

The Fumba Times

FROM ZANZIBAR TO THE WORLD - THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL

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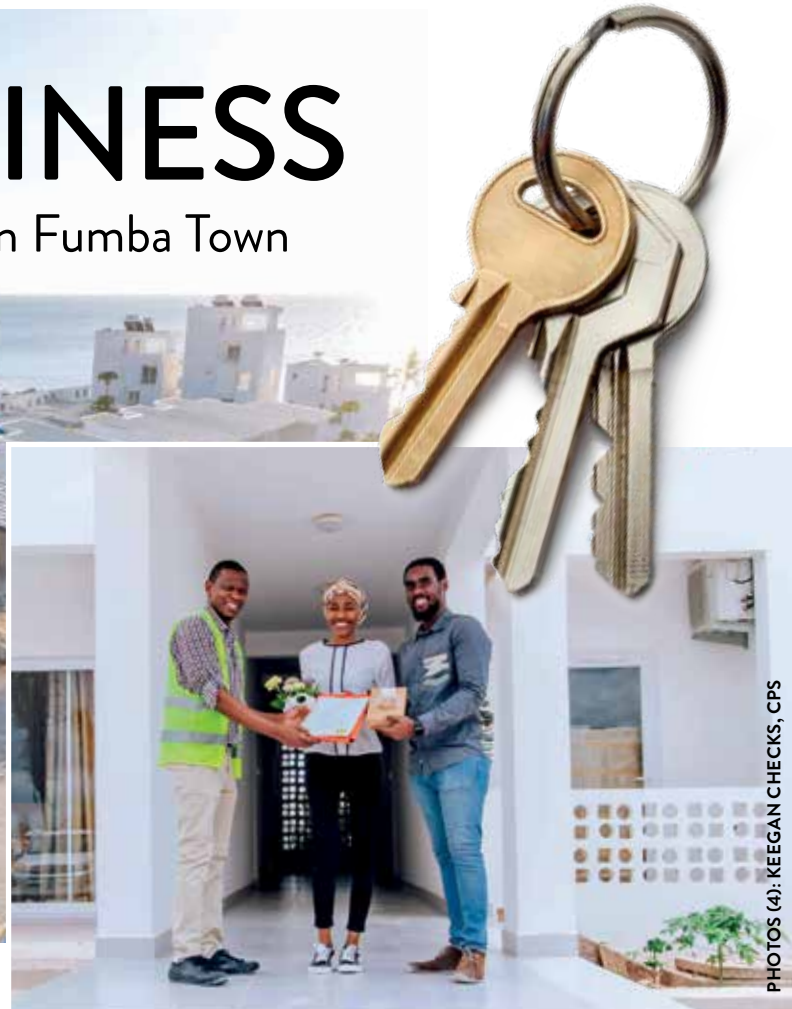


YOUR KEY TO HAPPINESS

Hundreds of handovers turning buyers into homeowners in Fumba Town



A sprawling town: Houses and apartments are being built along the coast in Fumba Town in Zanzibar. Buyers come from everywhere, new houses and title deeds are being handed over almost daily (photo right)



JOYOUS NEW YEAR, ZANZIBAR!

It's that time of the year again. High season, festive events, beautiful markets. We wish all our readers, who celebrate it, a peaceful Christmas, and everybody a heartfelt, happy and healthy New Year!

Siti Muharam in Europe TAARAB SUCCESS



Siti Muharam (Photo), granddaughter of Fumba's first taarab superstar Siti Binti Saad, successfully toured Europe in November, beating the cold and winning fans with four shows in Holland, Belgium and Sweden. On social media the singer and band were seen commuting by passenger trains and performing to full houses. The final show was recorded by Swedish National Radio.

By Ali Thabit Katunda

More than 250 homes have already been handed over in Fumba Town in Zanzibar, the fastest growing real estate development in Tanzania. We peeped through the key hole to witness the magic day in the sunshine estate.

Some come alone, some escorted by their entire family. Some carry a measurement tape in their hands, others a bottle of champagne. Mrs Kabuku, an accountant from Dar es Salaam brought not one but three girlfriends along on the joyful day. A professor from Zanzibar wore his *kanzu*.

With Fumba Town, the new satellite town near Zanzibar City, growing by the day, the handing over of new homes has become a frequent exercise in Zanzibar. "Surely it's always one of our happiest

and much anticipated moments", reflects Tatjana Wenzl, the head of client care department at CPS, the developer behind Fumba Town.

A handover is the logical end to a period of construction and discussion, of sometimes nerve-racking delays (see box on this page), of instalments paid on time or not, in short, of hopes and doubts on both sides. But it has also become a much-loved ritual in Fumba Town. "Different traditional ceremonies celebrate the addition of a new member into their community", says Salim Malik, an employee of the client care department. "We also celebrate. It is the very moment when customers become a part of Fumba Town", his colleague Rizika Mahita adds, "whether they want to reside here or rent out."

Taking in the sun, trees and life surrounding them, the new owners usually arrive on the seaside property brimming with enthusiasm. "But only when I was handed the title deed, when I heard the

ring of my own doorbell for the first time it dawned on me that from one minute to the other I had become a property owner in Zanzibar - with all the responsibilities coming with it", said an investor from Switzerland.

A green city for 20,000

The Fumba Town project, a green eco city south of the capital, was launched in 2015. By now around 700 houses and apartments from about \$20,000 to \$300,000 have been sold off-plan and are being built. Eventually 20,000 people will live here. In 2018, the former president of Zanzibar, Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein, handed over the first town house in Fumba to a couple from UK. Meanwhile, buyers and tenants come from Zanzibar, Tanzania and 50 more nations, many from the diaspora, from Oman to America. 90% of owners rent out their houses. Currently the occupancy rate at the new satellite town is higher than ever. The development has prospered into a breathing, living town, with a clinic, a school and a first restaurant. Everybody, including foreigners, can acquire property with a 99-year lease title in Fumba Town. The leisure complex "The Soul" with holiday apartments at the east coast in Paje is another project by CPS developers.

Every handover is different. During the pandemic, virtual welcomes were started. "Although it was not the real thing, we were very happy with it", expressed a couple from South Africa who purchased a three-bedroom in Fumba for retirement - and took it over online last August. "They showed us every corner of the house in a recorded tour, even how to operate the window shutters." The CPS client care department inspects every nook and cranny. The point of the tour is not to find flaws, but to ensure the new home is

"BUYERS TRUST US"

Building is not always easy. Sebastian Dietzold, CEO of Fumba Town developer CPS, talks about construction delays and concepts to avoid them.

You are building a town in Zanzibar - what is the reason when construction gets delayed?

At the moment the whole world is experiencing supply-chain disruptions because of Covid-19. We at Fumba Town have encountered such backlogs long before - due to many factors starting from congested ports to lack of construction material. Let me give you two examples: In 2019 our container with windows and doors was redirected to Mombasa port because of congestion in Zanzibar. And the availability of quality building sand has been a recurring issue in the past years.

How will you improve that?

We have improved on our contractors, we are constantly refining building technology for instance with timber to become less dependent on imports.



"Humbled by clients", Sebastian Dietzold, CEO of CPS

The more we procure and produce locally, the better. But quality must be guaranteed.

What do clients say?

We have been greatly humbled by many buyers who understand the predicaments and have shown immense patience and trust. Since the first home handover in 2018, Fumba Town has grown to a functioning, living community with a 24/7 high-speed internet, 94% waste recycling. Delays encountered have shown us even more how important it is to be self-reliant, environmentally sound and sustainable.



Karibuni! Salim Malik (right) of the client care department opens apartment doors for a young couple during handover - "it's all yours now!"

Owning a home in Zanzibar

CHEICHEI IT IS!

Nyumba mpya kuanzia TZS milioni 30

Pole, we'd love to speak Swahili at this point: The latest urban concept in Fumba Town goes as local as can be to provide equitable housing at unrivalled prices.

Imagine a diversified bazaar downstairs, clean and cozy apartments upstairs, sustainably designed with local timber and stone bricks by architect Leander Moons. A school and playground are just around the corner, a nice coffee shop waits for you in the evenings. There are large units for families; studios, flats and 'shared living' for singles, mod-

ern amenities, and all of that at affordable prices starting at TZS30 million (less than \$14,000) for a home. Equitable real estate developments for lower and middle income groups in East Africa are extremely limited. At the same time, the demand for such housing is rapidly growing. In the urban-west area of Zanzibar an estimated 100,000 new homes are urgently needed. *Cheichi Living*, named after a greeting in Swahili, wants to fill this gap by offering equitable and sustainable housing for a wider income group. "It is more about a way of life than about apartments", explains Tobias Dietzold, COO of developer CPS: "It's about safety for your family, comfortable living in an uplifting en-

vironment." The project was launched in November in the presence of government representatives and a big, elegant crowd - eager to win one of the apartments in a lottery! For interested buyers, a number of new financing options are available. *Cheichi Living* will have 270 units; a first show apartment will open next year for visitors.



Balconies, gardens & bazaar: an uplifting home environment for any budget

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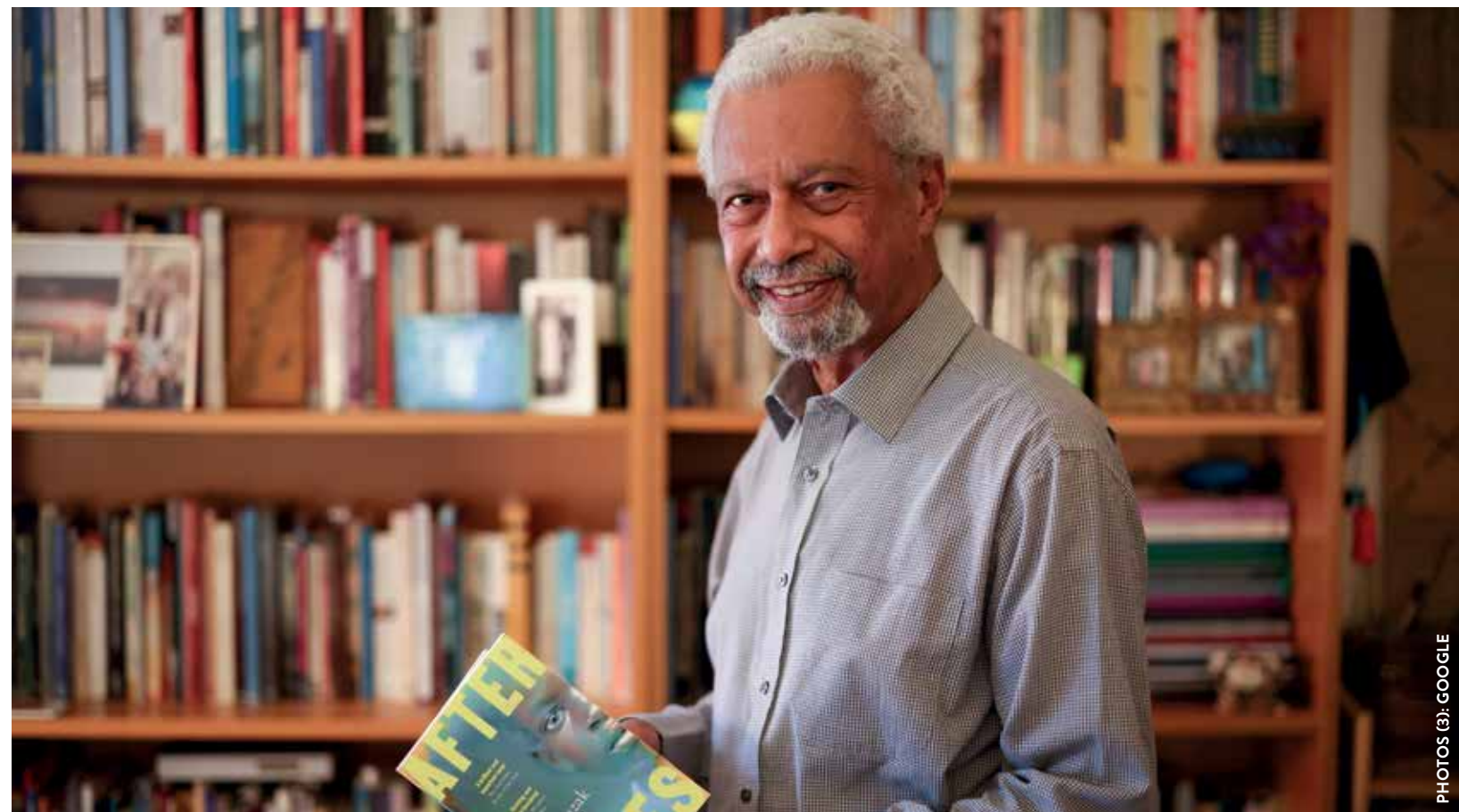
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 Limited number of units are available in phase 2A.
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A son of Zanzibar, Abdulrazak Gurnah writes about the agony of colonialism, displacement and exile. The retired professor lives in Canterbury in England

“IN MY MIND, I AM IN ZANZIBAR”

Abdulrazak Gurnah wins Nobel Prize in Literature

By Andrea Tapper

Abdulrazak Gurnah was the surprise winner of the Nobel prize this year. He left Zanzibar in 1968; his fate and the island's history are forever entwined. What does he think about his home today?

He claims he was just as surprised as anybody else when the telephone rang in his adopted home in Canterbury, and Stockholm was on the line to inform him he had won the highest accolade in literature, landing him in the company of Gabriel Garcia Márquez, Albert Camus and William Faulkner. Zanzibar-born Abdulrazak Gurnah, 73, has written ten novels - most of them absent from bookstores not only in Zanzibar, but all over the world when he was chosen as a Nobel laureate on October 7. The prize was set to be awarded in December in Oslo. "I could do with more readers", he wryly commented. The British newspaper the Guardian called him "Zanzibar's second most famous son, now £840,000 richer". A retired English language professor with full silver hair, Gurnah lives in Canterbury in southeast England with his wife Denise, who had just taken their grandson to the zoo when the Nobel call came.

Simply a very good writer! The Nobel Academy in Sweden chose him for "his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents". But others say, on top of all that, he is simply a very good, often humorous writer. Still, it is noticeable when other Nobel Prize winners are honoured for their literary quality and Gurnah for his post-colonialism. Gurnah himself, born in 1948 and known to admire Salma Rushdie has made his stand clear: "Literature must be pleasurable and enjoyable. I am not an activist. I am a story teller."

Exploring Stone Town in his books His personal fate intrinsically reflects the history of Zanzibar. His work chronicles how colonialism and homelessness tear people apart. He dissects traumatic historical experiences, from the brutalities of German colonial rule (see interview "60 years of friendship" on this page) to Zanzibar losing its independence in 1964 and becoming part of Tanzania. In the ensuing turmoil and climate of repression, Gurnah escaped with his brother to England where he has lived ever since. Of Arab descent and with a Muslim upbringing, the novelist lovingly explores the setting of Stone Town in his books and describes the parental house:

"I am not an activist but a story teller"

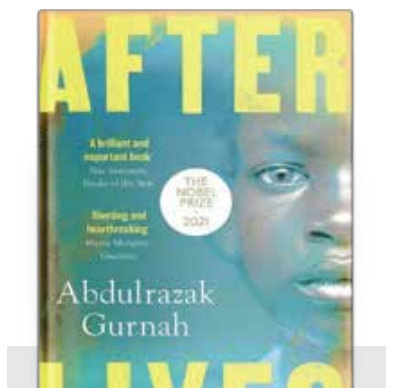
Neither English nor Zanzibari

As a narrator he found himself "neither English nor Zanzibari". But in an interview with the AFP news agency shortly after winning the Nobel Prize, Gurnah became more sentimental about his home: "I go there when I can. In my mind I live there." In the mid-80s, when Zanzibar was opening up, he returned to his home island for the first time, nervous "amidst issues of guilt and shame", as he confessed to a journalist. "But you step

off the plane and everybody is happy to see you." Does he really consider himself the second-best known Zanzibari after Freddie Mercury? On this point, too, Gurnah has put matters in perspective in recent interviews: "Mercury is not really famous in Zanzibar, except with tourists. But Zanzibari probably don't remember me either."

But on this count, the writer clearly errs. Old and young in Zanzibar do know Abdulrazak Gurnah, who still has family here. Parmukh Singh Hoogan, a former parliamentarian, fondly recalls: "He went to Daranjani school in the 50s and 60s, a school designed by my grandfather Ajit Singh Hoogan." A Zanzibari lecturer in London, Ida Hadjivayanis, is translating Gurnah's best known novel "Paradise" into Swahili and has called on the Tanzanian government to include his work in the school curriculum.

Why we should read Gurnah Gurnah is only the fourth Black Nobel Prize winner in Literature in its 120-year history, the last one being Toni Morrison in 1993. Laureates from Africa include J.M. Coetzee (2003), Nadine Gordimer (1991) and Wole Soyinka (1986). After his success, Gurnah will now be read all over the world. He seems one of the few writers capable of talking to audiences on either side of colonial and postcolonial divisions. That makes him a true Zanzibari - and his books all the more worth reading!



Gurnah has written ten books, his latest: 'Afterlives', 2020. Now in reprint, they are available at 'A Novel Idea' in Dar es Salaam (anovelfidea.co.tz) and on Amazon. Tapp: Some companies offer free reading of sample pages online - a good way to sample his writing

Diplomacy

“60 YEARS OF GOOD PARTNERSHIP”

Germany's Ambassador to Tanzania, Regine Hess, 57, about historic burdens, why Germans love Tanzania and achievements in cooperation.



“Epitome of Africa”: Regine Hess, German ambassador to Tanzania

THE FUMBA TIMES: Madame Ambassador, as Tanzania celebrates 60 years of independence on 9 December, the German Embassy made a documentary about '60 years of friendship' between the two nations. Nobel prize winner Abdulrazak Gurnah reminds us of a much darker past...

Regine Hess: ...and rightly so. We absolutely need to come to terms with the entire colonial history, good and bad. My approach is, know the past, look to the future. This view is shared by many in politics and also by descendants of those who suffered under colonial rule.

Cement who recently took over Twiga Cement, Knauf building material and last but not least Fumba Town developer CPS in Zanzibar. By the way, in the 70s it was East Germany, the former DDR, building the Michenzani flats in Zanzibar. Today investments need the right framework. Volkswagen, for example, has decided to open a car factory in Rwanda.

What exactly do investors need? Educated labour, efficient clearing and forwarding, little bureaucracy, a stable energy supply.

In this time and age, what is the role of an ambassador? Trust building.

The German Embassy in Tanzania has 38,000 followers on Facebook, are you a digital diplomat?

Not really, I am lucky that my staff masters that. A good tweet is not easy to create.

How often have you been to Zanzibar since you started as ambassador here two years ago? Certainly not enough, because I always enjoy it very much.

Interview: A. Tapper



Saved the Serengeti, loved posing with chimpanzees: Professor Bernhard Grzimek in the 1960s

How much development money has Germany invested in Tanzania over the years? We have committed 105 million euros (about 280 billion TZS) this year mainly for water, health, biodiversity and good governance.

And since independence? I don't have the entire figure, but since 2010 we have paid between 150-300 million euros (400-800 billion TZS) every year in official development assistance (ODA) and bilateral funds.

Trade instead of aid, wouldn't that serve the average people better? There are three large German investors in Tanzania and Zanzibar, Heidelberg



A gift from East Germany in the 1970s: The Michenzani flats in Zanzibar, meanwhile flanked by a new shopping mall opened in 2021. The area around the "German flats" is earmarked for major modernisation

DELICIOUS PICNIC ON THE FARM

From chapati to ugali wa muhogo - tasting Sunday's best in the shamba



PHOTOS: KEEGAN CHEKIS

A romantic celebration of locally harvested foods: Farm-to-table Sunday luncheons at Msonge Farm on the Fumba peninsula are a treat for the family

It is the delicious *badia kat lesi* (lentil balls) as it is spelled-out on the wall menu, or the golden glow of ladies resting on the lawn as the afternoon progresses? Or is it simply the Renoir-like feeling of a totally relaxed picnic in the park as it played out "sur l'herbe" somewhere in France in the 19th century? Whatever the secret of the farm-to-table luncheons at the Msonge Farm in Zanzibar, the get-togethers every second Sunday are becoming increasingly popular.

"There's just no better way to spend a Sunday afternoon," comments Nia, a regular young American visitor. People from everywhere come to sample dozens of elaborate traditional farm dishes made of organically grown produce, some of which, like *ma-kapa* (fermented cassava) many visitors may have never even heard of. Tourists, expats and a good number of local residents mingle at a farm-to-table event, typically around 25-30 people.

When we visited, girls in their best pink or red Sunday ribbon dresses were playing in the garden; grown-ups sat on *mkeka* straw mats, their food leisurely placed on pallets in front of them. The creator of the rural pop-up restaurant is



Dr. Mwatima Juma (round photo), owner of the 15-acre family farm in Shakani and a professional agronomist and head of the Practical Permaculture Institute of Zanzibar (PPIZ). She is renowned for tirelessly advocating Zanzibar to become "a 100 per cent organic island". Today however, the agile 64-year-old, known as "Mama Pakacha" in reference to her island-wide green delivery service, leans against the outdoor buffet and simply says: "I'm your head mistress."

Visitors count as many as twenty mouth-watering dishes from green *chaya* veggies, to fried fish to farm chicken curry. And while everybody is happily munching *shel-icheleli*, *fafel* and breadfruit, violin player Buja Ali, in a bright yellow suit, intonates taanab tunes under a mango tree. The best Sunday treat ever!

Farm-to-table

Every second Sunday, starting around 1 pm. Rich lunch buffet, TZS 25,000 p.p. children up to 9 yrs free. Information & bookings: +255 754 536 630

HOW TO BID FOR ART ONLINE

First Live Zanzibar Art Auction with 24 African artworks



Auctioneer Marina Majiba

By staff writer

A pre-Christmas highlight for art lovers takes place on 11 December both at the Zanzibar Serena Hotel - and online. Read here how to get the best under the hammer.

African art is rising all over the world, becoming a worthwhile investment as well as a nice-to-have for your walls. Art sellers have noticed a shift to artists of colour and to art "reflecting the issues of our time such as race, gender and sexuality", said Abigail Asher, one of the most renowned American art consultants. Another trend: hybrid auctions with some of the bidders attending live, others tuned in via livestream.

This is exactly what is coming up in Zanzibar, organised by the Forster Gallery of Swiss collector Markus Forster and managing

partner Marina Majiba in Mbweni. The first live auction at Zanzibar Serena Hotel in town takes place on 11 December, starting at 9 pm. The hotel offers a special dinner and overnight stays for the occasion. Everybody can follow the auction by livestream, but only registered buyers can bid. Bidders are expected to take part locally and from all over the world. On sale are 24 artworks - so-called lots in the auction world - of African and Africa-based painters and sculptors including George Lilanga, David Mzungu, up-and-coming Valerie Asimwe Amani and more. Other contemporary artists come from Cameroon, Ethiopia, Congo, Sudan, South Africa, Uganda. A painting of popular Michael Soi from Kenya is also up for grabs.

Bidders from all over the world Estimates for the art pieces range between \$700 and \$12,000 - still a far cry from, for example, blockbuster Black artist Michel Basquiat, whose skull painting recently sold for \$93 million at Christie's. Still, gallery owner Forster acknowledges: "The value of African art is certainly going up on all levels. It's a good time to buy." Sales after the auction will continue via his web platform and at the gallery premises in Mbweni - for anybody missing the event. For first time bidders, procedures and rituals at art auctions - likely to involve a high degree of anticipation and at times indiscernible mumbles of bids - might be puzzling but "they are really exciting", says gallery

manager Marina Majiba who will be the auctioneer in Zanzibar.

Tips for newcomers

Ready for the auction? Whether you bid live at the Serena or online (now or at a later auction), you have to register beforehand and will get a personal account. When the hammer, or gavel, falls, the winning bid determines the sales price. Auction terms differ all over the world. But usually the seller pays a commission to the auctioneer. The buyer pays a premium on top of the hammer price.

Two terms one has to remember when bidding: estimates and limits. Estimates give an idea of the artwork's value, although the actual price reached at the auction can be much higher. A painting of Pakistani artist Salmon Toor, for example, recently sold for \$867,000 at Sotheby's, ten times its estimate. Limits you'll set yourself as a bidder, but when the going gets hot at the auction, you can increase your limit.

After payment within seven days, you'll pick-up your art at the gallery or have it shipped home. Forster is planning more auctions in 2022. "We are inviting artwork for that", he appeals to sellers in East Africa, "it is time to unlock the value of your art."

Auction fever

- Information about the auction and art in Zanzibar, forster-gallery.com
- Inspiration from the world's best, Sothebys.com



PHOTOS: CPS, MOONS



PHOTOS: FORSTER GALLERY

Ready for bids: vibrant contemporary portrait by Ethiopian artist Fitsum Berhe Woldeibanos (top). A typical Congolese dandy, known as *sapeur*, by Samuel Ilunga from Kinshasa (right)

TEN NOVELS - A LIFETIME OF WRITING



COUNTDOWN TO 2022

Our favourites for stepping out

- Saying Yes in Zanzibar!**
2-5 December
Zanzibar Wedding Festival @Park Hyatt, Maru Maru, Hotel Verde, experience cultural weddings, fashion show, vendors
Details: Instagram@zanzibar-weddingfestival
- Kwetu Kwenu Christmas market**
4 December, 10am-5pm
Presents and deco, food and fun
Entrance fee TZS2,000
Fumba Town, Nyamanzi
- A Novel Idea Christmas Sale**
4 December
Gift books and seasonal stationery
Garden Market, Dar es Salaam
- Antique & Collectables Market**
5 December, 10am-3pm
Kholle House - entrance free, brunch with or without sparkling wine (\$20-\$25), Stone Town
- Bahati Fashion Cruise**
11 December, 2-8pm
"Brunchin"
Fashion designer Lucky Sabas aka Bahati invites to Indiana Cruise, the boat docks in Stone Town
Instagram@bahati_znz Bookings: +255 678 705 377
- New Years Eve in Stone Town**
31 December
NYE events in Stone Town: Africa House, Beach House, 6 Degrees South, Tatu Bar
Check social media for details
All @Shangani Street, Stone Town
- NYE party Mbweni**
31 December
Top drinks, yummy snacks and sea vibes @Mbweni ruins, the Jungle Paradise Beach Resort
info: www.jp-resort.com
Tel. 0778 242424
- Red Monkey events**
24 December, 7:30pm
Beach Karaoke, dinner, bonfire
Entrance free
Red Monkey Beach Lodge, Jambiani
31 December
BBQ de luxe unplugged, acoustic guitar & beats \$35 (Lobster etc.)
Red Monkey bookings: 0778 212 051
- Good vibes at Seles**
31 December
Live music: DJ Chris Jaxx, BBQ seafood
Seles Bungalows
Matemwe, northeast coast
Info: Whatsapp App 0624 424 424
- Rotary Gala Dinner change of dates**
Gala "Rumble in the jungle" moved to
5 March 2022
6 Degrees South, Stone Town
Info: Facebook/Rotary Club Stone Town
- Please note:**
Events subject to change

PHOTOS: ISTOCK, GOOGLE

MIND MY BUSINESS LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Embracing the beauty of flowers: Naila Jamal owns Zanzibar's premier floral shop in Stone Town

ROSES ARE A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND

When temperatures get hot in Zanzibar, even roses survive best in the fridge. Naila Jamal dared to start a business with the delicate flowers.

A green thumb does help, but with roses one needs more than that. "Taste and style, a feeling for colours, and very caring hands are helpful in the business of a florist", says Naila Jamal. The entrepreneur, a mother of three children, runs the island's main flower shop "The Roses", tucked below the popular Tatu Bar

in Stone Town. She also does home deliveries and wedding decorations, is in charge of floral arrangements and other decorative tasks at the CPS company in Fumba. Customers are surprised to see that in her shop she keeps roses, carnations and lilies in a fridge with glass doors, usually reserved for sodas: "Fresh flowers don't particularly like 30 and more degrees", says the florist, who loves wearing large sun shades and elegant kaftans. "It was very taxing when I started the flower business five years ago, because I knew nothing about it, and it remains a super sensitive job", she adds, explaining how roses get to Zanzibar in the first place. When, during the pandemic, most flower growers of Arusha shut down because export was halted, Jamal turned to importing from Kenya. Until the flowers reach her shop in Stone Town, they have to survive an arduous journey: "Kenyan producers send them packed in boxes by taxi to the border of Namanga, then to Arusha, from Kili airport they are air-freighted to Zanzibar. Sometimes people step on the flowers in the *dalla-dalla*, and they are ruined". Naila Jamal has experienced. A dire job, for a product selling at TZS 1,000 per stem: "The profit margin is little but I am in love with flowers", she remarks. And so are her customer's, many of them regulars. "Zanzibari used to be more into artificial flowers", the florist notes, "but this is changing". Her secret to prolonging roses' life in hot weather? "The bigger the stem the better. Arrange them on foam pads rather than in water. Use distilled bottled water." The care is worth it, she says, "because flowers set a good mood." And who would dispute that?

T-Roses, Stone Town
Below Tatu bar, Shangani St.
Tel/Whatsapp 0778 629 641

WELCOME NOTE
X-MAS MASALA



Andrea Tapper
Editor-in-chief,
THE FUMBA TIMES

Aah – the sweet smell of hot chocolate, a turkey in the oven and warm almond cookies. The alluring scent of masala coffee, dates and ginger. The sheer beauty of a hot afternoon on a Zanzibar beach, the sand glittering in the sun almost like snow. Every culture has its seasons and rituals – and we at THE FUMBA TIMES celebrate all of them. Christmas and New Year are falling into the timespan of this issue. Ramadan will be next in a few months, and as before in our two years of existence, we look forward to all of it. It's family time - now and then!

Nowhere is this probably more visible than in Fumba Town where homeowners and tenants from as many as 57 countries bond, true to the cosmopolitan spirit which has developed in Zanzibar over the centuries. I was touched by the thoughts and rituals of three very different Fumba families during this festive

season on page 7. And fascinated when flamboyant designer Spanish Topsy Gypsy invited us into her exotic house in Fumba, photographed in all its splendour by Keegan Checks for page 6.

Fumba - and Xmas - are all about bridge building. On the cover we share heartfelt moments when new homeowners are finally receiving their dream house. For those of you still contemplating investment, we answer your 25 most pressing questions about buying property in Zanzibar with a special inlay in this edition.

But for me as a journalist, the biggest joy of all is the Nobel Prize in Literature going to a writer from Zanzibar, Abdulrazak Gurnah - and the Peace Nobel Prize being bestowed on two courageous journalists from the Philippines and Russia standing for press freedom.

It's like chocolate and turkey all at once!

GUEST COMMENT
NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER



Miranda Naiman, founder and head of recruitment agency "Empower" in Dar es Salaam, on how to better market yourself. She was recently nominated "Most Inspirational Female Corporate leader in Tanzania"

"Never say no, why not"

Today let's talk about the law of "hunters" hunted? When the mighty hunter unwittingly becomes the prey, the laws of nature are upturned and yet balance is simultaneously restored. The status quo would involve the hunter (you) chasing down the prey (a job), however in this case the hunter is now being headhunted – a far more favourable state of affairs. Reaching 'hunter-hunted' status is synonymous with rising the ranks and making a splash in your respective field – in essence, a recruiter will come looking for you when you have skills in-demand or when your professional reputation precedes you. On a personal note, my best job offers started rolling in about two years into my entrepreneurial journey; Murphy's Law. I guess. If you aspire to be headhunted by a credible recruiter, or have wondered why the right roles aren't coming your way; do consider my advice below.

Develop upfront relationships with recruiters – Building a solid relationship with a recruiter you trust can come in handy down the road. You may be interested to know that most people are willing to move if the right opportunity presents itself; and as such are registered with recruitment agencies. Your individual relationship with someone within your agency of choice will mean being in-the-know, and creating the first senior referral for yourself. The best senior candidates we work with go so far as to recommend viable alternatives – stars keep the company of stars; such leads usually result in a win-win scenario; you help a contact secure a great job and further solidify the relationship with your recruiter.

Be easy to contact – whether you're on the market or not, you need to ensure you are easily traceable. A recruiter's time is limited, so list your personal email and number on your LinkedIn and other profiles, too. A recruiter would rarely write to work email addresses.

Never say no until you ask, why not? Before a practical decision can be made (about anything for that matter) you need all the facts in your hand – in this case, ask your recruiter questions about the organisation, role and reason for the opening. Fussiness isn't the issue here; but a clear feedback is wanted.

Share your accomplishments – To be headhunted you will not only need to have skills, attributes and talents but you have to brand them. Attract the right attention by sharing your accomplishments and key career milestones. There is no shame in having your hard work pay off; if anything, the frenzy drives more head-hunters your way.

Don't play hard-to-get – Nobody likes games or having their time wasted; ensure you are always upfront with your recruiter, particularly about whether you have already pursued the same role in an alternative way. And most importantly, if this is a role you really want, say so! A recruiter is far more likely to gun for you knowing you truly want the role; rather than attending an interview to affirm that you've "still got it." Let me know when you've found a new career, have a blessed 2022!

FUTURISTIC ZANZIBAR

Cartoon by Ikaya Bonzo

HELPING CHILDREN IN NEED

A birth defect known as spina bifida has terrible consequences for children. A clinic in Tanzania assists them to live a better life, writes Dr. Theresa Harbauer who started the initiative.

Together, they race around the hospital grounds of Haydom Lutheran Hospital in their new wheelchairs. With a basketball on their laps, the wheelchair kids are on their way to a new basketball court, laughing and giggling. Nothing reminds onlookers of the fact that they have been struggling each day of their young lives. All of them have spina bifida, a congenital birth defect of the spinal cord, that leaves them paralysed, unable to walk and incontinent.

Here I want to tell the story of little Theresa, one of the wheelchair children of Haydom in northern Tanzania. As a paediatrician I have worked with her for two years; since 2009 we have been running an initiative "Haydom-Friends" to sustain medical care for affected children in Tanzania and Zanzibar. When possible they have operations and simple wheelchair kids are locally built for them, changing their lives to the better.

Little Theresa was born near Haydom village; at birth, doctors discovered her "open back". Her feet were already deformed due to the paralysis of the nerves. Fortunately, she was successfully operated upon and the back was closed.

But, with so many children with spina bifida in Africa, she never learned to walk, her mother was never assisted to manage the disease, and Theresa spent the day sitting in a corner of her parents' mud house. Unable to control her bladder, deep pressure sores appeared on her skin.

Nobody came to play with her, attending school was not possible as she was not able to move herself around.

There are more than 600 children in Tanzania and Zanzibar being born with the spinal defect each year, compared to 50-60 in Germany for example. The most common irreversible spinal birth defect is thought to result from a combination of genetic, nutritional and environmental risk factors.

Worldwide, it occurs in 0.1 to five of 1000 births. Spina bifida is more common in teen mothers. Taking B-vitamin folic acid during a pregnancy reduces the risk by 70 per cent. But knowledge and awareness is often very poor. Haydom Hospital, built in the late 1960s, is offering medical care and long term treatment for these children.

When her parents brought little Theresa to us, she was three years old, shy and scared. The first step usually is, to teach mothers how to use catheters with their children. For the first time the little girl woke up dry and clean and her wounds began to heal. But she remained silent, she had been socially isolated for too long. Only by the time she received her wheelchair through the program, did Theresa gradually start to discover her new freedom of mobility and opened up. She began to talk, seeking contact to other kids of her age.

And this year, she demonstrated with us. Parents, medical staff and children worldwide were out in the streets on International Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day on October 25, from Haydom to Stone Town and throughout Tanzania. This year's motto: *Ondoa vikwazo vyu huduma* - no barriers for children. Several adults with the impairment in Tanzania have even managed to climb Kilimanjaro!



PHOTO: HAYDOM-FRIENDS

Back to life: A handmade wheel chair helps Theresa to move around and attend school

Our organisation "Haydom-Friends" has treated more than hundred children with the birth defect here, and is currently trying to raise funds to build a "House of Hope", a shelter for education and training - and for Theresa to further treat her before we can send her to school, now that she is seven years old. As a doctor who founded this private initiative I see to it that every cent is used directly for the children and their parents.

Information:
www.haydom-friends.org



PHOTO: PRIVATE

Dr. Michael and Bianca Hippach

READERS' LETTERS

Dear reader, we at FUMBA TIMES welcome your opinion, story ideas, suggestions and feedback.

Mail us your comments. If published, we reserve the right of editing and shortening.

E-mail to: readersletters@fumbatimes.com

THE FUMBA TIMES WAS A GREAT HELP

We visited Zanzibar and discovered many fabulous things such as Cheeta's Rock, the private animal sanctuary north of Zanzibar City. The cheetah on the photo is real! Fumba Town impressed us very much with its vision, but we must say that THE FUMBA TIMES was the most helpful guide in getting around and putting things into perspective. Fumba Town and Zanzibar would be less transparent without your newspaper, keep it up!

The Fumba Times

FROM ZANZIBAR TO THE WORLD - THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL!

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This issue contains a free supplement: 'Buying property in Zanzibar - 25 essential Q&A's'. If it's missing, write to us. THE FUMBA TIMES is published quarterly. All rights reserved. No reprint or excerpts without formal permission.

OUR FORESTS, OUR FUTURE

What wood can do: one million jobs for Tanzania, super homes for Zanzibar

PHOTO: H. KRIEHOLO, CPS



THE WOOD WIZZARD

Hans Lemm is a wood pioneer in Tanzania. When his company started planting forests here in the late 1990s, great importance was placed on maintaining the remnants of the original landscape in the valleys, where rivers meander untouched, whilst row upon row of trees were planted on the mountains. "Basically, forest areas are fields with crops. The only difference is, they don't give an

annual harvest but only every ten to 15 years," explains the Dutch-born CEO of East Africa's largest forest development and wood processing company Green Resources AS. His plantations near Iringa are twice the size of New York. The company operates its own sawmill, Sao Hill Industries, and a huge tree nursery producing annually two million eucalyptus and pine seedlings.

Wood needs a lobby. Especially in Zanzibar and Tanzania. Katrin Dietzold travelled to Iringa and went deep into the forest to look for clues.



Author Katrin Dietzold and her husband Sebastian, founders of CPS

Forest - everyone associates it with deep emotions. With flavours, freshness, sounds. I myself am an admirer of the forest. But this article is about another dimension. About forests as a resource. A plantation forest binds 15 times more carbon dioxide per year than a natural forest. Forests instead of cement factories and steelwork are the magic equation for the future.

In the midst of a worldwide debate about saving forests, my husband Sebastian and I recently stood on a hill in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania looking at seemingly endless 250,000 hectares of planted eucalyptus and pine trees - an area double the size of New York, equivalent to 35,000 football fields. We had travelled to the north to see for ourselves if forestry and professional wood processing is possible in Tanzania, and if it already exists here.

Since the climate conference in Glasgow, saving forests is high on the agenda. Brazil is considered one of the bad guys, burning down far too many trees. But among the things we learnt in Iringa is, that contrary to large wood exporting nations such as Brazil, "planting has been successful in Tanzania thousands of hectares with degradation forests where it's needed, on planted farmland", says Hans Lemm, an agroforestry entrepreneur whom we met in Iringa. And that is just the beginning. In other words, Tanzania could be among the good guys in the climate crusade. But at the moment it still needs to import wood.

WHY ZANZIBAR NEEDS TIMBER



Legoland in real: prefabs timber construction at The Soul in Paje

- Sand for construction has become a scarce resource
- Steel and cement prices are constantly rising
- The worldwide building sector is a climate killer, responsible for 25 per cent of CO2 emission
- Wood is climate-friendly - every cubic meter binds half a ton of carbon
- Tanzania is blessed with geographical and climatic conditions to make agroforestry an attractive business
- Wooden houses are cool, they hardly store any heat. Ventilate once and sleep in a cool place!

Hot business for investors
With CPS, our company developing Fumba Town in Zanzibar, we have been using timber construction technology for years. We have built more than hundred wooden family homes in Fumba and are currently constructing over 250 holiday apartments called "The Soul" partly with this technology in Paje on

company Green Resources AS (see box on this page) "Potentially", Lemm agrees, forests could be "a huge and sustainable business in Tanzania." But for now it's a catch-22 situation where high demand to develop the industry is missing. And even if there were sufficient demand, a slack industry, strangled by bureaucracy, couldn't fulfil it.

Moving up the quality ladder
So there's lots to do, and the details have to be right. Eucalyptus is often seen critically by environmentalists because it sucks a lot of water from the ground, but Lemm maintains it's a question of managing and replanting the trees. "The quality of Tanzanian eucalyptus and pine wood is very good", he assures us, "as long as the trees are treated properly, from planting to thinning, pruning and

harvesting." His company Sao Hill is the first and only in the country operating a professional wood treatment and drying facility. Compared with pioneering Lemm, the picture of state forests and agroforestry is wanting, to say the least. The plantations are over-aged and poorly managed, modern wood processing plants non-existent. Twenty already operating factories do employ 140,000 people but "produce low value, low quality, and relatively low-priced products. Yet, there is a desire to move up the quality ladder", says the Tanzania Business Council. Currently five (!) ministries are involved in facilitating, coordinating and mobilising resources in the wood sector in Tanzania.

Get your prefab wood home in Fumba

We realise, there is still a long way to go before industrial wood products from Tanzania could really cater to a mass market. Then again, this is exactly where we as urban developers feel called upon to do our part! As CPS we develop and design thousands of apartments and buildings. We have gained plenty of experience in wood construction with "VolksHouse Limited" in Fumba, the first in Tanzania to produce prefabricated wood houses with fast and precise, easily multiplied building techniques. We have created over 80 jobs with this factory. For Fumba Town and other projects alone we have a demand of more than 30,000 cubic meters of processed wood per year. It's about time to reset the political course. Our visit to the Southern Highlands has convinced us once more: wood made in Tanzania has a future.

BEAUTY
GOING NATURAL

By Itika Killimbe

With the help of French beauty specialist Nelly N'Gouah-Beaud, a new handmade cosmetic line has been launched in Zanzibar. "Zuri Rituals" promises to be all natural.



Natural beauty: Nelly N'Gouah-Beaud of Zuri Rituals

Zuri is Swahili for beautiful, and Rituals a hugely successful skincare brand from Holland, so the combination of these two names bears a big promise. "Our products are 100% natural and organic, free from parabens, artificial colouring or flavours. We produce them locally in Zanzibar in small batches to achieve freshness", says Nelly N'Gouah-Beaud.

The dream behind Zuri Rituals dates back 15 years ago when well-known Zanzibar entrepreneur Javed Jafferji and his wife started making handmade cosmetics on a small scale from the comfort of their family kitchen. Since partnering with Nelly they have now increased their range of products to include more than hundred items from massage oils to scrubs, bath salts, balms, face masks, whipped butters, lotions and creams. They also provide hotels with toiletry. "We are passionate about creating sustainable, high quality skincare that is as good for the environment as it is for your skin", says Nelly, who looks back on twenty years experience in the French cosmetic industry and came to Zanzibar five years ago from



One of Africa's beauty secrets: Baobab oil

Paris to become spa manager of a hotel. Zuri Rituals ingredients such as spices, fruits and herbs are locally sourced all over East Africa. Non-toxic, environmentally-friendly amber glass is used for packaging. Bottles are refillable. The latest range of Zuri Rituals called "Safari" was launched in Arusha specifically for safari lodges and resorts. And what does Nelly N'Gouah-Beaud suggest as a present under the Christmas tree? "Most popular are anti-aging facial oils and lip balms", she says, "but ideal are also make-up and body gloss with a party shimmer, and hair mist which is helpful for the dry season."

Zuri Rituals - available at the flagship store on Gigenza street, at Golden Tulip airport hotel and many other hotel shops in Zanzibar. In Arusha at Safari Gallery.

PHOTO COMPETITION
A DIFFERENT PICTURE...



Poverty and pollution: The winning photo of a Zanzibar photo competition (above) shows a different side of the holiday island

One has to look twice to see what's in the winning photo of a recent competition for young photographers in Stone Town. Almost invisible on the grey brick wall of the Fordhani seafront sits a young boy on a drainage pipe starting at plastic bottles floating in the sea. Does he want to pick them, is he reflecting on the rubbish? Young hobby photographer Khudaja Hassein, who took the winning shot, said on it: "While I wandered around Fordhani I just noticed the boy looking at the pollution, lost in his thoughts." Prominent Zanzibar photographer Robin Batista organised the competition with Cape Town Fish Market (CTFM): "I hope Hassein's image will encourage everyone to care more about the future of the island", he said. More than TSH2,000,000 worth of prizes were awarded, participants took images along the seafront between Old Dispensary and Africa House. CTFM restaurant owner Mo Hamani from Dar es Salaam commented: "Zanzibar is bubbling with local talent, we want to create platforms for it." The competition is to become an annual event, he said.

LOCAL HEROES
RICH OR POOR, FAMOUS OR UNKNOWN - THE FACES OF ZANZIBAR

THE HAKUNA MATATA MAN

Nobody has seen Fumba Town evolve better than Omar Makame Simai, the longest-serving employee here.

Residents love him, the staff at the Kwetu Kwenu restaurant kiosk couldn't do without him and the bosses are simply very fond of him. Omar Makame Simai who started out in housekeeping and worked himself up the ranks into the town management team of Fumba Town, is a handyman in the best sense. Whether a water meter needs adjusting, an electrical supply line fixing or disagreements between neigh-

bours have to be sorted, the 41-year-old family man and father of four children is ready to solve any problem. "Hakuna matata", he says, "it's easy."

Just how did he become such a diplomat? "I just feel very attached to Fumba Town and to everybody here", Simai says, "maybe because I have seen it grow from nowhere."

"The maintenance specialist has been working in Fumba long before the very first house was built and remembers: "We counted the trees of local residents for compensation when the area was marked for development". Fumba then was nothing but harsh corals and thick bush. "Nobody believed we would build a town here, not the villagers and not the European visitors", he says.

The first show house was built in 2015, events like markets and concerts fol-

lowed, and curiosity took over. At that point Simai had already made friends with fishermen and villagers around, always showing an open ear to hear their concerns.

With his help a mosque near the shore was repaired and renovated; villages received new wells and water tanks, and soon the first hardware and paint supply shops opened in neighbouring Nyamanzizi. For Omar Makame Simai nothing else would make sense: "In Zanzibar we believe in community", says the man for whom loyalty begins at home. "Good relations are important." Improvements, he knows, can propel anybody ahead: "When we are planting palm trees at the seafront, for instance, everybody will win." And when asked, what his working hours are, he just laughs: "Hakuna matata, call me and I'll be there."



Fixing life's issues can begin with a water meter (photo right) and end with renovating the mosque (top). Omar M. Simai handles them all



PHOTO: CPS

HOMESTORY

WHERE THE WILD THINGS LIVE

By Itika Killimbe

Fumba's most exotic home belongs to a Spanish fashion designer from Dubai. Lovely Christina Franco opened her doors for THE FUMBA TIMES.

It does not take much to know a globetrotter has settled in Fumba. A colourful wooden signpost outside Christina Franco's house points to Madrid, Dubai and Tippy Gypsy – the coordinates of her adventurous life on almost all continents.

As we step in the adventure continues. A touch of Bali fingers in the living room, golden monkeys seem to be playing in the bedroom, a high-tech, all-red kitchen invites you to start cooking. A bamboo-fenced African oasis in the backyard has replaced what was previously a simple open terrace. "We added privacy and got more space at the same time, even some stay-away for suitcases under our new stone benches", says Christina about the transformation: "I'm absolutely happy with the result."

Christina Franco is what you might call a modern nomad. "Travelling is in my DNA", says the fashion designer, who started out as an economist before discovering her creative talent and calls herself "an actress of life".

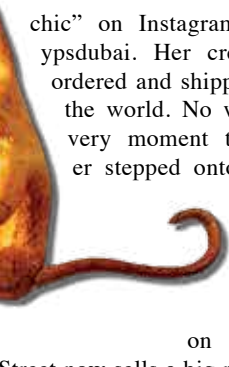
She has worked in Nigeria, the Caribbean and South America, in Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. For the last 13 years the 50-year-old, looking easily twenty years younger, has been living in Dubai, where she established her fashion brand Tippy Gypsy. Where does the crazy name come from? "Well, that's easy", Christina says. "With all my travelling I really felt like a gypsy."

In Dubai she has more than 40 tailors working on her flamboyant collections. Easy to wear, feminine summer dresses, caftans and pants for all sizes and ages are her trademark. The result is a flattering Carmen-goes-Arabia style, a playful mix of Flamenco, oriental and Asian influences. "I want women of any shape and size to feel comfortable in my clothes", the designer says: "You will look fabulous in our clothes no matter your age, nationality, culture or style."

More than ten thousand fashion fans already follow her "Spanish boho



The adventure begins at home. Clockwise from top: Christina Franco loves colour in her living room, high-tech in the red kitchen, jungle vibes in the bedroom and privacy on the back terrace



Street now sells a big range of her environmentally-friendly clothing line well-suited for the hot temperatures of Dubai and Africa. "I love vibrant colours and flowers, both in fashion and décor", Christina says, a theme reflected in every niche of her jungle house in Fumba Town. The two-bedroom home has a large cozy lounge with a dining table and an open kitchen bar. One of the bedrooms displays a striking lotus-like headboard; the room is kept strictly in

blue and silver and the ocean theme continues in the adjacent bathroom. Jungle fever strikes us in the second master bedroom with an equally beautiful hand-carved wooden bed, a green bedspread, and golden monkeys hanging from the ceiling and bedside lamps. "In Fumba I wanted to combine the themes ocean and jungle", Christina explains.

"Interior design is really just my hobby", says the established fashion designer who has, by now, furnished three homes for herself, in Madrid, Dubai and Zanzibar where she is renting out to holidaymakers. "We simply loved it", said an Afro-American couple who recently spent several weeks in Christina's town house in Fumba Town. "From the moment you step in, your holiday adventure begins." The jungle-book-for-real effect appeals to

vacation makers who - after all - want a break from the ordinary. "But when I designed the house, I did it for myself", Christina maintains, "I did not have any tenants in mind."

"I bought and shipped most of the furniture in one go from Dubai after I had only seen a video of the house", she recalls. "I did not want to waste any time furnishing it. I was happy to be assisted by Raquel Peso, a fellow designer from Spain who works in Zanzibar and implemented many of my ideas", Christina says.

The whole interior is a mix-n-match of expensive and not-so-expensive items. High-tech gadgets including an oversized red cooker are to be found in the kitchen, elaborate copper appliances in the bathroom. Upmarket deco is matched with budget finds such as

pillowcases made of kanga clothes in Zanzibar. The unusual combination of old and new lends a special exuberant charm to the house. As much as Tippy Gypsy fashion is designed "to liberate women of tight and uncomfortable clothing" - as the company branding proclaims - her jungle house seems to liberate the matchbox type townhouses in Fumba Town of their uniformity. This is especially apparent on the outside. Christina's back and front yard has turned from simple tiled terraces into eclectic hippie-esque outdoor spaces, with a wooden dining table and a hammock on an extended green veranda in front of the house.

"Maybe I will make Zanzibar my main residence in the future", the designer contemplates. With her jungle house, in any case, the stage is set for the creative, globetrotting woman whose style transforms fashion and homes.

WHERE TO BUY TIPPY GYPSY



In Zanzibar: Wonders Boutique, Gizega Street

Online: tipsygypsydubai.com

instagram.com/tipsygypsydubai

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FORSTER GALLERY
ZANZIBAR

AT THE ZANZIBAR SERENA HOTEL AND ONLINE BIDDING



JOYFUL HOLIDAYS

Christmas around the world is celebrated in one single location in Zanzibar - in Fumba Town. We asked three families how they spend the festive days



Etienne's family: lights and happiness all over, and their house in Fumba Town shining (photo below)



"WE ARE HINDUS AND WE LOVE CHRISTMAS"

Reynita, Alan and Ayana, 7

"We come from Mauritius, a very multicultural country just like Zanzibar, and we celebrate everything there. Any public holiday, of any religion or culture, is an excuse to celebrate! I also do Ramadan. I have fasted two times already. My husband Alan, the master chef, came to Zanzibar in 2009, I joined him a year later, we are married 12 years. Originally we are Tamil Hindus. Xmas for us is all about family time, especially with our daughter Ayana - and about cooking. My husband is the expert, of course, but with me running a successful catering firm from my house here in Fumba, we all do our part. Last year, for the first time we even had a tree. In Zanzibar you have to be very

creative with decoration so I just painted some branches white, and it looked pretty. I collect nice items to decorate the whole year.

In Mauritius we are more than ten brothers and sisters, here in Fumba it's just our small family. But there is one Muslim friend and colleague of my husband who traditionally comes to join us every Christmas - otherwise he would be all on his own. So we invite him, and we are all happy together."



Ayana happy with Christmas toys



Kenneth's family: Do good!

"COMING HOME FOR X-MAS"

Kenneth, Charity, Ty, 14, and Amani, 7

"Coming home for Xmas is actually our song. We always travel to spend the holidays with all our relatives from four generations. We rotate the clan festivities every year, getting together each time in

a different house. Planning starts usually as early as September, on the phone we'll discuss each and every detail. What kind of braai shall we have, as we call our grill, which beer?

Our families live spread out all over the world from Canada to Ivory Coast, and when we get together we only wooden triangles, really. Coming from South Africa we have learnt to do without a proper, natural tree, we are in the midst of summer after all! But we do have lots of decoration, stacked away in boxes, and always go for a colour scheme; last year it was blue and gold. And certainly we never celebrate without lights to get into the spirit of Christmas. We were the only ones in Fumba having the whole house shining last year, the white roof looked almost like covered in snow.

But last year, because of corona, and our move from Malawi to Zanzibar, we had to do it differently. We still felt the itch to travel and took the family to a hotel in Paje. We all loved it, although we didn't carry any presents. Our presence was the present! Christmas is a time of reflection for us. What good have I done, what can I be thankful for? We actually ask ourselves these questions - and it feels right doing so."

"GIVE A LITTLE, TAKE A LITTLE"

Etienne, Danielle, Sia, 7 and Evan, 2

"Last year was our first Christmas in Fumba Town. We had two trees, one inside, one outside, although they were only wooden triangles, really. Coming from South Africa we have learnt to do without a proper, natural tree, we are in the midst of summer after all! But we do have lots of decoration, stacked away in boxes, and always go for a colour scheme; last year it was blue and gold. And certainly we never celebrate without lights to get into the spirit of Christmas. We were the only ones in Fumba having the whole house shining last year, the white roof looked almost like covered in snow.

Santa comes early with us, we usually give our presents before dinner on Christmas eve and have a special ritual

since years: The children prepare a donation box with toys and clothes which they have outgrown to give to other children in need. You have to give a little to take a little. After all, Christmas is not about receiving but about giving.

For dinner will have lamb with veggies, potatoes and pumpkin and a peppermint crisp tart, the same as every year! On boxing day we'll invite friends over - it usually ends up with everybody plunging in the pool. Merry Christmas!"



Decorate your house in Fumba!

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KHOLLE HOUSE

BREAKFAST IN THE COURTYARD

Our generous a la carte breakfast served in our private courtyard is intended for slow rising. The multi-course menu includes fresh tropical fruits, eggs done your way, sweet pancakes and a range of teas and coffee. US\$10 per person

HIGH TEA ON THE ROOFTOP

Retire to our Tea House after exploring the city for a sweet and savoury Swahili spread. Unwind on plush floor cushions at low-rise tables while looking out across Stone Town. The whole experience is meant to be savoured. Available 13h00 - 18h00 daily. US\$10 per person

DINNER ON THE VERANDAH

Our verandah offers an intimate dining setting. The space is well suited to couples seeking a romantic evening but can also host up to 10 guests at one time. Step behind our historical walls and allow us to seat you behind drawn curtains. US\$35 pp without wine, US\$40 pp with wine

Happy & Healthy

ASK DR. JENNY BOURAIMA
READERS' QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY OUR OWN MEDICAL EXPERT

VACCINATIONS SAVE LIVES

Dr. Jenny Bouraima answers:

Dear Poona and family,
Good to hear that you got vaccinated against COVID! Especially your parents, who belong to a risk group for more severe illness due to their age, will benefit from the vaccination. But even if you do not belong to a risk group, the benefit of the vaccination is being established in ongoing clinical trials: depending on the vaccine, they are up to 94.95% effective to prevent symptomatic disease, which consequently means prevention of hospitalisation and severe illness/death. Since you are still able to contract the disease and pass it on to others, even if you are vaccinated, it is important that you continue to observe hygiene rules, such as hand washing and avoiding contact with others when feeling unwell.

Malaria vaccine a milestone
The announcement of WHO's endorsement of the malaria vaccine (RTS,S) was indeed a milestone! The vaccine itself is the first of its kind, as it addresses a human parasitic infection, a far more complex organism than a virus such as the coronavirus. It has been developed for over 30 years and the clinical trial in seven African countries has shown hopeful results: the vaccine proved to be safe for children and cost-effective, and vaccination resulted in a 30% reduction of hospitalisation due to severe malaria. However, this endorsement was only the first step. The next step - in which the WHO approval will help - is securing the funding for scaling up the production of this vaccine. Parallel, there is additional research under way for improvements and further malaria vaccines. A modified version of the now existing first malaria vaccine for example, called R21, has already shown a higher efficacy in malaria prevention than RTS,S.

Recommended for young children
All that means, however, that at the moment the vaccine is not yet available at large scale. Additionally, the vaccine is currently only recommended for young children that are at least five months old, as young children and infants account for 80% of the worldwide malaria mortality rate. A vaccine roll-out in the near future would be commendable. Bear in mind though, that any vaccination would not replace but rather complement the measures that are taken to fight malaria: vector-control (for example by reducing breeding areas for mosquitoes), use of repellents, use of mosquito nets, fast diagnosis and treatment. With prevention and vaccination together a lot of tragic deaths can be avoided.

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Dr. Jenny Bouraima at her Urban Care clinic in Fumba

PHOTOS: URBAN CLINIC, GPS

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FINEST SAND, BLUE SEA, GREAT PEOPLE

New spark at Zanzibar's northeast coast around Matemwe

PHOTOS (L-R): M. DZIUKOWSKI/SELES AT SEA/EMBED

Relaxing beaches with cliff views for the day, nightlife at Seles bungalows (right)

By Sara Hemed and Andrea Tapper

What is Zanzibar's best beach? Look northeast! THE FUMBA TIMES explored a coastal stretch of finest sand, quaint hotels and upcoming gourmet cuisine.

Checking out the North East coast we start with beauty before beach. It wasn't planned that way, but like any touristic region of Zanzibar, the twenty-kilometre beach stretch between Kiwengwa and Matemwe has changed with the Covid-19 pandemic, in many ways surprisingly. We discover more supermarkets, more grocers, even

delicatessen; and, yes, more beauty. The Weaving Point, first stop on our road trip at Kiwengwa's Cel'hai shopping centre, triggers our shopping instincts with a superb collection of bags made of denim and leather and ever-soft woven blankets. "I want to stand out by craftsmanship", says owner Comfort Maugo, a lady entrepreneur from Dar es Salaam – and she does. More beauty lies ahead with "Matti", well known Matilde Baldaggi's first independent hair & beauty salon next to the amazingly well-stocked Kamro supermarket.

Is that really sleepy Kiwengwa? "There's a lot of activity going on everywhere", says Julia Bishop as we settle into her little paradise Hodi Hodi (Swahili for knock-knock), a boutique heaven with six rooms in two villas right by a seemingly endless white beach. "You can walk the beach here one hour to the left, one hour to the right" the long-time chairperson of Zanzibar's Association of Tourism Investors (ZATI) says. We quickly find out, that the 61-year-old Kenyan-born business consultant not only has her facts and figures right, but is a charming and ever-attentive host.

Matemwe going gourmet



Fine dining, lovely service at "Mzee Husa" of chef Jussi Husa from Sweden

Matemwe - the cradle of tourism
The coast from Kiwengwa up to Matemwe, with a village in the midst aptly named Pwani Mchangani (Swahili for sandy coast), has come a long way. Known as the "cradle of tourism", it was popular with expats long before Zanzibar was discovered by everyone else. Nowadays, holidaymakers find a mix of larger hotels and quaint individual properties here. For lunch we stop at the Melia and make our way to the immensely popular Gabi Beach restaurant. The trend spot is brimming with people. We enjoy deluxe burgers by award-winning chef Mayaven Alankalee who oversees all five Melia restaurants.

Paradoxically, the North East coast has the poorest hinterland and the most ambitious - some say oversized - hotel plans. More than 60 per cent of the population still lack access to running water here. One of the major new projects, Blue Amber, once planning artificial Dubai-type islands, seems to have

somewhat toned down, now advertising villas starting at \$197,125. But there's also a supposedly 1000-bed Italian hotel coming up just opposite Mnemba Island, an erstwhile eco resort.

Nobody knows the contradictions of Matemwe better than Antje Foerster, an ex-model turned permaculturist who started the "Dada" and "Moto" women's co-operatives and herb gardens for many hotels. To visit Antje, 54, who settled in the community almost 30 years ago, we enter deep into the bush on the ridge above Matemwe. Here she lives with her family in a bohemian jungle house. "While land grabbing is going on", she points out, "locals remain so utterly poor,

that many don't even have a second pair of trousers." Next we head to Swedish super chef Jussi Husa who just opened his first own restaurant "Mzee Husa" with a charming minimalistic look at Zanziblu resort. We try cottage ravioli, seared tuna and aubergine millefeuille - all are outstanding. French cheese and pastry we sample at Lelia and Alain Bibollet's O' Petit Bouchon roadside deli - tres bon! After all-day touring we wind down at Seles Bungalow, a cosmopolitan hang-out and the Northeast's best life music spot. Polish owner Krzysztof Milkowski, known to everybody as Milky, draws a regular crowd with best food, service and vibes - he can count on us in the future!



First-class local craft: bags by Weaving Point in Kiwengwa (left); French cheese with local ingredients by the two owners of O'Petit Bouchon



DISCOVER THE NORTH EAST COAST

STAY:
Hodi-Hodi
Villas with comfy rooms right on the beach, www.hodi-hodi.com
Neptune Pwani
Popular 194-room beach resort
Kasha Boutique Hotel
Makuti-roofed, old-school luxury, kasha-zanzibar.com

EAT & DRINK:
Mzee Husa@Zanziblu
New restaurant of top chef Jussi Husa
Gabi Beach@Melia
Trend spot, perfect for Sunday lunch
Seles Bungalows
Live music Mo, Wed, Sat, Sun, Matemwe
Insta: [@aseles_bungalows](https://www.instagram.com/aseles_bungalows)

SHOP:
Weaving Point
Fine craft boutique, Kiwengwa



Special spot: privacy, top service at Hodi-Hodi boutique villas

O'Petit Bouchon
French roadside deli, Pwani Mchangani
[facebook.com/opetitbouchonbymoya/](https://www.facebook.com/opetitbouchonbymoya/)
La Bottega Shop and Deli
At www.lapiliresidence.com in Cairou

FUTURE PROJECT:
www.blueamberzanzibar.com

ARCHIPELAGO FOREVER

New health food café in prime location in Stone Town



The man with the Afro: Masoud at his new Archipelago Waterfront with great food and spectacular sunsets

If you like healthy food and good company, a place where locals and visitors REALLY mingle, the new Archipelago Waterfront could become your favourite.

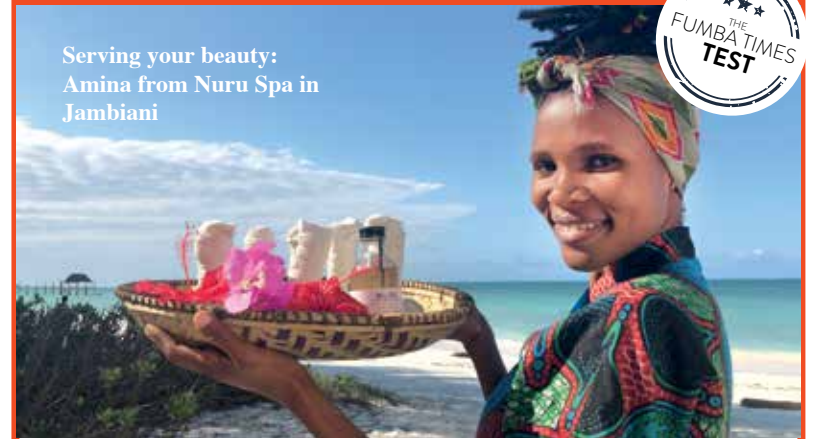
Same name, different story. Masoud Salim and his wife Judy Palmer, long time owners of the iconic Stone Town Café on Kenyatta Road, have opened another Archipelago, their third restaurant under that name. The two predecessors have closed down. This time around the location is especially sensational, tucked in between Hyatt's Beach House and Travellers Café right at the waterfront – and as such a typical Zanzibari surprise. When almost nobody ex-

pected a non-corporate, local business to win the hunt for the attractive beach spot, Masoud scored. He is known as a strong supporter of culture in Zanzibar, presently engaged, for instance, in the restoration of the Majestic, Zanzibar's last cinema. His popular food and drink formula: healthy fresh cuisine with 100% reliable quality standards: juices and spice coffee instead of alcoholic beverages. Try chicken mango salad or yummy lentil burgers, seafood and Swahili dishes. You will become an addict! "We will experiment a bit more", promises Masoud, who also offers accommodation above the new Archipelago - with the same dramatic sunset view as the restaurant.

Archipelago Waterfront
Shangani Street, Stone Town
8 am - 10 pm

JUST DISCOVERED NURU SPA & SHARAZAD OASIS

Serving your beauty: Amina from Nuru Spa in Jambiani



DIVINE ADVENTURES FOR ALL THE SENSES

- ✓ **NOT TO MISS:** Jungle Flower Bath
- ✓ **LOCATION:** Beach front Jambiani
- ✓ **THE BOTTOM LINE:** Never felt so relaxed
- ✓ **VISION:** A fairy tale for body & mind

Go for the chocolate massage, but have second thoughts immediately. How sticky will it be? But as I am getting pleasantly massaged with a very thinned-down chocolate fluid, inhaling its rich aroma, I realise I have finally landed at a different kind of spa. At Nuru Spa in Jambiani - nestled within the garden of Sharazad Oasis retreat and largely an open-air pleasure - a beauty fairy with a magic wand seems to have created the feelgood repertoire. Enjoy a coffee seduction manicure while your face is pampered with a cucumber mask! Try vinotherapy with a red wine scrub! Indulge in a whole catalogue of Ayurvedic facial and body treatments.

Feelgood oasis
My jungle flower bath is not the worst option, either. Relaxing alone or with your partner in a typical Zanzibari *neeru* stone tub, discretely hidden behind white curtains in the garden, you sip sangria or detox tea while even watching movies of your choice. A typical prelude to a bad-hair dinner? Not at Nuru, where Ukrainian-born owner Sveta Nikolaieva, who came to Zanzibar with her twin sister Luyska, has made sure a decent blow-dry, waxing and other hair treatments are available, while her husband Charlie Smith offers meditations, hypnosis and full moon healings on the spiritual side of things.

The wonderland of Sharazad
The independent spa is embedded in a wonderland of boutique accommodation with great food (Italian at The View and Kim Anh's Viet-

namese Duyen), sport, yoga and other "passion projects" as Sharazad manager Nicole Kanz and Italian owner Francesca Scaffari explain. Sharazad Boutique Hotel has existed here since 2015; in 2020 the neighbouring Sharazad Oasis on the premises of the former Bahari View was added, together they now form what is Zanzibar's most unusual 5-star retreat.



Fit with wooden weights: Spa and hotel premises are open to all

On two hectares of land and 230-metre beach front, with 27 rooms including family bungalows and three pools, the two women are working on a blueprint for a holistic & environmentally friendly holiday, a "place where nature, art, and ancestral wisdom coexist". No doubt: Together with Nuru Spa's pleasures, Bali has arrived in Zanzibar. (AT)

Nuru Spa & Sharazad
nuru-spa-wellness.business.site/
[facebook.com/nuruspawellness/](https://www.facebook.com/nuruspawellness/)
sharazadboutiquehotel.com



Natural elegance, casual vibes: Sharazad interior in Jambiani

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UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

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1 Year Anniversary of RED MONKEY
3 SHOTS for 10,000 / 3 Sawa Beer for 10,000
The first 3 Groups of 8 People gets 1 Bottle of Vodka for free, BBQ 30,000 (Reservation Essential) START: 7 PM incl entrance, Only Party, entry fee 10,000 TZS

DEC 5+12+19

Beach Karaoke & Dinner
Reserve your Table on the Beach!!! Bonfire, High Quality Soundsystem, 1 Free Shot for every singer
START: 7:30 PM free entrance
DEC 24

Christmas Special Movie Night
Book your Evening and get 50% of a Bottle of Wine, free Pop Corn, free entrance, Dinner a la Card
START: 7-10PM (2 Movies)
DEC 25

New Years Eve Sunday Jam Session
The ONE AND ONLY SUPER EVENT every Sunday, BBQ 30,000tzs (incl. entry), LIVE MUSIC, DJ, Entrance 10,000tzs, START 7PM
DEC 26

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