

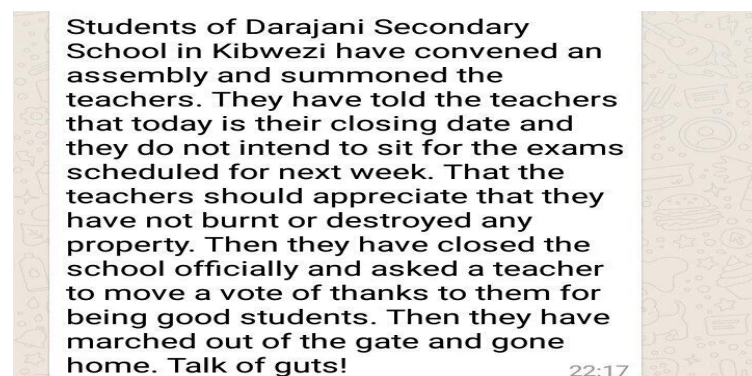
SMA Africa – Kenya – July 2016 Report 1

The biggest security story during this period was Koffi Olomide getting deported for kicking one of his dancers at the airport. It caused quite the stir. It seemed a tad bit hypocritical and over the top given the status of women in Kenya, but we can be glad that it did not pass unremarked.



Source: https://twitter.com/suemc_phee/status/756747338903846912

Arsons at boarding schools were also a major topic of discussion. This phenomenon tends to occur in third term, just before exam time—I do not think this is a coincidence. Some years are worse than others; it is like a contagion, once a couple of dorms go up in flames, it seems like a viable undertaking in other places. Usually, after a fire the entire student population is sent home, this is often the goal. I make these hypotheses as a former student of a boarding school who sat her exams during an ‘incendiary’ year. The following may offer some support:



Source: <https://twitter.com/kenyanpundit/status/758819049518145536>

I further speculate that if there was some way to convey to students that their futures were not completely dependent on doing well in exams, they might be less stressed about them. But that would go against the programming that they have received up to that point.

Kapenguria Incident contd.

Attempts to determine the motive behind the killing spree at Kapenguria did not result in clarity.

Police IG says he was not aware rogue Kapenguria cop wanted to leave the force (Ntvkenya, 2016)

Officer who killed 7 people at Kapenguria Police Station had Sh3m in bank (StandardKenya, 2016)

According to the Standard Group (and only the Standard Group), the police were pursuing the angle that the Ksh. 3 million was for the purpose of using bribery to get a jailed terror suspect out of jail. When that did not work out, the rogue officer decided to attempt to him break out. The discussion about Kapenguria turned into a rumination on police preparedness and their susceptibility to corruption.

#Kenya:Police Service needs to be reformed & aligned to current Security Needs & also adopt Practical Strategies (NominalAnalyst, 2016)

Kenya Police Service is the most corrupt agency in Kenya. @JBoinnet has to do much to make Kenyans trust his boys. Take them back to school. (Wakili_Ochieng, 2016)

Kenya Police Service despite all allegations they have done pretty commendable job (Itkemboijustin, 2016)

Kenya Police Service is corrupt from top to bottom, love & greed for money and more money is a disease majority of servicemen/women suffers (Njero_, 2016)

To curb Kenya Police Service radicalization government should provide good salary and good house to our police, They are lured easily (CyrusKips, 2016)

----- @cyruskips Kenya Police Service is an ad hoc service just like prostitution! (Muthee_Dicky, 2016)

you pay 100k for your son to join Kenya police service,then he comes home in a casket or a jail term.You bought woes for him. (I_remathew, 2016)

@nderi_j To be fair, the last times I called 999, they DID respond. And time to scene was abt 30 mins @kenyanpundit @NPSOfficial_KE (FrancisHookDF, 2016)

The public seems to be yearning to give the devil his due, efforts to reflect the security services in a good light have increased. Perhaps, the feeling is that they have been unfair, especially given the lives lost at Kapenguria. The security services are also better at availing narratives and evidence of their good deeds, which make it easier for people to acknowledge those good acts.

Photos of police that never make the front page...via Amos Korir. #inspiringImages cc @JBoinnet (Samgichuru, 2016)

---- @SamGichuru There is always two sides to a coin. (Pesmutu, 2016)

---- @SamGichuru @jackieLumbasi @JBoinnet police or army (LumansiAndrew, 2016)

---- @SamGichuru @KenMacharia_ @JBoinnet some are just PR (Brian_Bwana, 2016)

@Brian_Bwana @SamGichuru so you think all officers are evil? (Kenmacharia, 2016)

@KenMacharia_ @SamGichuru thats not what i said or think.

---- @SamGichuru @JBoinnet too bad we are only fed the -ve side. We should see more of these making headlines. (Gichuhimoses, 2016)

@kdfinfo @NPSOfficial_KE @JBoinnet You guys do some great work and service for fellow Kenyans but rarely recognised. (Jackie_arkle, 2016)

---- @Jackie_Arkle I refuse to accept the narrative that Kenyans don't appreciate work of conscientious, dedicated P/O @NPSOfficial_KE @JBoinnet

Meet the National Police Service artistes who are making a difference in Police - Citizen relations through music! (K24tv, 2016)

---- @K24Tv #K24Alfajiri i like the new police outlook. They seized from being a force to a service. Let this hashtag trend #PolisiNiBinadamu [#PoliceArePeople] (Kazmob, 2016)

Another noticeable shift in perception is that the police and the military are often conflated. Perhaps this is due to their joint anti-terror missions and increased KDF activity within the nation's borders. In addition, Cabinet Secretary of the Interior, Maj. Gen Nkaissery (Retd.) seems to speak on behalf of 'security' at large, while Cabinet Secretary for Defence, Mrs. Omamo, is relatively unobtrusive. Thus, they are tarred with the same brush.

Security State

Concern about security, both national and individual safety, is a major part of Kenyan society. The recently released police report for 2015 indicates that crime is disproportionately an urban problem:

Find the National Police Service 2015 Crime Situation Report here:
<http://www.nationalpolice.go.ke/crime-statistics.html?download=26:crime-report...>
(NPSOfficial_KE, 2016)

The report *by* the police did not elicit as much attention as reports *about* the police tend to do. Other organisations' crime reports fared better, the Control Risks East Africa report on cybercrime in particular, received quite a number of mentions:

Kenya losses an estimated Sh2billion per year to cyber crime, says a new report by Control Risks East Africa. (Kangethenjoroge, 2016)

The most reported armed crime in Kenya is robbery: Report of armed crime analysis study by @RECSAExecSec funded by @AfDB_Group (Recsasec, 2016)

According to another source, the State of East Africa Report 2016:

Private security is the fastest growing sector in East Africa. As inequality grows, more of the "poor" move to guard the rich #SOEAR16 (Cobbo3, 2016)

The popularity of social media accounts such as Crime Watch Nairobi and Crime Alert Kenya are evidence of how much the security issue pervades the conduct of daily life. Harry Hirani of Crime Alert Kenya was even featured on China's CCTV. In preparation for the interview Harry Hirani asked his followers:

How has Group CAK helped you? Please type your answers in the comments section (Hirani, 2016)

The question and the close to 400 responses can be found here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/crimealertkenya/permalink/834895869948786/>

In general, the responses indicate that CAK's users regard it as "informative", "reliable" and timely, attributes which helps them navigate, literally avoid travel through crime spots or gridlocked areas, the apparently crime-ridden streets of Nairobi. It also helps them navigate through the feeling that one could be a victim at any moment. They are made street wise and savvy by knowledge of con games and the criminals' methods. Thus, they are reassured by their preparedness in accordance with the adage, forewarned is forearmed. The respondents also indicated that they felt CAK's approach was sober but not alarming, contrasting it with a more sensationalist style.

Other than receiving alerts and warnings, the public also sends out requests for help and information. Millie O., a founder of the Popcorn Movement, mentioned how she had used her social media network to try to rescue her mother after she had been abducted by carjackers. This function of social media was also in evidence in the case of the lawyer, Willie Kimani. Perhaps I have just become more sensitized to them, but missing person alerts seem to have become more frequent in the last month. Numerous alerts have shown up on my Facebook feed, on Twitter and the Whatsapp group. Fortunately, all of these cases have ended positively, with the individual found usually within a day or two. Most of the time there is no follow up information about what happened.

Iman Ceaser Njiru went missing from Highview Estate, Ngummo at 9am. She was wearing a red hoody and white shorts. (VickyRubadiri, 2016)

Truly God is great! Missing girl IMAN has been found! Thanks to power of #KOT and #socialMedia thank you all! (MumbiKenya, 2016)

Adrian Gaithuma, 13 is missing. Last seen in a white shirt and black trousers. Contact 0721385870 or 0721 280853. (MartinMulwa, 2016)

#MissingChild Adrian Gaithuma, the 13 year old we reported missing has been found. The father... <https://www.instagram.com/p/BHt-lblj41F/> (Jaymowathika, 2016)

ALERT!! Missing Child. Her name is Aimie Kina Wamiti ,she is 5yrs old If seen contact us on 0724337028, 0721594572 (Roadalertske, 2016)

Amen RT @missingchild_ke: CHILD FOUND! Aimie Kina Wamiti has been found. Spread the word cc @SimbasafeK (Dannnyke, 2016)

@MissingKenians Arnold Kariuki Abdallah occupation: sound man + part time driver last seen: home, Ngong 10pm Mon (Ngeleali, 2016)

@Ytherah he's been found. Thanks for your RTs please share with your networks (Ngeleali, 2016)

The latest notice that I ran across seemed to be an old case, where the loved ones were turning to social media for a lead:

Ivy Wangari has been missing from Laikipia University since January 2016. If you have any info contact 0723241952

Perhaps they had become aware that social media led to results. A Twitter account dedicated to finding missing children was created this July: @missingchild_ke. It is founded by a Maryana Munyendo, a “child safety education consultant” and seems to be an attempt to consolidate these kinds of posts under one banner. However, a search of social media reveals that missing person accounts are not new; there are quite a number of them.

@Missingkenians established in 2012 is quite popular with over 13,000 followers but has been inactive over the last year. Since the story about why a person went missing is often never told we cannot deduce anything beyond the fact that it happens and that social media seems like a good way to spread the word.

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