



THIS SPACE IS FOR SALE

## Tanga RC Urge Librarians to Address ICT Challenges

The former Tanga Regional Commissioner, Omary Mgumba has challenged Librarians and information professionals in the country to seriously address the challenges of integrating ICT into our communities, saying, failure to intervene and address these vices timely, may create a growing problem of moral decay

Inaugurating the TLA Annual General Meeting and workshop in Tanga recently, Mgumba said, while it is true that ICT is a useful tool for development, still there is

surmountable number of negative vices embodied within ICT which conflicts with the spiritual, moral and cultural values of our people. Librarians have a role to play in

He further said apart from conflicting with our values and taboos, ICT is also key in dividing the people in a society, if it is not properly coordinated. Mgumba gave an example of Tanzania, saying most of its ICT technology is concentrated in urban centers. He said, if it is not checked up on time, it puts the country at risk of experiencing a widened digital divide between the urban and rural people, with the urbanites taking the advantages of development and the rural people bearing the brunt of the disadvantaged.

The RC called upon the Librarians to critically review and address all these problems including the problem of language barrier which is one of the factors that constrains the majority of the rural population from using ICT. He said, Librarians should take the bull by its horns if we seriously want to remain relevant in this digital age. The workshops theme read "Embracing Digital Revolution and the Global Dynamics of Libraries and Information Services,"



### Contents:

- Tanga RC Urge Librarians to Address ICT Challenges.....1
- Acquire Appropriate Skills to Cope With Technological Changes .....1
- Use Meta-Data Standards to Promote Service Delivery .....2
- IAE Offer Training on Library Management to Teachers .....2
- IAE offers Computer Operations Training to School Teachers .....2
- Training .....2
- Promotions .....3
- Para Professionals Acquire Basics in Librarianship at NCL .....3
- Obituaries .....3

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## Acquire Appropriate Skills to Cope With Technological Changes

Librarians and Information professionals in Tanzania have been challenged to acquire appropriate skills, products, equipment and platforms which will help them to cope up with speed of technological changes.

Delivering a keynote address to the Annual General Meeting of Library and Information practitioners in Tanga, Dr. Evans Wema said the current global technological changes, are so much associated with a matching increase in information, knowledge and skills. He said, this development has transformed completely ways of library operations. He said in order for Librarians to remain relevant under such circumstances, they will have no other way but to acquire appropriate skills, equipment and new platforms of seeking processing and

disseminating information.

Wema said while it is true that, there are a number technological challenges, constraining the librarian's exposure to the technology, like poor ICT infrastructure, declining library budgets which constrain library abilities to acquire the technology, still, these should not deter Librarians and institutions from strategizing the right initiatives and strategies which will help them to develop, implement, integrate and use relevant digital technologies to remain meaningful in society.



## USE META-DATA STANDARDS TO PROMOTE SERVICE DELIVERY

Tanzania Library Association (TLA) Chairperson, Professor Ali

Mcharazo, has urged Librarians and other information managers in the country to use Metadata standards and the internet for cataloguing and classification of library resources saying it enhances service delivery and efficiency

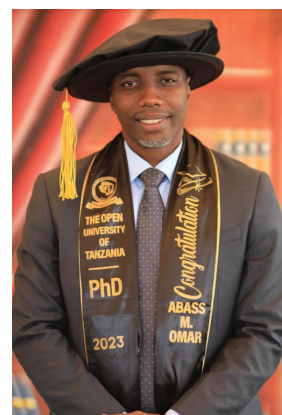
Speaking in Tabora during the inauguration of a 4 day's workshop on principles and practices of cataloguing and classification of electronic resources in the digital age, Mcharazo said, in order for Librarians to remain relevant in this electronic age, they need step up their skills in using and accessing electronic resources, application of subject analysis, principles in organizing, storing and using metadata elements.

Mcharazo further said, his association has also introduced the Librarians to the fundamentals of subject analysis, controlled and uncontrolled vocabularies, authority controls in libraries automated systems, taxonomies, folksonomies and ontologies.

TLA has been organizing these workshops across the country to improve service provision to practicing librarians and information officers.



## TRAINING



Deputy General Secretary of Tanzania Library and information association, Abbas Mohamed Omar has finalised his Doctorate Degree (Ph. D) program in Library and Information Management at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT).

Prior to joining the Open University for the Ph.D programme, Dr. Omar, held a Bachelors' degree in Islamic studies with Education which he obtained at Muslim University in Morogoro and a Master degree in Library and Information Studies which he obtained at the University of Dar Es Salaam.

Dr. Omar has immense research interest in information literacy, lifelong learning and the integration of emerging technologies in library services. Currently he is serving as an assistant lecturer at Zanzibar University. TLA extends its congratulations and wishes Dr. Omar all the best in his new career

## IAE OFFER TRAINING ON LIBRARY MANAGEMENT TO TEACHERS

64 teacher librarians from various schools in Dar Es Salaam have been trained and given basic skills in managing respective school libraries, selecting appropriate library resources, processing and organizing information as well as assessing quality of information that is compatible with needs of their users.

According to Christian Mubofu, the training facilitator at the Institute of Adult Education in Dar Es Salaam, the skills imparted to these teachers are necessary as they enable them to manage and operate school Libraries in a more professional way.

Mubofu further said, apart from management skills, the teachers were also given additional skills of preserving school library resources and exposed to the new strategies of promoting usage of school libraries, e-resources conservation and referencing.



## IAE OFFERS COMPUTER OPERATIONS TRAINING TO SCHOOL TEACHERS



73 primary school teachers in Dar and Coast regions have been given skills in using basic computer inputs and output devices; writing and formatting various documents;

managing spreadsheets, creating presentations and using the internet to communicate

The Adult Education National Coordinator for Short Courses, Barnabas Bwango, said his office organized the 4 weeks Basic Computer application course to the 73 teachers specifically to enable them to perform basic tasks with

computers including communications via internet and search of information in the web,

The Institute of Adult Education offers various such short courses programmes on a range of topics ranging from ICT to teaching, librarianship, and archives management etc which are offered to different cadres of people

# PARA PROFESSIONALS ACQUIRE BASICS IN LIBRARIANSHIP AT NCL

Library para-professionals, archivists and information officers who work in various government Ministries and departments, as well as those in public and private institutions were given a specially tailored training programme on basics of librarianship, records management and archives, to enhance service provision at their work place

According to a statement released by Tanzania Library Services Board (TLSB), the training which ran concurrently with the third National Conference on “Promoting Writing Talents and Publishing Activities, Building Enthusiasm and Cultivating a Reading Culture through Innovative Library Services” was geared at strengthening abilities of these paraprofessionals in using digital technology to increase their efficiency and accountability.

The statement further noted that, apart from training librarians, archivists and records Para professionals the conference other objective was to bring together all library and information service stakeholders to deliberate mechanisms for availing and use of innovative library services and use of digital technology for promoting reading habit in the country

## PROMOTIONS



Mr. Barnabas Lameck Bwango, of the Institute of Adult Education has been promoted from Senior Librarian 1 to Manager of Library Services effective January 1 2024. Bwango joined IAE way back in 2000 and boasts of having a Masters degree in Library and information Studies which he obtained at the University of Dar Es Salaam (UDSM) and an undergraduate degree in Library studies which he obtained at Tumaini University- Dar es Salaam College (TUDARCo). and obtained an Advanced Certificate of Modern

Library Management Practices from NITTTTR, India.



Dr. Emmanuel Frank Elia from the Directorate of Library Services at the University of Dar Es Salaam (UDSM) has been promoted from Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor.



Dr. Faraja Ndumbaro from the Directorate of Library Services at the University of Dar Es Salaam (UDSM) has been promoted from Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor

Dr. Esther Ndenje-Sichalwe from the Directorate of Library Services at the University of Dar Es Salaam (UDSM) has been promoted from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer.

Dr. Paul Samuel Muneja from the Directorate of Library Services at the University of Dar Es Salaam (UDSM) has been promoted from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer.

## OBITUARIES

During the year ending 2023, the librarian’s fraternity lost a number of colleagues who passed on at different dates as follows;



*The late Professor Paul Nyerembe*

**Prof. Paul Nyerembe**, a retired Professor in Library Science passed on in September 2023 after a short illness. He was admitted at Muhimbili Hospital where he was undergoing treatment. Prior to succumbing to death, Prof. Nyerembe had worked as the Director of Library services at UDSM, he had also served as the head of Science section, and he also combined duties as a Senior Lecturer at UDSM School of Library and Information Studies where he taught and supervised MA and PhD candidates. He was laid to rest at his farm house in Tegeta suburb



*The late Professor  
Kassim Kulindwa*

**Prof. Kassim Kulindwa** completed his PhD in Economics from Gothenburg University in 1994. He held two master's in economics from the University of Dar es Salaam and the University of British Columbia. His areas of professional interest were in empirical analyses of issues concerning the environment and natural resources including; management and utilisation of water, energy, wetlands, fisheries, and wildlife. He supervised MA, MSc and PhD candidates. He also chaired several advisory boards and technical committees. Prior to joining UDSM for undergraduate studies Prof Kulindwa had worked as a Library Assistant at TLSB. He passed on in January 2023 after a long illness.



*The late Siwema  
Mohamed Mwenda*

**Siwema Mohamed Mwenda** was a reference librarian at the Institute of Adult Education. She died 7 May 2022, at Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar Es Salaam after a long illness. Ms. Mwenda Joined the Institute of Adult Education in 2005 as an Assistant Librarian and over the years she rose a position of senior Librarian. At the Institute, Mwenda's areas of responsibility included book processing, indexing and user services. "She was a very kind and dedicated person, an excellent librarian who was always involved in the profession. She will be highly missed," says Barnabas Bwango, who was her immediate boss



*The late Adventina  
Byatao*

**Adventina Byatao** had served as a Librarian at the Institute of Accountancy in Arusha for many years. She passed on in late 2022 after suffering a short illness. Between 2007 and 2009, Byatao attended an undergraduate degree course in Librarianship at TUDARco and returned to Arusha where she was promoted to a position of Librarian. "Byatao was a friendly and supportive colleague who touched many lives," says the head of Library services at the Institute, adding that she was always readily available to support researchers, teaching students how to perform college-level research, and mentored them as well.



*The late Nestory  
Mrema*

**Nestory Mrema** had served as Systems Administrator at the University of Dar es salaam. He was involved in a fatal accident which involved a coaster minibus that was ferrying the body of his late father for burial in Kilimanjaro and an oncoming truck that was heading to Dar es salaam. All passengers in the coaster minibus, including Nestor Mrema died instantly. Mrema was buried in Rombo-Kilimanjaro on 3rd February 2023



*The late Upendo  
Ramadhani Mosha*

**Upendo Ramadhani Mosha** used to work as a Senior library Assistant at the University of Dar es salaam Library until her demise on 6 January 2023 over a short illness. Mosha was buried in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region



*The late Zainab Hassan  
Maro*

**Zainab Hassan Maro** worked as Principal Library Assistant at the University of Dar es salaam Library. She passed on 27 March 2023 at Mawenzi hospital in Mohi and was buried at Mawenzi in Moshi Kilimanjaro