BEYOND CRYPTO

Initially developed for Bitcoin, blockchain technology is finding new applications beyond cryptocurrency. Industries are adopting blockchain for its ability to provide transparency, enhance security, and reduce fraud. Uses include tracking the provenance of goods in supply chains, providing tamper-proof voting systems, and managing secure medical records et cetera.

10. EDGE COMPUTING

Edge computing involves processing data near the source of data generation rather than relying on a central data center. This is particularly important for applications requiring real-time processing and decision-making without the latency that cloud computing can entail. Applications include autonomous vehicles, industrial IoT, and local data processing in remote locations.

11. PERSONALISED MEDICINE

Personalized medicine tailors medical treatment to individual characteristics of patients. This approach uses genetic, environmental, and lifestyle factors to accurately diagnose and treat diseases. Advances in genomics and biotechnology have enabled doctors to select treatments that maximize effectiveness and minimize side effects. Personalized medicine is particularly transformative in oncology, where specific therapies can target genetic mutations in cancer cells, leading to better patient outcomes.

12. NEUROMORPHIC COMPUTER

Neuromorphic computing involves designing computer chips that mimic the human brain's neural structures and processing methods. These chips process information in ways that are fundamentally different from traditional computers, leading to more efficient handling of tasks like pattern recognition and sensory data processing. This technology can produce substantial energy efficiency and computational power improvements, particularly in applications that require real-time learning and adaptation.



13. GREEN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

Innovations in green energy technologies focus on enhancing the efficiency and reducing the costs of renewable energy sources including solar, wind, and bioenergy. Advances include new photovoltaic cell designs, wind turbines that require lower wind speeds, and biofuels from non-food biomass. These technologies are crucial for reducing the global carbon footprint and achieving sustainability goals.

14. WEARABLE HEALTH MONITORS

Advanced wearable devices now continuously monitor various health metrics like heart rate, blood pressure, and even blood sugar levels. These devices connect to smartphones and use AI to analyze data, providing users with insights into their health and early warnings about potential health issues. This trend is driving a shift towards preventive healthcare and personalization of health insights.

15. EXTENDED XR FOR TRAINING

Extended reality or XR encompasses all of virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and mixed reality (MR), thereby providing immersive training experiences. Industries like healthcare, aviation, and manufacturing use this technology for risk-free, hands-on training simulations that replicate real-life scenarios. This technology improves learning outcomes, enhances engagement, and reduces training costs.

16. VOICE ACTIVATED TECHNOLOGY

Voice-activated technology has advanced in sophistication, with devices now able to comprehend and process natural human speech more accurately. This technology is widely used in smart speakers, home automation and customer service bots. It enhances accessibility, convenience and interaction with technology through hands-free commands and is increasingly integrated into vehicles and public spaces.

17. SPACE TOURISM

Commercial space travel is making significant strides with companies like SpaceX and Blue Origin. These developments aim to make space travel accessible for more than just astronauts. Current offerings range from short suborbital flights providing a few minutes of weightlessness to plans for orbital flights. Space tourism opens new avenues for adventure and pushes the envelope in aerospace technology and research.

18. SYNTHETIC MEDIA

Synthetic media refers to content that is entirely generated by AI, including deep fake, virtual influencers, and automated video content. It raises ethical questions but offers extensive entertainment, education, and media production possibilities. It allows for creating increasingly indistinguishable content from that produced by humans.

19. ADVANCED ROBOTICS

Robotics technology has evolved to create machines that can perform complex tasks autonomously or with minimal human oversight. These robots are employed in various sectors, including manufacturing, where they perform precision tasks, surgical assistants in health care and personal aids in homes. AI and machine learning advances are making robots even more capable and adaptable.

20. A.I CYBER SECURITY

AI is critical in enhancing cybersecurity by automating complex processes for detecting and responding to threats. AI systems can analyze vast amounts of data for abnormal patterns, predict potential threats, and implement real-time defenses. This trend is crucial in addressing cyber attacks' increasing sophistication and frequency.

21. DIGITAL TWINS

Digital twins are virtual replicas of physical devices for simulation, monitoring, and maintenance. They are extensively used in manufacturing, automotive, and urban planning to optimize operations and predict potential issues. Digital twins enable companies to test impacts and changes in a virtual space, ergo reducing real-world testing costs and time.

22. SUSTAINABLE TECH

This trend focuses on developing technology in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. It includes innovations in the life cycle management of tech products, from design to disposal. It's aim is to reduce electronic waste, improve energy efficiency, and use environmentally friendly materials.

23. TELEMEDICINE

Telemedicine allows patients to consult with doctors through digital platforms by reducing the need for physical visits. Providing continued medical care during situations like the COVID-19 pandemic has become vital. Telemedicine is expanding to include more services and is becoming a regular mode of healthcare delivery

24. NANO TECHNOLOGY

This technology involves manipulating matter at the atomic and molecular levels, enhancing or creating materials and devices with novel properties. Applications are vast, including more effective drug delivery systems, enhanced materials for better product performance, and innovations in electronics like smaller and more powerful chips.





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