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Akiye
an ENDANGERED tribe
you are not likely to meet

drones
to be **DEPLOYED** for patrol
over Ngorongoro Conservation

THE NYERERE BRIDGE

meet the Legend
EXAUD
MARANDU

Ivory burning
IS DESTROYING
THE EVIDENCE

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CHECK IN

Finnaly, the low season has come to an end, and the industry is warming up to welcome the high season. There are so many expectations in the industry with one of the major being to recover from the last years recession caused by Ebola outbreak and Al-Shabaab terror attacks in the region.

While warming for the season to pick up, we are bringing you another ***EXCITING edition*** of our magazine. The edition is filled with some credible opinions from different stakeholders towards issues such as the Ivory Burn in Kenya some weeks ago, without forgetting our *"Did you Know?"* segment, which featured an Akiye tribe, a very infamous tribe in Tanzania, which is faced with fear going into extinction.

We also bring to you a new way of carrying out patrol in our wild heritage using drones. The system adopted by *Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA)*. This and among many more on a flip, take a moment to enjoy the publication.

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CONTENTS



THE **NYERERE BRIDGE** 18

This has been a dream for not only residents of Kurasini and Kigamboni, for many hospitality investors...



DRONES TO BE DEPLOYED IN **NGORONGORO** 28

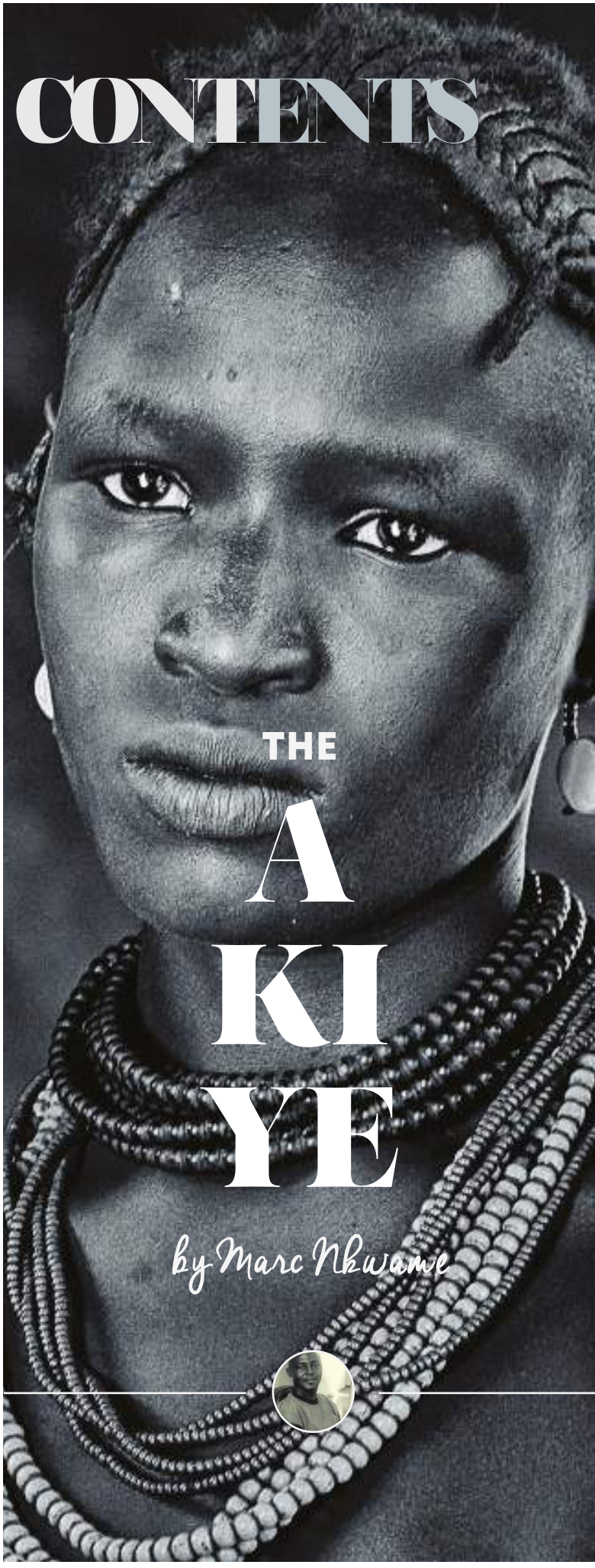
The drones when equipped with cameras can also patrol the precinct, take pictures of selected scenes or suspected poachers..



SPEND LESS ON A HOTEL

14

Make sure to check prices online before extending or shortening your stay at the hotel. Hotel prices change on a daily basis, and even from room to room...







ivory burning

IS DESTROYING THE EVIDENCE

BY SADOCK MUGETTA



Last week, Tanzania Tour Guide Association (TTGA) discussion panel was joined by an advocate and wildlife enthusiast, Elikunda Kipoko, who kicks off this panel by looking at the recently ivory burning campaign, which seems to be backed up by USA president Barack Obama.

The Advocate certainly never shies away from sharing every detail of his view towards the world, and was very upset on what is going on around ivory stories.

"This is outrageous!" The advocate opened his sharing.
Ivory is not safe in the wilderness as well as in the national stockpile and neither even ash will be safe. Ivory trade is not a recent business; it has existed for the decades. If I have to tell or write the story to my grandson, here lived a big tasked elephant there should at least be a place where the generation witness the disadvantages of our demand.

A message by President Barack Obama, the United States President, laments and calls for the mass action. *Italy on the 31st March* became the third country in Europe to destroy its ivory -Big news to the media!!!!!

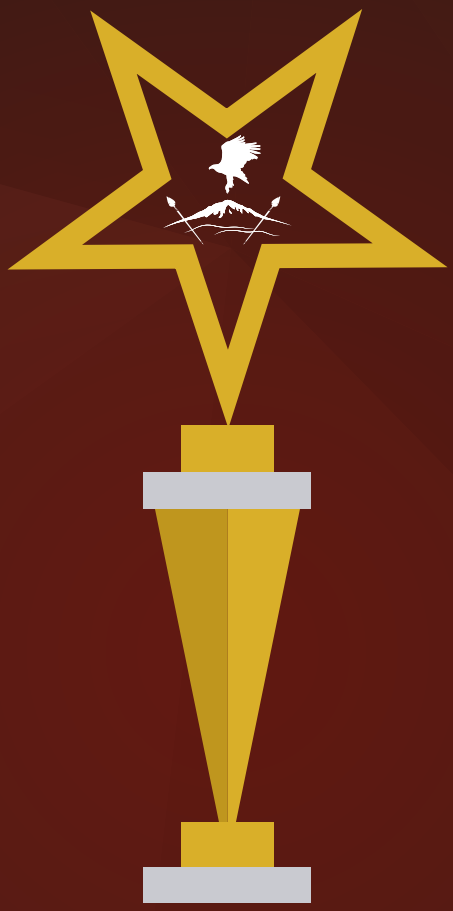
Tanzania is not alone to reject the USA government proposals requesting for the destroy of its ivory stockpile; in this list we have ***South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe.*** The argument to whether burning or not burning hang in balance hence our panelists had to come up with some solution. The panelists reminded us that in 2008 when the CITES approved a one time ivory sale to China and Japan, the decision triggered the demand again. So, selling is not a good idea but also destroying will not do any good as well.

"Destroying the ivory would drive the price up and results to a new battle" Said Rodrick Ndefoo - Senior tour guide.
Individuals' ideas are undoubtedly important if we have to reach to a success point. Big funders and big club sometimes ignores the power of local knowledge such as of the local villages and tour guides who spend most of their life close to these animals.

"I have always wanted to see the power of evolution taking place very quick, as the big tusker are the primary choice for poaching; definitely we will end up with tusk less elephants. What else would matriarch choice for the partner will be based on?" added TTGA chairman Mr. Sadock Mugetta.

The occlusion by the all members agreed the view from ***Mr. Michael of A&L magazine*** that there is a need to build big museum, which will both generate huge cash based on tourism at the same time preserving the evidence. Each country has such huge iconical man made monuments or so, I am sure we have an artists who could build the monument of elephant like structure based on those collected tasks instead of burning or selling them.

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the nyerere bridge

By Michael Maliba

Finally, after the long wait, the magnificent 680-meter suspension bridge connecting Kurasini and Kigamboni areas, to Tanzania's commercial capital Dar es Salaam was launched on April 2016. The multi billion shillings project has made it easier for people to travel, providing them with more than one means of travel, to and from the areas divided by a narrow gulf.

Before the Nyerere bridge (named after the late Mwl. J.K. Nyerere.) was constructed, people travelled from these areas using boats and ferries. The long hours spent crossing from one side to another, the travelling cost incurred and the lost deals incurred using these means of transport are memories people do not want to remember. The memories of the lives of Kigamboni residents and visitors lost after the boats they boarded to get to either part of the creek, capsized on occasions as a result of mechanical breakdowns and overloading, are still fresh in people's minds. Most residents hence see the bridge as a dream come true.

This has been a dream for not only residents of Kurasini and Kigamboni, for many hospitality investors this is a dream come true as the area is viewed as one of the hottest investment point due to its strategic position. These investors have had to wait to take advantage of these opportunities due to



THIS has been a dream for not only residents of Kurasini and Kigamboni, for many hospitality investors this is a dream come true as the area is viewed as one of the hottest investment point due to its strategic position...

unfavorable factors mostly unreliable transportation between Kurasini and Kigamboni. With the bridge in place, Kigamboni is now a fertile location for business, a vibrant location for more hotels and tourism artificial attractions.

A rise in the number of lodges and hotels is expected in Kigamboni in the near future. Tour operators and tourism stakeholders should be strategic enough to tap in and expose the peculiar natural and man-made attraction sites found in the gulf by focusing on the middle class and upper class, which have enough surplus income to spend a holiday away from home to promote local tourism.

The marine tourism can also grow very fast, depending on the focus the tourism investors will give towards such niche market. The level of creativity towards such a market can enable the industry to have a vibrant sector that accommodates itself to move from seasonal business to an all year business.

As a tourism enthusiast and near future hotelier, I'm very excited and optimistic that the bridge will bring many untapped opportunities to stakeholders and foster the development of the industry.





HOW TO spend less ON A GOOD HOTEL

BY GIVENS KACHERO

IF YOU HAVE BEEN TRAVELLING FOR A WHILE NOW, YOU PROBABLY MUST BE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO SAVE SOME MONEY FROM YOUR HOTEL BILLS. HERE ARE SOME FEW HOTEL BOOKING TRICKS TO HELP YOU SAVE.

1 **MAKE SURE TO CHECK PRICES ONLINE BEFORE EXTENDING OR SHORTENING YOUR STAY AT THE HOTEL. HOTEL PRICES CHANGE ON A DAILY BASIS, AND EVEN FROM ROOM TO ROOM.** If you feel online is too far, you have a near option, which is simply talking to the receptionists. I find this one easier as you can ask all your questions and get your answers on the spot. For example, if it's a peak night, then definitely the prices will be hiked, but you are





able to negotiate. Then you will decide whether you want a change; and you really don't have to create a completely new booking with a new confirmation code. You also need to be aware of hidden prices.

2 **CHECK PRICES AT AIRPORT HOTELS WHEN MAKING BOOKINGS.** Be sure to check prices at airport hotels, as they may not be as expensive as you may be thinking. I have in fact found their prices to be extremely competitive, especially in major cities where hotel choice is wide-ranging. Also because most airport hotels tend not to be peoples first choice, unless they really have to be there. By just doing this, you could actually save yourself some money, yet spend time in a good hotel.

3 **TALKING OF AIRPORT HOTELS, ACTUALLY MOST AIRPORTS OFFER FREE OR CHEAP PARKING FOR A FEW DAYS.** Some hotel I know, offers four days of free parking with a one night stay at the hotel, and also a 24-hour airport shuttle. Therefore, by checking out the prices in the airport hotel, could result in a cheaper flight, cover completely the cost of airport parking and at times even offer an extra hour or more of sleep ad a free breakfast to boost. This are offers you definitely don't want to miss.

4 **ALWAYS LOOK OUT FOR THE "BEST PRICE" GUARANTEE. A LOT OF BOOKING SITES OFFER A "BEST PRICE GUARANTEE.** This is mostly offered on flights, lodging, car rentals and more. With this button, it reduces your searches on hotel sites, then booking rates, then discount rates etc. this way, if you see an interesting deal, and want to book it, then later find the same room on a better deal, it gives you options. Some hotels will refund the difference if you find a cheaper room within 24 hours of booking. Although this makes it a little more time-limited for airfares, and a little less for hotels and car rentals.







5 **IN CASE YOU MISS BREAKFAST, GET A GO-TO BOX.** In incidences when you have a really early flight, that would require you to check out before breakfast is served, make sure youi have a go-to box. You don't want to fly on an empty stomach. Most hotels don't offer this, but I guess it does not hurt if you could request them to do that. It's worth asking the night before you leave if the hotel can bundle up some doughnuts for you in the morning.

6 **ASK YOUR HOTEL IF IT HAS AIRPORT SHUTTLE.** Most hotels, especially those that are not in immediate proximity to the airport, still run this shuttles, just that's they do not advertise it. However, you could also seek taxi recommendations from your hotel. This would however be most effective if make a direct phone call to the hotel. If the hotel you are staying at, does not have a shuttle, they mostly have a relationship with a taxi company that offers consistent pricing and services to its guests. You will be surprised at how much hustle they have removed from your back. Not only will they call a taxi for you, they will also negotiate the prices for you, send the car out to pick you, even at the evening while you are enjoying yourself. You might also find that the quote they would offer you is double the prices the front desk had negotiated for you.

7 **CHECK OUT FOR "MEMBER-DEALS".** Most membership associations offer a number of discounts, including hotel discounts. Your credit card company probably has even more relationships. With that said, I know most people never take advantage of these offers. Most of us go online, search for a hotel, find price, book and forget about it. There are heaps of these offers out there as startups tussle over your loyalty and small margins. These offers exist even on social media based offers.

8 **ONLY USE AUCTION SITES, IF YOU MUST.** This is because they can be quite risky for the hotels, almost more so than for airfares. This is due to the steepest discounts offered by hotels that might be less attractive when you know exactly you will be staying. Whether due toongoing construction, poor reviews, inconveniency or shady neighborhoods e.t.c. use pricelines neighborhood mapping guide in an area where you know hotel choices are pretty limited.


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drones

TO BE DEPLOYED FOR PATROL OVER NGORONGORO CONSERVATION

Each drone can lift up to 3 kilogram of attached equipment, including its own or **auxiliary cameras, a bag of explosives, pepper sprays** to drive large mammals away and other tools...

Free-flying Drones have now been integrated in the conservation efforts within the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, where the pilot-less flying machines are being deployed to patrol the park, scare poachers away and drive elephants that stray into nearby villages back into the reserve.

According to Mr Elvis Mashele, the Assistant Conservator for the Mbulu-Mbulu Zone in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, drones are proving to be better at the task due to their capabilities to fly high and low on and around all terrains, forests and over animal clusters.

"When elephants stray out of the park and into local villages or farms, we fly the drones over the jumbos and since these machines hum like swarms of bees, the elephants get frightened and thus flee back into the park," stated Mr Mashele.

There have been constant conflicts between farmers of Karatu and Elephants from Ngorongoro as Jumbos, leave the park, invading the agricultural locations and destroying crops.

The drones when equipped with cameras can also patrol the precinct, take pictures of selected scenes or suspected poachers and in some instances, can be equipped with dynamites that can be fired to create loud but safe bangs to scare intruders rigid.

Mashele pointed out the fact that a drone could be programmed to fly back to base after periodical flights, makes them even more perfect and reliable for certain tasks, data collection and aerial patrol.

"Each drone can lift up to 3 kilogram of attached equipment, including its own or auxiliary cameras, a bag of explosives, pepper sprays to drive large mammals away and other tools," said the Zonal Head for Mbulu-Mbulu the Ward in Karatu which strides the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, as well as the adjacent Northern Highland Forest Reserve which is also run by NCAA.

TOP RIGHT
School pupils in Mbulu-Mbulu Ward of Karatu District, Arusha region being awed by one of the flying drones recently deployed in the area to help curb, human-wildlife conflicts by driving stray elephants from Ngorongoro Conservation Area, back into the park.

RIGHT
Mr Elvis Mashele, the Assistant Conservator for the Mbulu-Mbulu Zone in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority, showing how the drone is used to patrol the park as well as the Northern Highlands Forest Reserve.

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area, covering 8300 square kilometres is made up vast expanses of highland plains, Savannah's woodlands and equatorial forests, from the plains of the Serengeti National Park in the north-west, to the eastern arm of the Great Rift Valley.

It is being governed by the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) which since 1959 runs the area as a multiple land use area, with wildlife living alongside semi-nomadic Maasai pastoralists practicing traditional livestock grazing.

NCAA includes **the legendary Ngorongoro Crater, the world's sixth largest unbroken and caldera, and Olduvai Gorge, the 14km long deep ravine**, in addition to being the site of global importance for biodiversity conservation in view of the presence of globally threatened species such as the black Rhino, the density of wildlife inhabiting the Ngorongoro Crater and surrounding areas throughout the year, and the annual migration of wildebeest, zebra and other ungulates.







PHOTOGRAPHY BY **EXAUD MARANDU**
RETOUCH BY **ALAN SUCCESS**

meet the legend GUIDE

EXAUD **MARANDU**



Exaud was born and grew up at the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, Northern Tanzania. His passion for the natural world started at a young age when he used to catch fish and all sort reptiles and birds. After finishing school, he joined the tour guide training college. He is a professional safari guide with close to 20 years experience guiding clients. His main interests are the behavior and body language of animals in Tanzania's National Parks.

Exaud is a keen photographer and an aspiring wildlife photojournalist. His images have not been shared into public except few on his Facebook wall though he possesses a huge stock of great shot.

He intends to release them into magazines, airlines display as well as photo exhibition. His photography makes him a great ambassador for his country and perhaps an icon among few tour guide photographer in Tanzania who have afforded to spend some chunk amount of dollars to possess good camera.

Exaud combines his role as a guide with mentoring and inspiring young and upcoming guides as he travels through various schools in Tanzania. His passion for photography has led to a big interest in animal behavior and behavioral ecology.

He explains, "I love what I do and love when clients listens and asks many questions in my car. I have a passion for leopards, and have spent many years learning their unknown behaviors and hope to spend many more years doing the same."

Q What made you become a Safari Guide?
I realized I had a special passion for nature and wildlife since I was at a tender age. I used to engage in fishing, catching and keeping of all sorts of reptiles and birds. Despite the dangers involved on doing such activities my interest kept growing higher.

Q How did you start your career?
Well after I completed my secondary school levels I did mechanical courses of which I later realized did lack the passion that I crave for. That's how I ended up doing a tourism course specializing on tour guide. It wasn't easy getting a job for us who were fresh from college so I went back to the same college as a trainer that involved me taking students for field work and in due time I gained the advantage of more experience and on one of my field trips I was lucky to meet the owner of a reputable tour company in Arusha and offered me job as a tour guide and that was the beginning of my career.

Q What is the memorable moment on your career?
Most of my time in the wilderness is memorable but the most unforgettable is when I was in the Serengeti camping and it was during the night it was a drought season and no water for animals to drink. And our chef was busy preparing lunch for the following day. As I was watching stars with one of the tourists that night the sky was beautiful we could clearly see a milk way crossing the sky, while we were in the middle of viewing the sky we heard a noise of a twig breaking and I abruptly directed my flash light to where the noise came from. My goodness, there before I our eyes stood a lion pride behind the chef who was busy unaware that there was a pride of lions behind him waiting for him to move from the area so they can drink from a bucket of water. We asked him to come towards us slowly and made it to the car without being attacked. Since then I believe everything in nature is a friend to those who like them.

Q What is your favorite part in your guiding job?
Wildlife is always communicating, most people believe wild animals are dangerous but it all falls on how you approach them with full respect and they will return the respect to you. When watching the wildlife you simply need respect that you are now in their territory and observe silence at all times. I learn a different thing every day by being in the wilderness and as result I don't get tired of the nature So my favorite part is observing the animal behavior.

Q Describe your personal approach to guiding?
My aim is to make a tourist trip memorable. So I identify their needs, and fulfill their desires by making them comfortable and take them through the wildlife and explain each and every bit that needs explanation by this I make their holidays unforgettable and when they return back home they become good ambassadors for Tanzania.

Q What would you never leave camp for a game drive?
Whenever am in the wild am always fully equipped with my binoculars, camera, books and Leatherman knife with me.

Q If you were not a Safari Guide, what would be your career choice?
I love animals so I definitely would have been a farmer owning livestock ranches.

Q What would you do if you encountered poaching activities?
I had an experience with poaching activity when I was in the Serengeti national Park and just to remind you the area was once a HAPPY HUNTING AREA earlier in the 1990's and the western part of the park was the last area to be turned into a national park. And to date the locals believe the wild meat is part of their right to hunt for food. Now it was in this area that I came across four poachers carrying dried meat on a donkey, and one of my tourists asked if it was allowed to do such a thing I answered him no; it's not allowed and in fact I have to report it to the warden immediately. My opinion is we need to tighten security in the national parks In order to preserve this heritage forever and ever.

Q What key piece of advice can you offer for someone who is interested in tour guiding?
Follow your natural call; train as much as you can. There is no substitute for your positive attitude. Have a passion for saving people for the long hours of the day. As tour guides we spend many hours with people, strangers and most of the time we have to keep them engaged. Take one focus at a time, especially when you're learning. If you want to work on safety driving, customer care or wildlife and their ecosystem, do it for your life long. With time comes the experiences so don't be upset.

Q What mistakes do you see new climbers make most often?

Getting-in over their heads, trying to learn too much stuff at a time, unfortunately, the only way to avoid these mistakes is with experience.
Getting in just a little over your head is how you learn the most, but it's a fine line between maximum learning and taking on risks you can't handle. Most beginners don't have the base of experiences to make the distinction, that's the definition of being a beginner.

Q Is it necessary for a Safari guide to possess photography skills?

I actually guided for many years without a camera though was my dream to have one after had many wild actions that went without being documented. I said I couldn't wait any longer. I am extremely lucky in working with some world-renowned photographers and bough my first camera from my guest who also helped me with some basic skills. I would say some few things enabled me to move quickly –curiosity, passion to learn and the willingness to help from the guests I guided during the safari. Of course Google has added a free school. I am mostly specialized into animals and my favorite one is Leopard. I keep learning and soon will turn into birds' photography though it is difficult arts to venture in. I think this area of photographic should be an added value to all tour guides in Tanzania. This is something lacking to most of our guides.

Q Where is your favorite place to do a Safari?

That's a really tough question. I'll give you one place that I love. The Serengeti, It has everything the wild places have offer and access to the great ungulate migration of any place in the world.

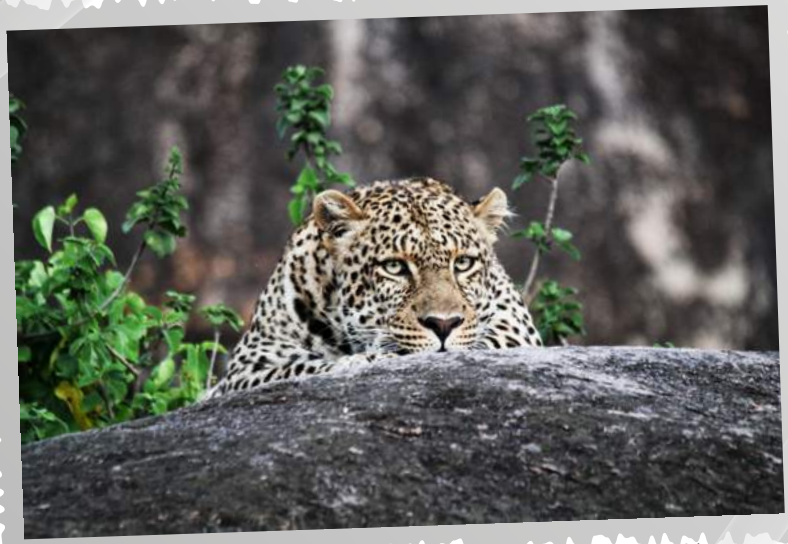
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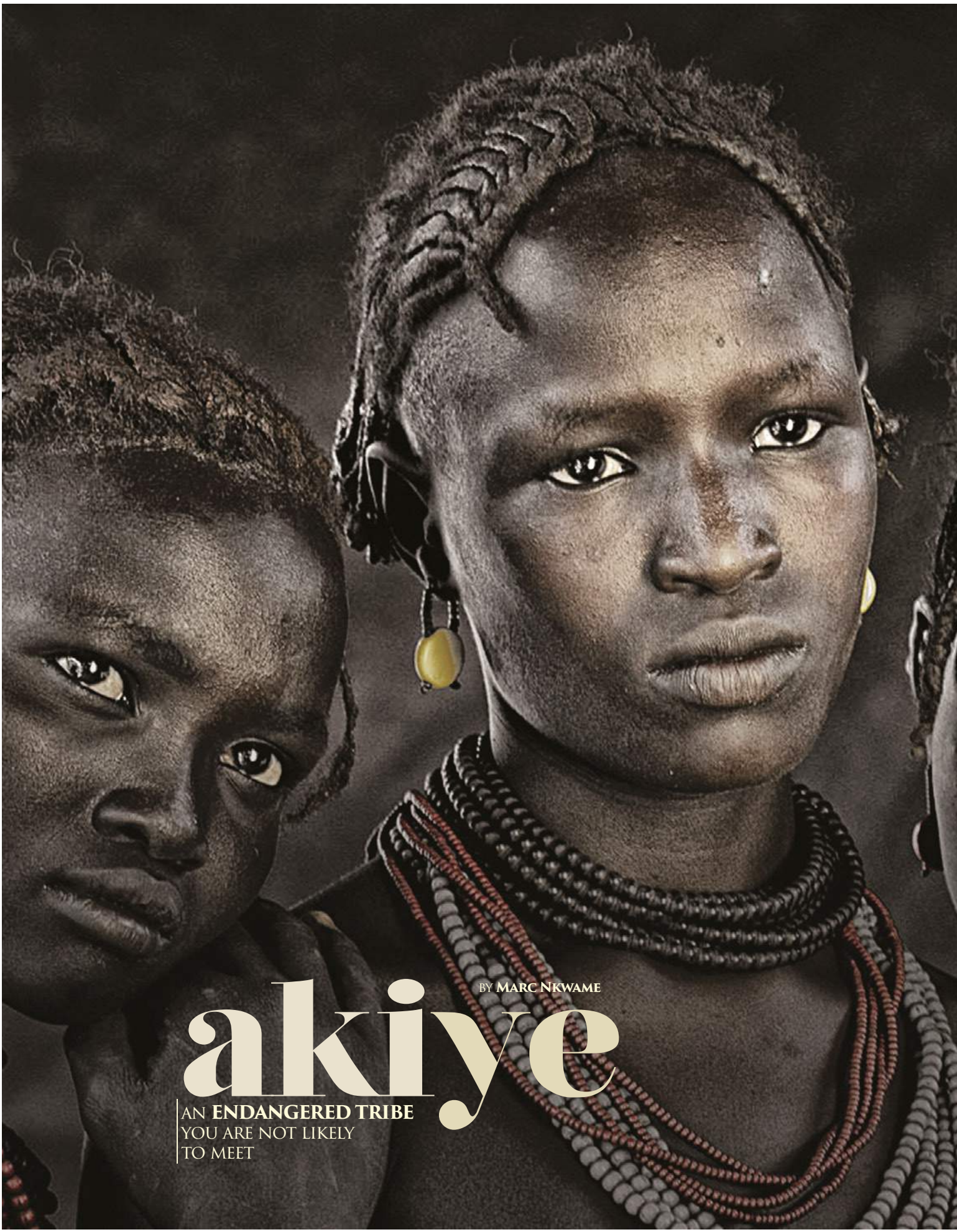




First right: Capturing the rare encounters at Tarangire

Second: Found a shot along the road at Serengeti National Park

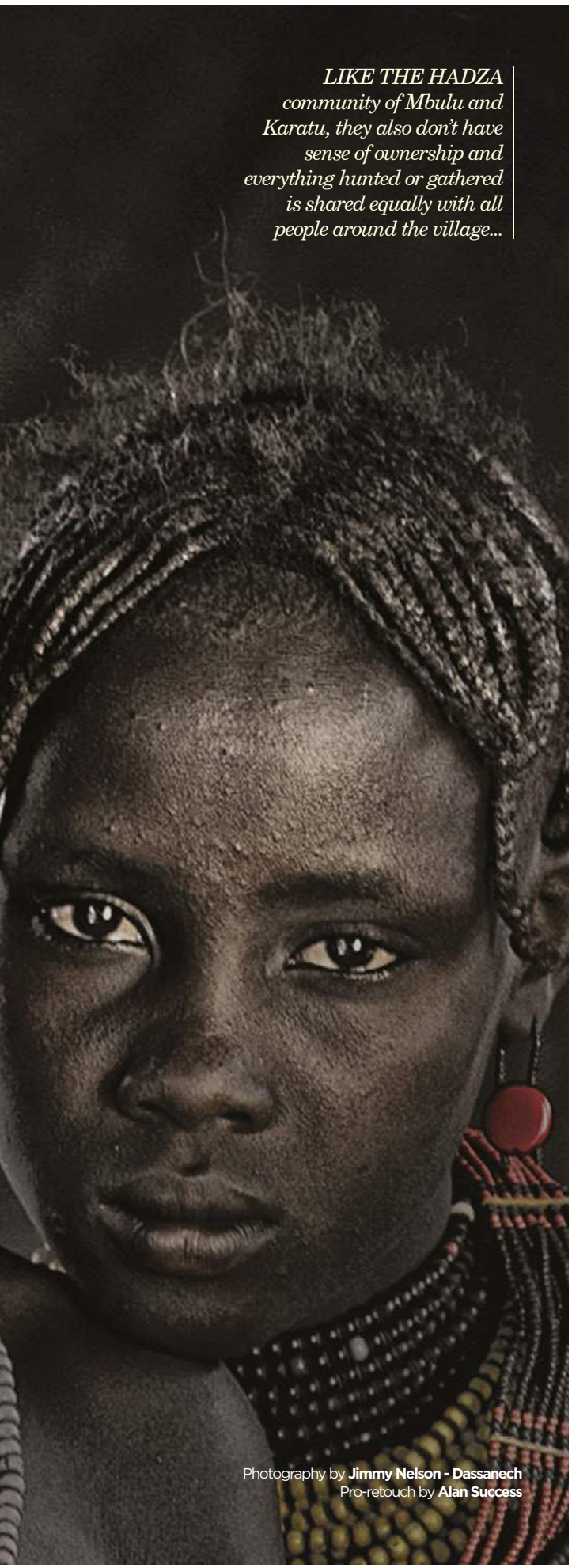
Third: After the game drive, rushing for lunch...



BY MARC NKWAME

akiye

AN **ENDANGERED TRIBE** YOU ARE NOT LIKELY TO MEET



There are a number of tribes that happen to be on the brink of extinction in Tanzania but the name "Akiye" may not exactly ring a bell among many people here.

Maybe because the indigenous Akiye community, whose members are mostly found at the remote Kimana village of Kiteto District in Manyara region, has managed to stay clear of media intrusion, tourists' interest and tribal conflicts that have become synonymous with communities living in areas where long term foes; the livestock-keeping pastoralists and land-tilling peasants brush shoulders on daily basis.

The Akiye, who place ancestral claim onto Gitu area of Kilindi District in Tanga region, however recalls that is just the place where their forefathers and mother shored up when they landed in the country, upon arriving onto the continent from Norway.
By the way the Akiye people harbour firm beliefs that they are actually Norwegians who accidentally got shipwrecked along the East African Coast, being marooned in Tanzania and left to their own resources many eons ago.

Their claims aren't far-fetched either, because most, original Akiyes spot light skinned brown complexion that makes them to extremely stand out from the melamine dipped members of other communities, precisely the Maasai, surrounding them at the foot of Napilikinya Hill in the remotest section of Kiteto.
They are aborigines leading bohemian lifestyles of hunting small animals, gathering fruits and roots as well as tapping wild honey for food. Like the Hadza community of Mbulu and Karatu, they also don't have sense of ownership and everything hunted or gathered is shared equally with all people around the village.

Their fruit gathering lifestyle have always amused the Maasai, the cattle-hungry nomadic pastoralists who live near them within the Kimana plains. The two groups have always lived in harmony at Kiteto and for many years. Any tribe can live peacefully with the Maasai as long as they don't steal or keep cattle like them and also don't hoard up farms to plant crops and eventually reduce their grazing territories.

But the Maasai's impression of their fruit-gathering neighbours has been a mixture of bemusement and pity. Surely when God sent people down to live on the oval earth, he had meant them to also own cattle, many of them and sheep and goats and all the land to graze these animals with relish.
But the Akiye have been doing nothing of the sort, choosing to live on fruits, live in large baobab tree trunks or makeshift grass houses and where they

advanced enough to own livestock, they may keep a few traditional chickens at their homesteads. Now the Maasai judge or value a person depending with the number of cattle that he has (it is only adult males who are permitted to own livestock by the way). In fact the only reason to make any person move from one point to another should be for grazing livestock or patrolling his large herds of cattle.

As the result therefore, the Maasai coined the nickname of 'Ndorobo,' to describe the Akiye. The term Ndorobo actually means 'Tse-tse,' flies and as far as the Nomadic Pastoralist are concerned, the Akiye just wonder aimlessly in the wilderness like the wild flies because they have no cattle to graze. Mzee Paulo Serenda in his 60s says the Ndorobo name, despite being meant to be an insult to them, has become more synonymous with the Akiye community much to their dismay.

Even worse; "Having lived with the Maasai for many years, most of our people have adopted their language and attires," said Serenda, adding that some Akiyes have started keeping cattle as well.

At the moment there are less than 1000 existing Akiyes in Tanzania, their population is also dropping rapidly. ***Former President, Jakaya Kikwete*** picked an Akiye lady, Ms Katarina Saruni or 'Catherine,' to represent her community in the New Constitution Sessions at the National Assembly, last year.

THE FACT

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ABOVE:
Goats relax in foreground as Akiye women walk out through their boma enclosure at Kimana Village in remote Kiteto District of Manyara.



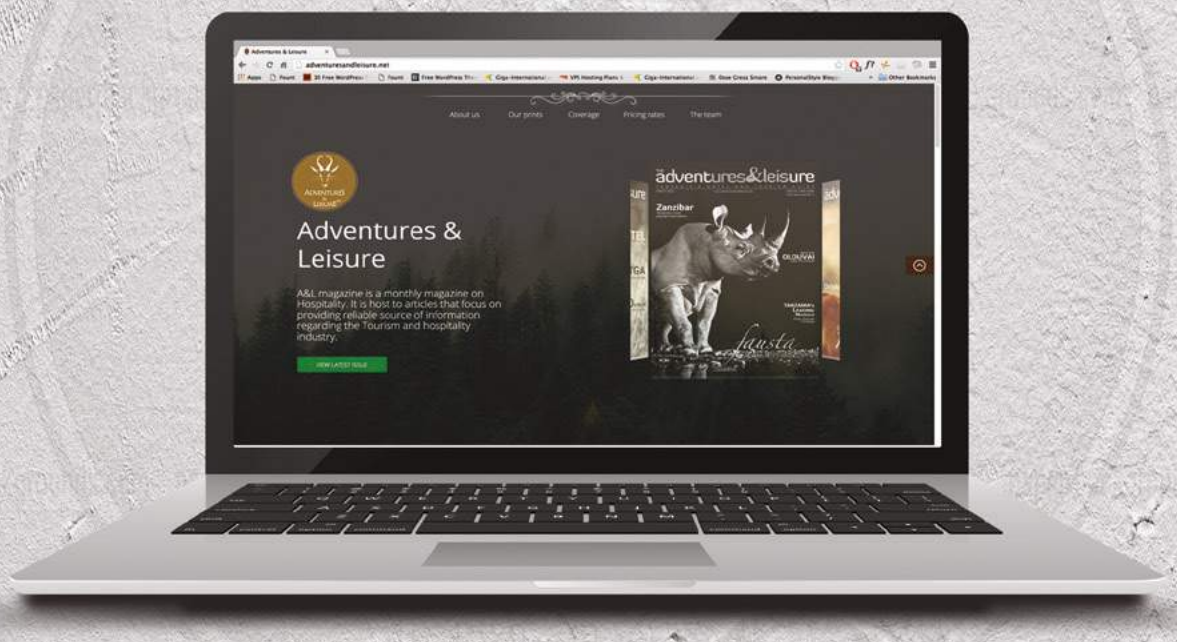
ABOVE:
Akiye men hold conversation under a baobab, these large trees are sometimes used as houses for the members of the tribe.

"A few years ago hunger hit our area, mostly due to drought," stated Mr Kisota Mbulu the chairman of the community explaining that the disappearance of small animals due to emerging farms, diminishing forest cover and natural growth has forced many of them to try alternative lifestyle.

That was why the quest to look for Akiyes in the Kiteto wilderness proved to be challenging, they dressed like Maasai and spoke their language. Even some of the Maasai themselves found it hard to tell them apart except in some cases the Akiye's light skinned complexion.

They started out like Bushmen and now the Akiye are slowly but surely adopting a very different lifestyle. In few years' time none of them will even identify themselves with their original roots, the changing weather and climate have not only darkened their skins, but also transformed them into pastoralists.

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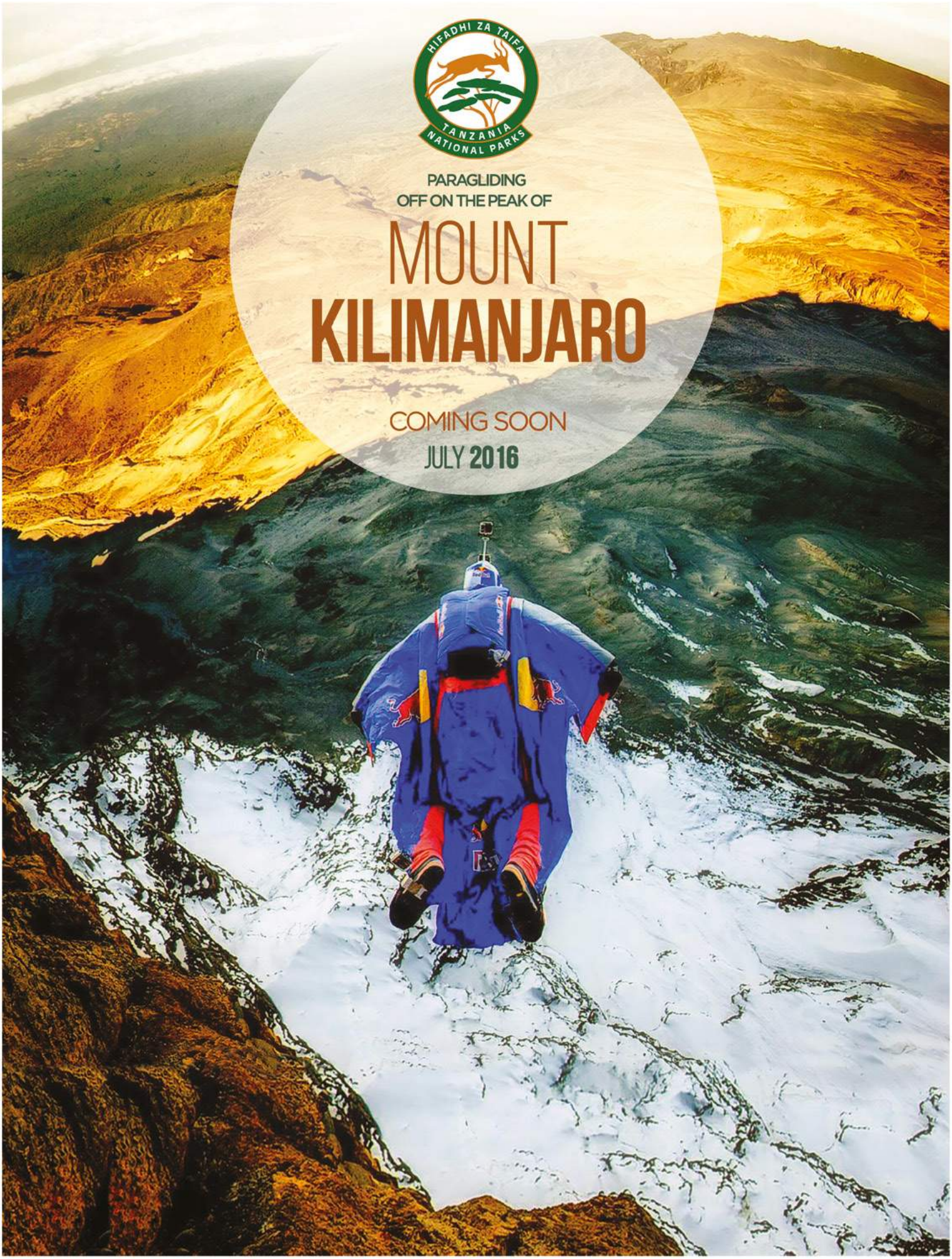
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