

March's JFM Kenya Story!

[View this email in your browser](#)

"Isn't that just like the Holy Spirit!"



JESUS FREES MINISTRIES

Reaching the world with the
freeing power of Jesus Christ

Imagine Taking Your High School Freshman To School in This Setting...



The High School your Kenyan student will attend isn't determined by where you live ...

Even in the most remote areas of Kenya, there are boarding High Schools where students live and study. At the end of 8th grade, your Kenyan student takes a very important exam. This exam will determine which high school your child will attend. If your student scores well, he or she can attend a national boarding school. Those with lower scores attend private boarding schools. Depending on the boarding school, the cost of the first trimester, called "Term 1," of the freshman year will cost \$450-\$550 with the next two terms costing \$200-\$250 each. (This includes text books)



If You Don't Pay, Your Child Cannot Attend School!

In January, after sharing the Word at the JFM Katunga Church, Mike and Cheryl had lunch with Pastor Nasipa's family. They noticed his freshman daughter, Grace, wasn't in school. Pastor Nasipa said he only had a small portion of the money needed to enroll Grace in school. In Kenya most people earn less than \$200 a month, so school fees are a parent's number one stress trigger. The issue was taken to God in prayer, and in February, Pastor Nasipa was able to sell what he could from his small goat flock and Grace went to school with an outstanding balance. But at least Grace was in school!



ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE THE HOLY SPIRIT!!!

During the prayer time of the March 4th JFM pastor's meeting, Pastor Nasipa asked for prayer for Grace. She would be sent home from school if her balance wasn't paid by March 6th. JFM had already assisted ten high school students, six primary school students, one university student and the JFM school fund was exhausted. Pastor Nasipa's

tears of joy flowed when, by faith, Mike and Cheryl told him they felt the Holy Spirit's leading to contact the school and tell them JFM would take care of the outstanding balance. During the same time, a JFM supporter in California was being prompted by the Holy Spirit to send in \$200 to help with school fees! Isn't that just like the Holy Spirit! We are trusting God for His continued provision for these beautiful Kenyan students!



When Cheryl's dad, Pop-Art Price, found out that Pastor Nasipa didn't have a pulpit, he went right to work to rectify that problem! What a blessing to be 87 and still serving the Body of Christ!



Violence in Anadungoru

Currently Kenya is experiencing severe drought. When this happens, there is usually a tribal clash between the Maasai, the Samburu, and the Pokot tribes because they are herdsmen. It brings to mind the Bible story of the herdsmen of Abraham and Lot who were fighting over pastureland! The Samburu tribe has obtained guns and they have been attacking the Maasai tribe, who live in the more fertile area of Anadungoru. Anadungoru is where we are hoping to plant our next JFM church. Last week the violence forced Anadungoru villagers to move into Chumvi and Oloruko. As a result, many of those who were displaced attended the JFM Chumvi and Oloruko churches! Isn't that just like the Holy Spirit... when JFM couldn't go to them, they came to JFM!

[Click Here For Newspaper Article - Kenya: Huge cattle invasion overwhelms iconic wildlife reserves](#)

See the evil, hear the evil, speak the truth.
27 March 2017 11:32 (South Africa)

DAILY MAVERICK

Africa

Kenya: Huge cattle invasion overwhelms iconic wildlife reserves

- Don Pinnock
- [Africa](#)
- 08 Feb 2017 10:47 (South Africa)

Cattle herders, wildlife conservancies and climate change are colliding on the beautiful Kenyan highlands of Laikipia with tragic consequences. Samburu, Pokot and Maasai tribesmen, driven by annually increasing drought and overstocking and abetted by politicians, are pushing tens of thousands of scrawny cattle across private and state reserves, commandeering waterholes and killing wildlife in their path. Some exclusive tourist lodges have been surrounded and one was burned to the ground. By DON PINNOCK.

Together with the spectacular Maasai Mara, Laikipia in the scenic White Highlands, is among the country's wilderness jewels and a tourist magnet, but it has a dark history of Maasai dispossession, vast European farming concessions and broken treaties.

A week ago armed pastoralists burned down the main tourist lodge at the 44, 000-acre Suyian Ranch conservancy. Stores and garages were looted and international visitors staying there evacuated. The five anti-stock-theft policemen guarding the lodge were simply overwhelmed by hundreds of invaders.

Laikipia is made up of extensive community owned ranches, private farms and wildlife conservancies. It supports the second highest density of wildlife in Kenya and is one of the few places in Africa where wildlife numbers are on the increase. It protects many endangered species such as Grevy's zebra, reticulated giraffe, Lelwel's hartebeest and the patas monkey.



“We'd been talking to the local community for two months,” said Anne Powys, one of the owners of Suyian Ranch. “But the young warriors who were driving the cattle came and said: 'We don't want to speak to anyone, we're coming to take the grass by force, so don't get in our way.' They burned the lodge. We realised it wasn't them but local politics that had changed their minds.”

“The damage occurring with the large number of stock is catastrophic,” Laikipia wildlife manager Jamie Manual told the [BBC](#). “The land will be overgrazed and degraded and this will turn to a situation where we have a disaster on our hands. A lot of wildlife will die through starvation from a lack of grass in the conservancy.”

As heavily armed herders drive around 130,000 cattle before them deeper and deeper across the plateau, concession owners and local police are fighting a losing battle in face of the sheer scale of the invasion. Government, with elections near at hand, seems paralysed by indecision or an unwillingness to add pastoralist wars to its problems.

“The number of cattle around Laikipia is probably 10 times what it was in colonial times,” said environmental investigator and Kenyan resident Karl Ammann. “Together with goats and sheep, especially with growing droughts, it's not sustainable. This is compounded by politicians keeping cattle as a status symbol.

“Herdsman say they're working for a big shot and say: 'You can't tell me where I can go or not go.' Samburu National Park and Buffalo Springs next to it are under threat from cattle invasion. They will move in at night so tourists don't see them and in the morning the place is covered by cattle shit and the grass is gone. And you find fires being started on the mountains too.”

According to Ammann, owning cattle is a good way to launder illegal money – it's an uncheckable bank account. “Nobody asks where your money comes from. When you find a herdsman with an AK47 you know he's well connected to someone who can afford weaponry like that. A little guy with a few cows isn't in that league.”

According to *The Standard* newspaper, the problem in Laikipia is not drought or hapless pastoralists, but land sharks in Nairobi exploiting the vulnerability of pastoralists in order to dispossess genuine owners. “This is a national catastrophe of new money gone rogue.”

Ammann noted politicians also don't want to go up against the Samburu, Pokot or Maasai. “There's an election coming up and they don't want to lose votes. So they

express concern but do nothing to stop the invasions. And lodge owners downplay the problem because they don't want to frighten off tourists."

While the stated reasons for the invasion remain muddled, there's historical justification derived from the displacement of the Maasai by both the colonial British and the independent government.

In 2004, for the third time since 1912, the Maasai launched a campaign for the return of lands allegedly stolen from them during the colonial era. While the campaign's broad objective was national land restitution, the focus was on the return of Laikipia. That campaign, as did the previous two, ended in bitter failure.

When the British arrived in Kenya, the Maasai were – in the words of the colonial administration – “probably the richest uncivilised race in the world”. By the time of Britain's departure and during the post-colonial era, they became among the poorest.

“The biggest landowners in Laikipia are descendants of British colonials and they're sitting with 1,000-year leases,” explained Ammann. “The Samburu are saying: 'This is traditionally our land. When do we get it back? We were never paid compensation.'”

“There is a solution. When drought starts hitting the herds they should be bought and slaughtered for corned beef or something and herders could make money during droughts in that way. But Samburu and Pokot herders count wealth by cattle numbers, not shillings, so they herd them until they drop and rot. Then every drought becomes an emergency. How do we get away from pastoralists wanting to have cattle for the sake of having cattle? It doesn't bring anything but desertification.

“There appears to be no planning, no policy to help the herders through hard times,” he said. “So they lift the fences and invade conservancies and national parks. Somebody should decide what the carrying capacity is, the sustainability level, and make plans against that.

“When you get cattle taking all the grazing, the result is the wildlife dies of starvation, first the herbivores then the carnivores. It's February now and the rains only come in April. And climate change is making it worse. We're not over the hump yet. It could get a lot worse.” **DM**

Photo: USAID/Kenya is backing Kenyans as they work to reforest the country, safeguard rivers, restore soil fertility, and protect threatened wildlife. Reforestation binds the soil, preventing erosion and protecting rivers essential to the Laikipia farmers' cattle shown here.(USAID/Riccardo Gangale)

Please Pray With JFM

1. This is an election year in Kenya, a time of tribal unrest. Please pray for peace in Kenya.
2. Please pray for the violence in Anadungoru (A-Na-dun-go-ru) to stop so JFM can plant a much needed church in that area.
3. Please pray that JFM can help more students like Grace. 2nd-term school fees for our JFM assisted children are due in May.

Thank you so much for praying for these JFM needs.



Thank you for your faithfulness.

- Mike and Cheryl Freese, Founders

"And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." John 8:32

If the Holy Spirit is leading you to help the work in Kenya, you can donate through PayPal by clicking the "Support" button below.

The Mailing address is:

Jesus Frees Ministries

PO Box 5685

Bend, OR 97708