Regional Presentation (East Africa, Tanzania)

GLOMUS Camp Malaysia    14 January 2015
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Music Department

• Only Bachelor level music degree in Tanzania, started in 2005 with 4 students. The former Lutheran seminary had 150 students at that time.

• The music department combines African music, Western music, music education, music technology

• Currently there are 21 music students, 9 music teachers (Tanzania, America, Finland, Malaysia). The full university has about 3,500 students.

• Makumira has graduated 33 music students!
Makumira has
- the largest collection of traditional Tanzanian instruments
- the largest collection of working western instruments
- the only practical music degree in East Africa
- the largest music library in East Africa
- the only recording studio at a university in East Africa
- the only music computer lab in East Africa
Makumira music department has projects with
- GLOPAN and FELM (Finland)
- Church of Sweden
- Mission Ein Welt (Germany)
- Music for One (Korea)
- Music for Tanzania (USA)
- European Development Fund (EU)
  - Develop Cultural Arts Centre at Makumira including Research, Professional Dance troupe, Regular Dance performances, Construction of music village
Traditional Dance
Music of Tanzania
## Tanzania basics

- **National Language:** Swahili
- **Area:** 945,203 sq km
- **Population:** about 45 million persons
- **Ethnic groups:** about 123
- **Major features:** Mt. Kilimanjaro (5,932 m), Lake Victoria, Zanzibar, many National Parks for safari, Tanzanite, and music!
Tanzania basic groups

• The indigenous population is divided into Bantu and Non-Bantu groups
Maasai Culture & Traditional Music

- There are two distinct groups of *Maa*-speaking people:
  a) semi nomadic, pastoral life raising cattle and goats
  b) more settled and practicing agriculture.

- Patrilinear societies living in communities of extended families.

- The *Maasai* society is structured around the age grade function of the male:
  - 1) boyhood
  - 2) warrior hood (with 2 sub divisions, junior & senior warrior);
  - 3) elder hood
  - Transitions between stages are marked by celebration, ceremonies and feasts.
Maasai Traditional Music

• **Osingolio**: *Maasai* term for song, singing, or a ceremony that incorporates singing and dancing.

• All age groups: songs carry their cultural heritage, ritual, philosophy, beliefs, and important historical events.

• The *Maasai* in general are pastoralists, categorized now as semi-nomads, keeping cows, goats, and sheep and depending largely on them and their products for their daily food.

• The *Maasai* live in the interior plains where they can have good pastures and water for their herds. Their homesteads consist of large circular enclosures surrounded by a thorn bush fence, in Swahili *boma*. 
Maasai Traditional Music
Maasai Traditional Music

- Related to their culture (day to day living- love, initiation ceremonies, killing the lion)- centered around the cattle
- Maa language (the intonation)
- Mostly in octaves between Men and Women
- Solo singing- high pitch, buzzing sound, direct, bright, open-falsetto for men
- Speaking in rhythm songs (eoko and engijuka) Common phrase laleiyo, hoiya hoo
- Humming accompaniment for men (no drums- kudu horn and bells)
- Jumping up, swing- shaking shoulders; neck ‘in and out’
Maasai Traditional Music
Bantu Traditional Music

- Use of drums, shakers, shaking the hips
- **Bhughoboghobo** (Sukuma, Southern shore of Lake Victoria, work dance/farming)
- **Mdumange** (Sambaa, Usambara Mountains NE Tanzania, celebration dance)
Karibu Tanzania!

Welcome to come to Tanzania!