

# The Fumba Times

FROM ZANZIBAR TO THE WORLD – THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL

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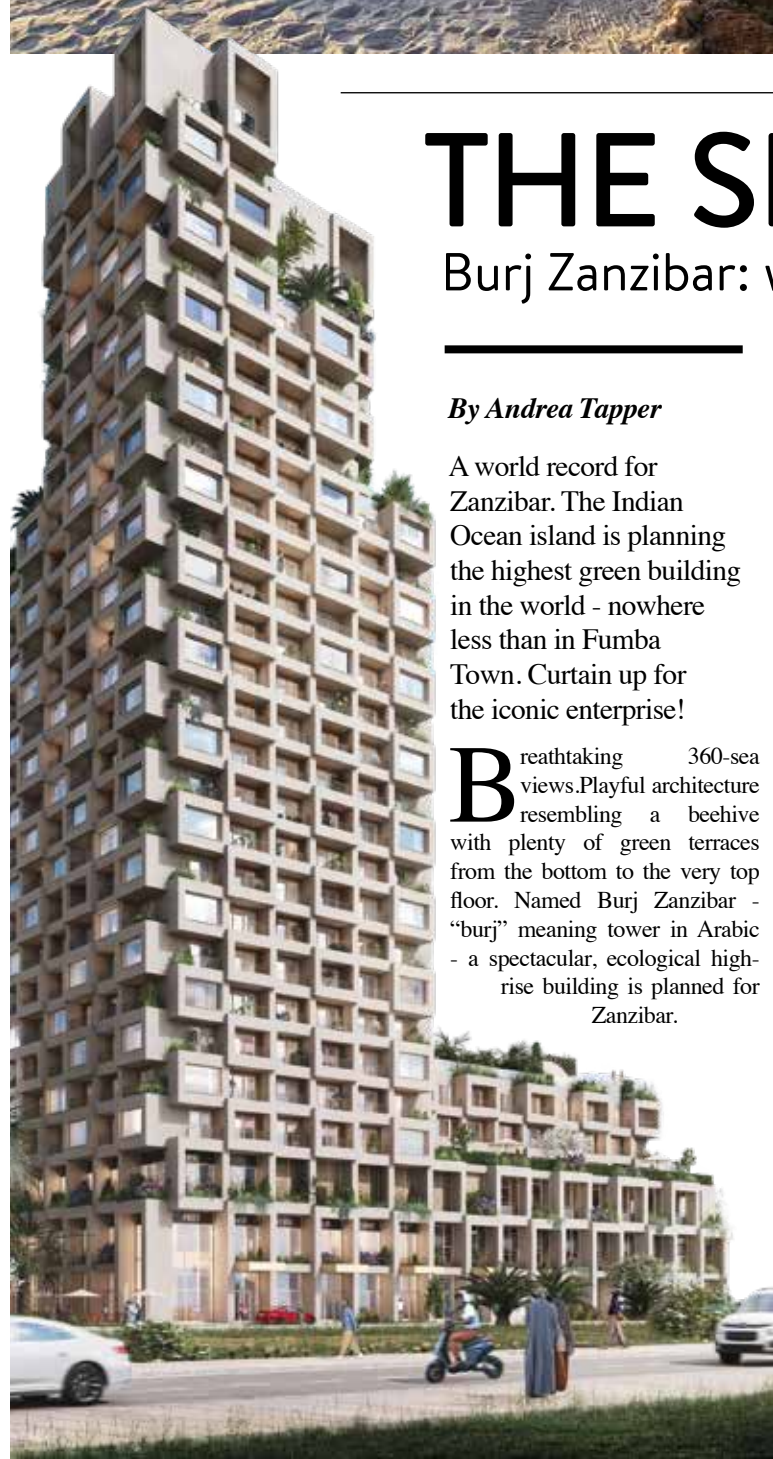


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#party of the year

We'd like to wish all our readers, who celebrate it, a merry Christmas, and everybody a happy and healthy New Year. When in Zanzibar, join us at The Chill in Fumba Town. Karibuni nyote!



Green power tower: 96 metres high, with 28 floors, the planned Burj Zanzibar would be an iconic landmark for Africa and bring fresh attention to Zanzibar as a "green" destination

## THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

Burj Zanzibar: world's tallest timber tower to be build on the island

By Andrea Tapper

A world record for Zanzibar. The Indian Ocean island is planning the highest green building in the world - nowhere less than in Fumba Town. Curtain up for the iconic enterprise!

Breathtaking 360-sea views. Playful architecture resembling a beehive with plenty of green terraces from the bottom to the very top floor. Named Burj Zanzibar - "burj" meaning tower in Arabic - a spectacular, ecological high-rise building is planned for Zanzibar.

The apartment tower in high-tech timber design, 96 metres high, with 28 floors, will be elevated in the midst of new suburb Fumba Town overlooking the ocean on the west coast near the capital. "You'll definitely see the landmark from the plane when you fly into Zanzibar", promises developer Tobias Dietzold.

Once realised, it will instantly become a global landmark as the world's highest timber tower and as Africa's first high-rise ever in this innovative technology. At the moment the 86.6-metre Ascent Tower in Milwaukee, US, holds the world record as the highest timber building worldwide.

Why such an architectural extravaganza for the small island of Zanzibar? Dubbed "vertical green village", the residential tower with 266 residences is to be located in Fumba Town, East Africa's pioneering eco-town developed by German-led engineering firm CPS. "The tower will be our landmark", said CPS CEO Sebastian Dietzold, "but not because it's a glamorous highlight but because it will promote responsible, sustainable buildings and trigger a whole new industry in Tanzania, from agroforestry to the production of engineered wood products."

Fumba Town, the flagship CPS development near the capital, is already built on green and equitable principles and as such an unusual new model town for Africa. Stretching along a 1.5-kilometre seashore, it will eventually provide more than 5,000 sustainable homes for all budgets and for around 20,000 people. Buyers of over 60 nationalities have invested

here, the majority from Zanzibar, Tanzania and Oman. "The Burj Zanzibar tower is part of our mission to meet the massive housing demands in Africa in a responsible way", CPS founders Sebastian Dietzold, 45, and his brother Tobias, 38, explained: "We want to support a technology that protects our planet."



Nothing tops this: the sale of apartments with exquisite interior design and lush green outdoor spaces has commenced

### Eliminating 3,000 tons of CO2

Timber is the oldest building material in the world (see next page). As timber technology, it currently enjoys a renaissance because of its environmental benefits and longevity. New prefabricated timber products such as cross-laminated timber (CLT) and glulam are considered the building materials of the future. A 4,000-cubic-metre wooden building like Burj Zanzibar would bind about 3,200 tons of carbon dioxide in its structure,

whereas conventional concrete construction does exactly the opposite, causing 30 percent of ongoing CO2 emissions worldwide.

"High tech timber functions like a carbon battery", elaborated Tobias Dietzold: "Burj Zanzibar will showcase the new construction technology from Zanzibar to the world." Tanzania's

top skyscraper is the 157-metre Ports Authority building in Dar es Salaam, built with conventional concrete.

### Specialists from NYC to Switzerland

The Zanzibar tower is being designed and constructed by top specialists from Switzerland, Austria, Germany, South Africa, Tanzania and the US, among them the world's most experienced high-tech timber producer, the company Binderholz from Austria. CONTINUE, PAGE 2

## Global thinkers ONE VOICE, ONE OPINION



It's not where you come from but what you do. "Trust is earned and I will earn it", said **Rishi Sunak**, the UK's first British Indian prime minister, in his inaugural speech. The 42-year-old billionaire funds manager has East African ancestry, his mum was born in Tanzania and his father in Kenya. Both moved with their Punjabi families to the UK in the 60s.

## HOW MANY IS TOO MANY?

61.7 million people in Tanzania, of which 59.8 million live on the mainland and 1.9 million in the Zanzibar islands: when presenting the census figures at the end of October, President Samia Suluhu Hassan pointed out that the rapid population growth challenges the country.

33% of youth in Zanzibar are unemployed, according to International Labour Organisation (ILO). The average number of children per woman in Tanzania is 4.8. "300,000 new homes will be needed every year to house the growing population," said Fumba Town developer Sebastian Dietzold. Tanzania is among the eight countries which will account for half of the world's population growth predicted until 2050. The world population hit 8 billion in November.

## SWIMMING FROM ZANZIBAR TO DAR



Always spottable by red floating balls attached to them, the swimmers reached Tanzania from Zanzibar in ten hours

A group of South African swimmers crossed the so-called Swahili channel from Zanzibar to mainland Tanzania in November.

Some people find the ferry hard to endure but who on earth would swim the 35-km-distance from Zanzibar to mainland Tanzania? Well, eleven sporty men from South Africa did just that in November. Accompanied by support boats, they took off from Fumba Beach Lodge in Zanzibar, a sponsor of the event, at 4am in the morning and stayed 13 hours in the water, including two hours of swimming in the dark. The winner Ryan Cumming completed

the swim in a time of 10h18m46s, "a record-breaking achievement", said Tim Lloyd who organised the event. The finish was the Lazy Lagoon, a cement factory area just south of Dar es Salaam.

So - how did it go? "Despite a challenging swell, cross currents, and bouts of sea sickness we made it," said Cumming. The Swahili Channel is Africa's version of the English Channel and is known for deep-sea pockets and strong currents. The Strait of Dover between the UK and continental Europe is 34 km wide at its narrowest point and has been crossed in under seven hours.

With their crossing from Zanzibar to Dar the swimmers called Flying Mulets raised 300,000 Rand (\$18,000) for a South African hospice.

### ADVERTISEMENT

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**ABOUT US**  
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EXPIRES  
28/02/2023





**BE THE FIRST TO TIMBER!**  
New iconic tower: prices, floorplans, safety

**Continued from page 1**

Burj Zanzibar - the planned sustainable apartment tower for Africa will compel the continent into the top green league worldwide. The sale of around 250 apartments has commenced. Construction to begin 2023/2024. The project was officially launched in October in Muscat, Oman.

regrowable agroforestry.” Burj Zanzibar is planned as a hybrid timber tower with a steel-reinforced concrete core. “This and other elements make the timber structure extremely stable and long lasting”, said Torsten Helbig, leading structural engineer, who has planned timber houses and offices all over Europe and America, among them a pioneering eco supermarket in Germany and a college in the US.

Prefab timber construction is much faster than erecting a concrete building, but also more costly. “We approximately calculate one week per floor”, said Thomas Just, timber expert and Volks.house company owner in Fumba Town. Even if this triples, it would mean a high-rise of 28 floors can be built in less than one-and-a-half years. Cross laminated timber is lightweight compared to concrete at the same time giving the same structural strength. One cubic metre of concrete weighs weighs 2.7 tons while one cubic metre of



Big launch in Muscat: CPS team and officials announcing the Zanzibar project in Oman recently. First apartments were sold immediately

PHOTO: KUPPEL

**Fire expert Dr. Klippel**

Timber and fire don't go well together, it's commonly feared. Why this is wrong, explains Dr. Michael Klippel, 39, leading international fire safety expert.

**SAFETY: „WE KNOW HOW TO STOP A FIRE“**

**Are timber buildings more risky than concrete or steel buildings in case of fire?**

Dr. Klippel: No, fire regulations are given regardless of the building material and are defined by local codes and standards. Every material, be it timber, concrete, steel or a smart mix of it, has strengths and limitations. As experts, we set performance goals for any component and the interaction between them.

**Your techniques for fire safety?**

First, of course, is the installation of

sprinklers. For high-rise buildings like Burj Zanzibar we also apply a design method called auto-extinguishing. That allows only a certain amount of visible timber. The fire dies on its own without intervention while the structure remains stable.

**One tends to be still worried...**

You are right but we have learnt in the last decade what matters and what is not acceptable in terms of safety. For instance, timber as a combustible material at the facade is not possible. Joints and supports are also crucial

points. A robust construction with staircases in a reinforced concrete core helps firefighters and at the same time gives stability. Furthermore, strict quality management during construction - all this makes modern timber buildings safe, anywhere in the world.

*Dr. Michael Klippel is CO-CEO of IGINIS, has performed hundreds of fire resistance tests. The Swiss fire design consulting firm is part of the planning team for the Burj Zanzibar.*

## FABULOUS HOLIDAY EVENTS

Countdown to 2023 (World Cup included!)

**World Cup live on the big screen**

Every match until the 18 December Final! Kweu Kweni Chill, best sunset vibes, drinks, food, shishas, ENTRANCE FREE, Fumba Town, Nymanzi Contact: +255 776 055801

**Kweu Kweni Chill Christmas Party**

24 Dec, 5pm Come enjoy Xmas eve along the beach, with live music, bongo drums and good vibes Fumba Town, Nymanzi Contact: +255 776 055801

**Christmas Eve Beach Dinner**

24 Dec, tasty barbecue served under the stars with cosy live music. Blue Oyster Hotel, Jambiani booking@blueoysterhotel.com Contact: +255 783 045796

**Christmas Buffet Lunch**

25 Dec, 12-3 pm Xmas lunch with friends and family, 6 Degrees, Waterfront, Shangani St, Zanzibar RSVP: +255 620 644 611

**OUR TOP EVENT Best New Year's Party in Zanzibar @ The Chill**

31 Dec, from sunset till sunrise, entrance TZS 20,000, kids -12 free, DJ Spicy D, DJ Soulful, DJ Baffi, street food market The Chill beach restaurant, Fumba Town, Nymanzi Contact: +255 776 055801

**HAPPY new year**

**Dhow Race & Sylvester Barbecue in Jambiani**

31 Dec, all day & night Daytime: 14th Annual Community dhow boat race, community games At night: Barbecue with music and entertainment at the Beach Bar Blue Oyster Hotel booking@blueoysterhotel.com Contact: +255 783 0457961

**Festive New Year Dinner**

1 Jan, start the new year with a special festive menu served in upstairs sea view restaurant Blue Oyster Hotel booking@blueoysterhotel.com Phone: +255 783 045796

**Enjoy the festive season with Siti & The Band**

21 Dec, Emerson Secret Garden re-opening, Stone Town 24 Dec, Dinner Baladin, East Coast 25 Dec, Lunch Mr Kahawa, Paje 25 Dec, Dinner Xanadu, East Coast 30 Dec, Dinner Paje By Night 31 Dec, Dinner Xanadu 1 Jan, Lunch Mr Kahawa Information: 0625 997 534 (Lorenz)

**Big Year-end Party 31 December**

Let's wind up the year with good vibes and music from 10pm till morning with DJ Cartel and Riverside Band 6 Degrees, Waterfront, Shangani St, Zanzibar RSVP: +255 620 644 611



## BURJ ZANZIBAR HOW MUCH IS AN APARTMENT?

Ever dreamt of living in a wood cabin? Burj Zanzibar is the modern equivalent of just that dream. Popular one bedroom apartments in the timber-tower-to-be start at 119,900\$.

Burj Zanzibar price examples:
■ Studio 7th floor \$79,900
■ Studio 15th floor \$175,900
■ 1 bedroom, 7th floor \$119,900
■ 1 bedroom 7th floor ocean \$149,900
■ 2 bedroom 16th floor \$219,900
■ 1 bedroom penthouse 22nd floor \$419,900

28 storeys high, the spectacular building offers studios, one- and two-bedroom apartments and deluxe penthouses. In Fumba Town, Zanzibar foreigners are entitled to buy by law. The elegant tower stands on a terraced podium. At the moment apartments from the 7th floor and above are on sale.



Architectural design for a 1 bedroom with 53.8 sqm and two terraces

Prices range from \$79,900 for a studio to \$950,880 for the most expensive penthouse with pool. The apartments are being sold off-plan. They are payable in six instalments with a reservation fee of \$10,000. Sales have commenced internationally.

More than a dozen apartments were sold within the first weeks at an average price of \$180,000. Note: The higher the apartment, the higher the price; the ocean side is more pricey than the land side.



A green icon: poolside and terrace at the new Burj project

## KEEPING THE MUSIC ALIVE

New sponsorship by Fumba Town rescues ‘Sauti za Busara’ festival

By Andrea Tapper

A record crowd is expected for the upcoming Busara music festival, celebrating its 20th anniversary in February. A surprise add-on is a live gig at Fumba Town. Get your ticket now!

Yusuf Mahmoud meets me in his office near Stone Town. “People are getting excited. It’s our silver jubilee”, he says. The director of Zanzibar’s popular music festival “Sauti za Busara” (Swahili for sounds of wisdom) is visibly more relaxed than some months ago. His team is busy preparing posters and stickers. A generous, almost three-year sponsorship by Fumba Town developer CPS is keeping the festival afloat. Unlike most international cultural festivals, Busara has never received financial state subsidies and has been relying on donor support since its inception in 2004.

But nothing could stop the music - not the torrential rains in 2020, not the onslaught of Covid-19 thereafter, neither blackouts nor politics. The internationally famous get-together is a political, a human rights festival after all - besides being a vibrant African jam session. “We choose artists not only because of their music, but

because of their message”, explains 60-year-old Yusuf Mahmoud to me. This year’s main act is Tiken Jah Fakoly, a vocal reggae die-hard from Ivory Coast who now lives in exile in Mali. Other crowd pullers are BCUC, a rough Soweto band and local favourites like Siti Amina and Damian Soul.

The BBC has called the festival ‘one of Africa’s best and most respected music events’. Other annual African music festivals include MTN Bushfire in Eswatini (Swaziland), usually in May; Lake of Stars in Malawi (not yet confirmed for 2023); and the Cape Town Jazz festival (returning on 17-18 March, 2023).

**24 hands, 3 days, 2 stages**  
What can visitors expect at the open-air venue in the historical Old Fort this time? “A special homely vibe at a super heritage site”, said one musician. Top-notch sound and equipment (all provided locally), delicious local food, drinks and a variety of craft stands.

The music will go on for three nights with 24 confirmed groups on two stages from 4pm-1.30am; there will be live streaming on YouTube and other online channels. The festival is accompanied by more local activities like artist workshops and a musical parade in Stone Town. Whether the popular free stage at Fordhani will return, is still unclear, says Mahmoud. Here, a sponsor would be needed, too, to run the show and to facilitate the stage.

Homegrown upcoming talent has become a trademark of Busara. “We are never short of new, exciting and original sounds”, says the curator and organiser. To raise women’s voices has been high on the agenda in recent years. “Of course this also goes for other marginalised or minority groups”, says Mahmoud, “we 100% support diversity. Diversity is our richness.” This year’s motto is *Tofauti Zetu, Uajiri Wetu* (Diversity is Our Strength in Swahili).

**“I’m a risk taker”**  
Mahmoud has built up the cultural event from its beginnings when he arrived in Zanzibar from the UK to



Stars of the show (clockwise from left): Damian Soul; reggae veteran Tiken Jah Fakoly; the crowd; sponsor Tobias Dietzold with Tourism Minister Simai M. Said and festival chef Y. Mahmoud

launch another much-loved event, the Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF).

One thing led to the other and soft-spoken Yusuf Mahmoud stayed on, meanwhile involved in many cultural activities in Zanzibar. “I delight in taking risks”, he assures me, bringing in musicians “some have not even heard of.” Jazz bands are among his personal favourites. Yet, he says, he would also love to lure an African or African-American super act like Beyoncé or Senegal’s pride Youssou N’Dour to Zanzibar, “but mostly they are just too expensive for us”. Many artists are expected to even pay their own tickets to come here. “Boutique hotels like Emersons are very generous

in supporting us with rooms but big chains are frustrating us”, Mahmoud said, Busara is known to draw substantial tourism to the island.

**Making Zanzibar attractive**  
“For us Busara represents an internationally popular festival which has vastly contributed to the attractiveness of Zanzibar as a destination”, said Fumba Town director Tobias Dietzold, who was instrumental in shaping the new fruitful cooperation. “It is in line with our values to support African culture”, he added. Busara director Mahmoud expressing “greatest thankfulness” said: “It makes us especially happy that our main sponsor is now a local company.” For his part, the Minister for

Tourism and Heritage for Zanzibar, Hon. Simai Mohammed Said, lauded both Sauti za Busara and Fumba Town for coming together. “It’s one of the major attractions for visitors in our annual events calendar”, he commented.

About a third of the 20,000 annual festival fans are international. Three-day-tickets start at \$126 for international visitors. Local tickets are TZS 20,000, less than ten dollars. Ticket income covers only a third of the costs according to Mahmoud.

**Sauti za Busara**  
10-12 February 2023  
Old Fort, Stone Town  
Get information and tickets here: busaramusic.org

## SAVE THE SEAS, WEAR A NET

Zanzibar holiday sparks green business in Europe

**By staff writer**

During a three-week visit to Zanzibar a German couple finds his mission and starts turning old fishnets into “bracenets”.

Madeleine von Hohenthal and Benjamin Wenke have already sold more than 100,000 of the green accessories online. Together with international partner organisations they have salvaged more than 700 tons of discarded nets from the ocean worldwide.

“It all began diving along the wonderful coast of Zanzibar in 2015”, recalls Benjamin Wenke, who lives in Hamburg, Germany where the business is based. “We discovered pieces of old fishing nets, drifting through the water, posing a great danger to the environment.”

Zanzibari Fishermen were quick to point out, however, that most of the nets were not dumped locally but came from large fishing vessels – a “huge global problem” as the visiting couple realised. “We flew back to Germany both with a piece of net around our wrist”, the 37-year-old recounts and “kept fantasising what to do with it”.

“Not much was known about the issue in 2015”, he says - and started to research. His findings: every year, up to a million tons of fishing nets are lost or dumped at sea. They lose their purpose, but not their function – and keep on fishing as they drift through the oceans. Millions of marine animals get caught in the so-called “ghost nets” and suffer cruel deaths. The nets also form 40 per cent of the infamous Great Pacific garbage patch, one of five major plastic gyres in our oceans.

“It’s time to end this”, Benjamin and Madeleine thought, and – with a professional background of marketing

and design - started to experiment with up-cycling the ocean finds into new products like dog leashes, key chains, rings and bags. Everything is handcrafted in a workshop in Hamburg. Their bestseller became the so-called bracet (from bracet and net) of which they now sell dozens of versions online with a certificate of origin – per piece at \$25.

Has the couple, by now married and proud parents of two-year-old son Eden, returned to the source of their business idea, to Zanzibar? “Not yet”, they say, “but we plan to.”

**Information and orders: bracet.net**

**Each bracet, similar to a friendship band, has a stamp of origin**

## MIND MY BUSINESS

LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## GO FOR THE NEW SISAL STYLE

Modern furniture and deco handmade in Dar

**Kwetu Kweni markets always bring fresh talent to the fore. Katani is a young start-up with big potential.**

**Ramadhan Lugusha**

**As chic as craft can be: furniture and lamps by Katanikrafts**

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Ruhinde St. near Bestbite, Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam



WELCOME NOTE  
FROM THE HEART



Sebastian Dietzold  
Publisher of THE FUMBA  
TIMES and CEO of CPS

Everything starts with the heart. This is a core value driving our company CPS. This issue of THE FUMBA TIMES shows you, dear reader, how much we love what we do. We love music. Fumba Town, the flagship project of CPS, is honoured and happy to strengthen Zanzibar's music festival 'Sauti za Busara' which has brought so much fun and tourism to the island for two decades; read more on page 3.

We also love achieving a positive impact while we do what we do. Our newest concept Burj Zanzibar, set to become the highest hybrid timber tower in the world, stands for exactly that. Built from highly durable, safe and decarbonising engineered timber, the Burj Zanzibar is truly pioneering as a global landmark project. For me, it demonstrates how we need to forge ahead to protect our children's future.

The fight against climate change has become an overriding movement all over the world. I am impressed to see

so many green stories unfold in Zanzibar and Africa, too: a young German couple creating an entire green business with 'ghost nets' found in Zanzibar seas. Mindful holidays in tune with nature. Find all these features and more here in THE FUMBA TIMES.

Every small step to a sustainable future counts, and economic development will drive it. The new initiative Silicon Zanzibar continues to attract businesses to settle in Fumba Town, creating opportunities for the youth and our growing diverse community. A first Africa Tech CEO forum, organised by Wasoko, the fastest-growing tech company in Africa, will be happening here with us in early December. We love and support such events, which will consistently and positively impact Zanzibar's economy.

In this sense, let's continue to bring positive change to wherever it is needed. I wish all our readers a blessed, happy and healthy New Year - see you at Sauti za Busara 2023 and in Fumba!

GUEST COMMENT  
COME AND KICK  
WITH US!



Football builds up team spirit even at the workplace, says communication manager **Baraka S. Mosha** and invites you to Fumba matches every Wednesday

"I can't miss the camaraderie, exercise and bonding"

As evening slowly settled over another sun-drenched Wednesday, a giant orange orbit cast a shimmering glaze over the aquamarine waters of our tropical island. With football fever fluttering in the breeze and running through my veins, I decided to join Fumba Town residents, our staff of CPS and tech company Wasoko at the Legend Sports Center for their weekly football tournament.

Legend is one of best private football pitches on the island, made of Fifa standard-approved turf. How to get there? Just take the road to Fuoni from Kombeni, after a few kilometres you'll see the pitch on the left in Kisakasaka.

In recent weeks the eyes and ears of the entire world have been turned to the action of the World Cup 2022. With 32 teams competing in Doha, it was expected to become the most watched happening in the history of sports - despite all the controversies. Because there is still that one uniting sentiment: nations and soccer fans unite, rise and cheer for their favourite football teams and players.

Meanwhile a similar scene is replayed every week in Fumba. With night-time now slowly creeping over the horizon, our two teams line up on the great football pitch not yet known

to many. The Legend soccer centre was planned and created by a local entrepreneur, the CEO of F. L. A Company Limited, Abdulaziz Mohamed Abdi.

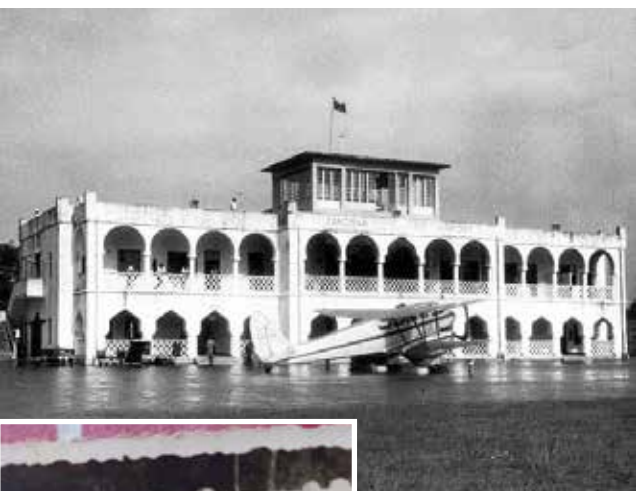
For two hours, staff and residents living in Zanzibar's vibrant seaside community roll, tussle and scrap playfully in a game that has evolved to be more than just another midweek soccer kick-about. "To win a game requires combined effort on a pitch. This facilitates team building translating even to the workplace", believes Mohammed Mwangela, an accountant with CPS. Psychologists agree: engagement and emotional bonding creates long-lasting fun and hospitable work culture.

That's why I truly can't afford to miss the camaraderie, exercise, and bonding of Fumba's football Wednesdays. "It's a great way to meet and socialise with many different people living and working in Fumba Town", agrees Fumba team captain Milan Heilmann.

The game is open to everyone, men and women. After the match, we all sat down to watch the global football action from Qatar on the fabulous big screen of the Chill restaurant in Fumba Town. And as the live match on television wore on, I quickly realised that football Wednesdays were also a fantastic way to build up an appetite for dinner.

Everybody is welcome to join at the Legend Sports Center for football every Wednesday at 7pm. Contact: +255 788 10 60 50. All World Cup matches continue to be shown at The Chill, Fumba Town, up to the Final on 18 December.

NOW & THEN



Eight decades of airport experience in Zanzibar. "In the 40s, there were no electric lights at the runway, firemen lit fire to show pilots the direction", recalls ex-parliamentarian Parmukh Singh Hoogan, 66, a vivid defender of heritage. Singh's grandfather, colonial architect Ajit Singh, designed the first aerodrome in Kisauni and the subsequent old airport with its characteristic window arches (photos left). Pre-independence formal aviation in East Africa was started in 1929 by Florence Wilson in Nairobi. After the collapse of the East African Community in 1977, each country managed its own aviation activities - with varying success. Zanzibar's Abeid Karume International Airport (AAKIA) Terminal 3 is now operational with daily up to 20 flights from 9 gates and VIP lounge Marhaba (photos right), operated by dnata from Dubai. Entry is \$45 for non VIPs. Spice Bar is another new restaurant. An express spa by Zuri Rituals, Wonders Boutique, Elias Jewellery and Duty Free are about to open.

NEW WAYS TO DEAL  
WITH BROCCOLI & CO.

Supermarkets, markets and a much-loved *pakach* green basket delivery - there are several ways to shop for veggies in Zanzibar. A sophisticated model, combining it all, comes from neighbouring Kenya.

Whilst we are awaiting the first supermarket, Zanfresh, to open in Fumba Town, a look towards Kenya shows interesting new concepts in selling fresh produce in Africa. Zucchini Greengrocers, a retailer operating ten stores in Nairobi, has a success story to tell including live cooking, speedy home supplies and fresh lunchtime snacks for the working crowd.

In an interview with online business news platform "How we made it in Africa", managing director SS Jandu, who founded the Zucchini business in 1991, spoke about the evolution of the veggie industry in a country with an ever growing middle-class - a development Tanzania is experiencing, too. "We have ventured into more wholesome goods to create a healthy, feel-good concept. We've introduced live cooking and fresh juices and salads. Shoppers can drink fresh juices while watching their favourite salads being made," the Zucchini owner explained.

**Catering to everyone**  
The company deals with a diverse clientele. Some of the Kenyan stores are found in areas that house both residential and commercial buildings. "We try to cater to everyone by providing what the different communities consume; we look at what greens are preferred by Kenyans, by our Chinese residents and so on." Zucchini also sells fresh produce to hotels, lodges, and safari camps - in the process becoming a combination of a supplier and shop, a notable new trend in the industry. "We directly import items that aren't grown here,

like apples and grapes. We source them from farms in South Africa and Egypt, not through middlemen", explains Director Jandu. To ensure reliability and avoid overreliance on a single provider, the firm works with several farmers for each product.

**Grow blueberries & other exotics**  
Just like many grocery retailers and hotels in Zanzibar, Zucchini faced acute shortages of agricultural products in the past. According to Jandu, this is no longer the case. "Agriculture has become a huge industry in Kenya. Kenya used to import blueberries from Holland but now we farm them in the Mount Kenya region." In Zanzibar economy and agriculture experts also encourage a much stronger set-up of local farms. Tricky trade laws and operations between the mainland and Zanzibar, as well as in East Africa as a whole, require a modern adaptation.

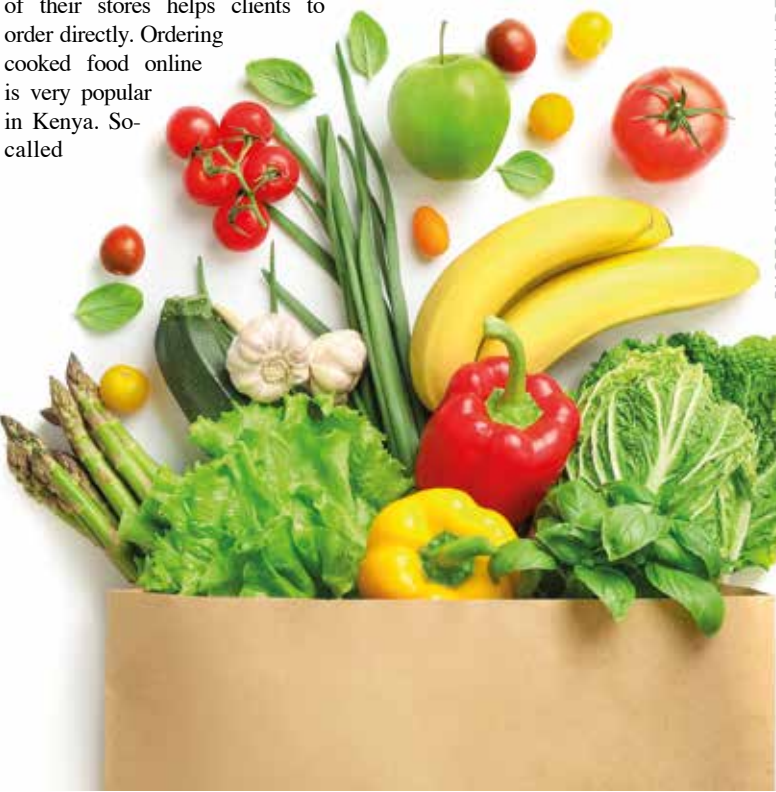
**Potatoes online, why not?**  
Zucchini ventured into e-commerce in recent years and works with delivery firms. A WhatsApp number for each of their stores helps clients to order directly. Ordering cooked food online is very popular in Kenya. So-called

dark kitchens - cooking facilities without sit-down restaurants attached to them - are on the rise. Once you order, they prepare the food instead of getting it from restaurants. '



"Feel-good concept": veggie seller SS Jandu

**Sources & information:**  
How we made it in Africa presents interesting business formulae in Africa online, operating from South Africa since 2010. Subscribe here: [howwemadeditinafrica.com/](http://howwemadeditinafrica.com/)



PHOTOS: ISTOCK, HOW WE MADE IT IN AFRICA

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

BE THE CHANGE!

A street kid who became a headmaster in Fuoni - this is Shafii Mwita Haji, known to everybody as Gasica.



Gasica in Fuoni

When you ask the tall, slender young man what Tanzania's biggest challenge is, he points to a white concrete wall behind him. A simple message in only two words is written on the wall, but in Gasica's opinion it sums it all up: "Speak English". It was his persistent lack of English that saw him leave school in grade seven, hardly 14 years old. And it was then that Shafii Mwita Haji began living on the streets of Zanzibar.

A lack of English, he says, still causes Zanzibari youth to lag behind, unable to take up a job in the tourism industry, for example: unfit to compete in the world of online start-ups against Kenyan, Ugandans and other neighbouring youngsters.

"Speak English", he therefore encourages and demands of his 166 pupils, aged 4 to 14, in a village school in Fuoni. The unusual self-trained headmaster started this

school on his own, naming it HCA for "Heroes Community Academy". After years of struggle it is now officially registered.

How to zoom from his beginnings as a street kid to the half a dozen or so classrooms in a dusty backyard, neatly organised with small desks and teaching posters?

"I was helped", says Gasica. "A good stranger named Suleiman found me sleeping in ruins and empty houses at the time, and brought me back to my family and to school." Another good Samaritan, a woman, gave him a plot where he later started the school, at just 21. "First it was nothing more than a shelter to other street boys", he recalls. "We had no electricity, so we studied in the light of torches."

Running a bicycle workshop, helping out in orphanages in Arusha, meeting the Rotary club, picking-up how to address sponsors

- Gasica's learning curve in life has been steep. Now 34, he lives with his wife and 3 children, one of them an adopted street boy, in just one room in the school compound in Fuoni. But there are successes. A handful of his students have moved on to secondary schools: "That makes all the difference", Gasica says.

One of the lessons he learnt: "Be the change!" He started a "Safari English Club" driving kids to see a hotel or even just to the beach. The idea: "More openness in education. They need to see the world." (AT)



PHOTOS: A. TAPPER

Shining bright: East African actress Lupita Nyong'o (left) acts in "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever". Zanzibar's Siti Amini plays a role in Oscar-nominated "Tug of War"

Oscar winning Kenyan actress Lupita Nyong'o dived with Zanzibar's *makachus* and now stars in "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever". Island singer Siti Amina collects awards for the homegrown movie success "Tug of War".

You invited me and I came. It's as simple as that", said Lupita Nyong'o when diving into the sea from the quay wall at Forodhani in Zanzibar recently. In doing so, the 38-year-old international film star demonstrated that girls, too, can do what generations of Zanzibar (male) youngsters have been practising as a - sometimes dangerous - island-typical coming of age ritual.

Zanzibar, a tropical paradise, six degrees south of the equator, may seem light years away from Hollywood. But in recent months a fair bit of stardom has engulfed the island.

The power of Instagram

With her jump, the Oscar winning star actress also testified to the power of the internet: "We met on Instagram here I am", she said to the young Zanzibari divers, namely @yessjamaal who has shot to sudden fame through his Instagram account followed by half a million fans.

The aerobic dives - a very popular spectacle for tourists - only recently became a bit safer when Zanzibari entrepreneur Abdulamad Abdulrahim, Honorary Consul of Brazil, cleaned up the shore removing debris and stones with heavy machinery, deepening the shallow water (THE FUMBA TIMES reported).

Before, the entertainment has had a

high price: over the years there have been several fatalities and grave injuries to the youthful divers.

Most of the tourists watching the nightly attraction, however, know little about the risks - and neither, it seemed, did Lupita diving from the Forodhani wall into the water wearing an orange sundress and matching open-toed shoes. Her visit in Zanzibar, although seemingly impromptu, must have been thoroughly planned as she was accompanied by her own film crew who documented it all on her Instagram account (see below).

An Oscar for the slave woman

In 2008, the Kenyan actress, who was born in Mexico, made her acting debut. With her first feature film role as Patsey in Steve McQueen's biopic "12 Years a Slave" (2013) she rose to fame overnight when she received the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for it. In the much-anticipated sequel to the Panther blockbuster of 2017,

she plays the role of Nakia, a spy in the utopian Black kingdom Wakanda. "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever" opened to record crowds in America and Europe in November. Zanzibari film fans were still waiting to see the film praised for its strong portrayal of Black women; rumours had it, that first bootleg copies were traded at TZS 300.000.

Movie made in  
Zanzibar enters  
Oscar hunt

Lead actor's Chadwick Boseman's sudden death had weighed heavily on the production and his character has not been replaced. Lupita Nyong'o said: "The loss of Chadwick changed the whole script. The undervaluing of women because of their gender or of Blacks in general does not exist in the film which resonated with large crowds. Wakanda is a version of the world that we are striving to get to."

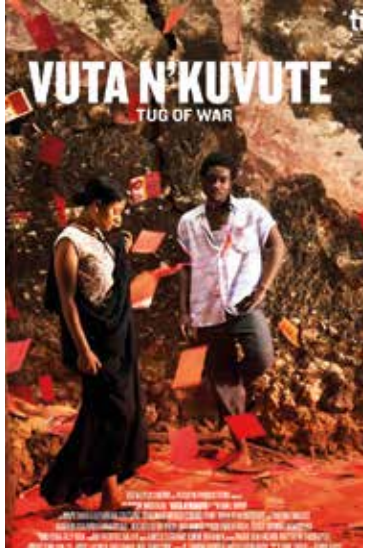


Famous on Instagram: actress Lupita Nyong'o on the steps leading out of the sea at Forodhani in Zanzibar (left). Posters of two Africa-inspired films making headlines: love story "Vuta N'kuvute" made in Zanzibar, and blockbuster "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever"

"Zanzibar the real star"

The actors of "Tug of War" might think similarly - all of them trying to overcome cultural and racial stereotypes in the romantic drama. The film was made in Zanzibar and is Tanzania's first international feature entry for an Academy Award in more than two decades. The first Swahili film nominated at the Oscars was 'Maungutizi: The ancient one' by Professor Martin Mhando in 2002. An adaptation of a 1990's novel by Swahili writer Shafi Adam Shafi, "Tug of War" has received substantial attention internationally and won several distinguished awards, among them in Toronto and Seattle.

"Zanzibar is the real character and star of my movie", producer Amil Shivji said in recent interviews. Much of the film plays in Stone Town. The original Swahili title is "Vuta N'Kuvute". The local production directed by Amil Shivji and Steven Markovitz also won three awards at the African Movie Academy Awards in Nigeria, the famous African version of the Oscars.



Popular Zanzibar singer Siti Amina who stars in a supporting role in the film collected some of the precious prizes on behalf of the entire team. The film is about resistance in both love and revolution in the 1950's in Zanzibar in the final years as a British protectorate. It dwells on the forbidden passion between an Indian runaway bride and a rebellious Black young man.

Tanzanian filmmaker Shivji said "the main challenge was to keep the story local while achieving international standards". Shivji is a lecturer in the creative art department at the Dar es Salaam university.

Siti Amina: "I'll keep singing"

When asked if she will be turning full-time to acting now, Zanzibar's Siti Amina, known as a vibrant singer and an outspoken woman, declined: "I loved portraying the strongest woman character in the movie", she told THE FUMBA TIMES: "But I was chosen for my singing and I will continue singing."



INTERVIEW

"WE ARE  
READY  
TO INVEST"

DJ Money Coach from Chicago, 54, helps African-Americans to buy property in Zanzibar. Why?

With the name DJ Money Coach surely you are not an ordinary man? DJ Money Coach: Wait until you see my motto "Plenty of Money - Peace of Mind". How do you like that?

Sounds good.

We call it the pom-pom philosophy. But okay, let's be serious. I am a professional financial analyst, a fully licensed stock seller and advisor from Chicago. I help people to get out of consumer debts and assist them to invest in real estate all over the world.

Why Zanzibar, why Fumba Town?

We share the same sentiment. Workers and millionaires living in one community. It reminds of the Hyde Park area in Chicago where president Obama grew up - and myself.



DJ Money Coach (right) and his team in Zanzibar

People of Colour returning to their motherland - is that your mission?

I am in the finance business. We may share the same ideology but we come here to build up economies. To invest and to earn. We will build schools, hospitals and businesses. Our next stop is Cap Verde.

Ghana in West Africa was very popular for repatriation at a time.

Yes, my mum did that 20 years ago.

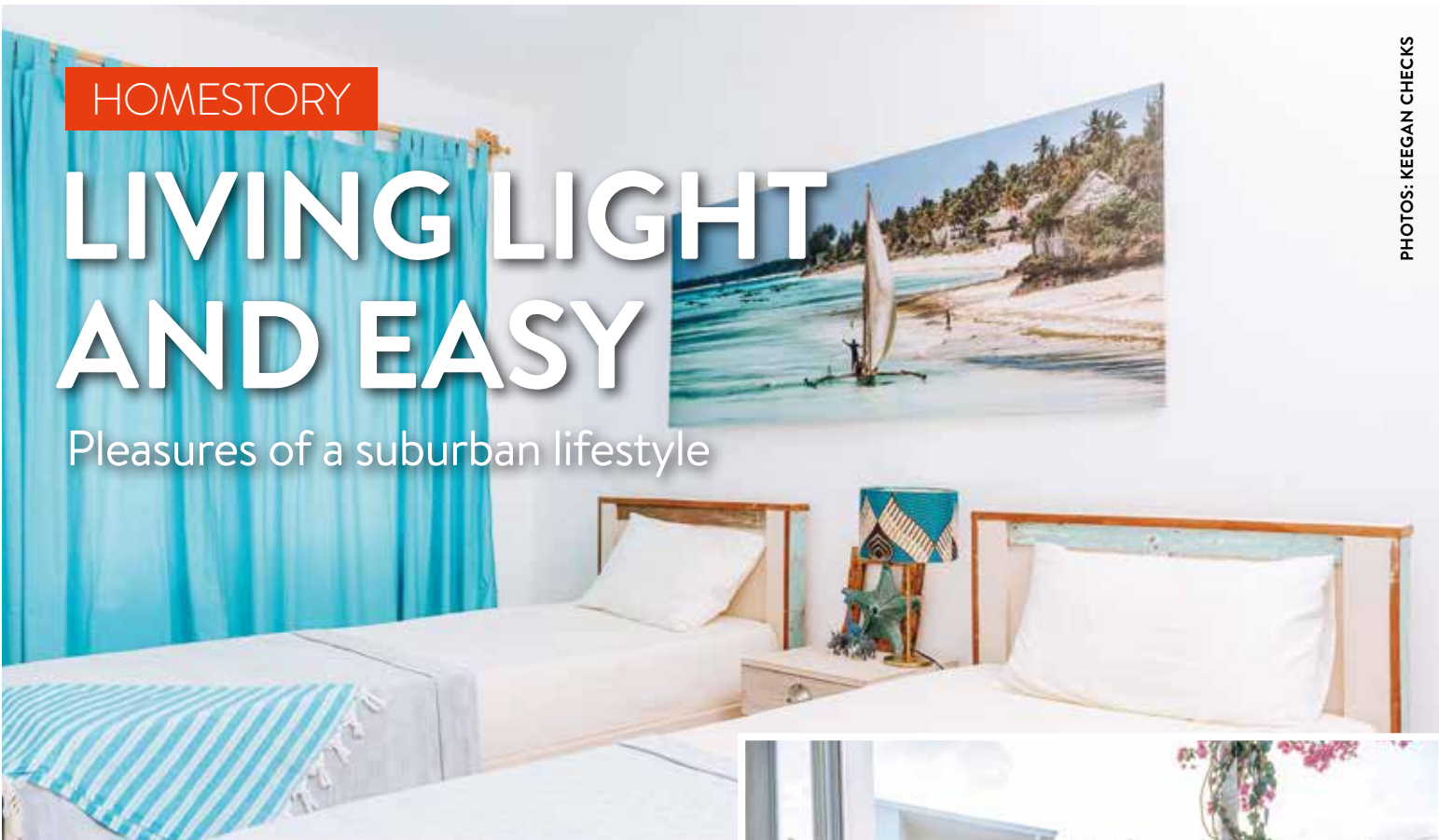
And now Zanzibar?

It sounds like a great opportunity. I bought a whole building with 22 units at The Soul in Paje. We sealed the deal with a handshake. I liked that. I kept my word and came back with 20 investors hailing from New York to California.

What's next?

We will provide luxury trips for upper class Black Americans to Africa. It's an important niche market, and we know how to run it. It will be a win-win for everybody. (AT)





Turquoise harmony: guest room with two single beds and photo art by Robin Batista, and the editor relaxing on her terrace (right)

By staff writer

Beach & country chic made in Tanzania is what Andrea Tapper envisaged for her home in Fumba. The editor of THE FUMBA TIMES opens her doors for us.

In the late afternoon, the sun paints golden circles on the carpet in the living room. “Just after five pm is my magic hour”, Andrea Tapper says about the atmosphere in her town house in Fumba. As the last sun rays beam in, on-going construction noise is about to ease. Often, the editor of THE FUMBA TIMES is still sitting at her desk around this hour, researching and filing feature reports for various international newspapers and women’s magazines. Tapper is a busy woman. “The more important it is for me, to have a calming and soothing home”,



Warm and cosy: the living room displays mninga wood furniture; editor Andrea Tapper at her desk in Fumba

## ACTION@PAVILION

### New shopping options in Fumba



Good food, good mood at #hashtag

## ANYONE FOR TEA?

### 5 local herbal teas to make you fitter and slimmer

Herbal teas have been around for centuries. Strictly speaking they are not true teas at all. True teas - like green and black tea - are brewed from the leaves of the Camellia sinensis plant; herbal teas are made from dried parts of plants, writer Tracey Crispp explains

#### IMMUNITY BOOSTER

**Cinnamon Tea, Cinnamomum cassia.** Robust taste with a sweet finish. Improves cognitive function, boosts immune system

**Get it where:** Spice shops, Darajani market

#### VIOLET BEAUTY

**Butterfly Pea Flower Tea, Clitoria ternatea.** Earthy with a mild, sweet finish. Increases skin hair growth, stabilises sugar level, promotes weight loss

**Get it where:** Buy a plant at Permaculture Design Centre

#### NATURAL ASPIRIN

**Thyme Herbal Tea, Thymus vulgaris,** Savoury and aromatic. Eases a sore throat, headaches, diarrhoea

**Get it where:** Home gardening, Darajani

#### KEEP CALM!

**Hibiscus Tea, Hibiscus rosasinensis.** Tart and sweet, similar to cranberry. Decreases anxiety, calms the nervous system, promotes weight loss

**Get it where:** Darajani market

#### DEEP CLEANING

**Lemongrass Tea, Cymbopogon citratus.** Mildly sweet, citrusy taste. Helps the body rid itself of cholesterol, toxins, fats, and uric acid. Drink as much as possible! Tasty hot and chilled

**Get it where:** Grow it yourself (keeps mosquitoes away) or buy from Msonge farm

**Super convenient: Epic Shuttle**  
For transport to town and back, Epic shuttle introduced the first hop-on-hop-off day ticket at only TZS 10,000 p.p. from Fumba. Happy customer Tracey tried it and was all smiles. **Departs from Fumba Town at Kwetu Kweni Play: 9:30, 13:00, 18:00**  
**Departs from Darajani Main Parking: 11:30, 16:00, 19:00**  
**Stops: Mombasa, Immigration, Michenzani Mall**  
**Information: Mr. Hood 0776 076 574**

**Still in the making...**  
ATM, German furniture, Zanfresh.



Sisal basket de luxe plus sun hat from GNA boutique

**GNA Boutique open**  
It's her first boutique but Aisha Ali has wisely stocked-up on some essential items such as men's boxer shorts and shirts, women's handbags, suits and T-shirts, ranging mostly from TZS 50,000-100,000. Fumba overnight guests, too, can do their wardrobe emergency shopping at the neat little shop. **GNA, The Pavilion, 1st Floor Open 8am-10pm**

catless, dried chapatis, egg chops – you name it. For a full menu it's everything from fried chicken to chicken pilau, chips with eggs, chips makanga and a large choice of Swahili dishes. Natural juices are on offer too. Prices are super fair starting with mandazis at TZS 500. Certainly, the kitchen with the unusual name provides a very welcome further food option in Fumba Town - for a working and residential crowd and visitors. **Food Court, The Pavilion Open 7am – 10 pm on weekdays**

**Sebastian's veggie shop**  
Where to do your grocery shopping? Here: outside the mall, but in

walking distance to Fumba Town, next to Simon's duka on the feeder road. Sebastian has opened a well-stocked veggie stall. He also delivers by boda boda. **WhatsApp: 062 070 7471**



Wanting to rent or buy in Fumba? www.fumba.town; Green Room furniture www.thegreenroomtz.com

**You only recently arrived in Fumba. What do you like most?**  
**Family Prabhu:** We really love the sunsets and the night skies. Incredible amounts of stars one can see here. We always take a family walk in the evening.

**What's the main difference to India, where you come from?**  
Bangalore, where we lived last, does not have much nature but many malls. In Zanzibar it's exactly the other way around.

**Prabhu, how did you get to work with Wasoko, the African tech company which brought you here?**

A headhunter spotted me in Bangalore. As engineering manager my job is the quality check of software. In Zanzibar I am responsible for launching the software of the new Wasoko warehouse. I first came on my own a few months ago and found Fumba Town nice enough to bring my wife and child.

**How did you guys meet?**  
**Sindhuja:** It was an arranged marriage...

**Oops...**  
Don't worry, we were lucky to find each other. We have been happily married for nine years now.

**Was the transition from India to Zanzibar easy?**  
Shopping was a bit of a challenge in the beginning because we did not speak any Swahili. We can't find all the ingredients for Indian cooking here. But we love the place and it's a great opportunity for us. We like travelling, want to go to the Serengeti and other famous places. It's just so much to see, you don't know where to start.

**Your daughter is attending school here?**

She is still doing online schooling because we shifted in the middle of an academic term, but we are looking for a school here. It will be nice for her to make new friends.

**So, no regrets?**  
Not at all, all our friends in India are already googling Zanzibar and want to visit.

**Avi learning with her dad**



Avi learning with her dad

**INSIDE FUMBA TOWN**  
**TRUE STORIES OF NEW RESIDENTS**

**Prabhu Rajaram, 40, his wife Sindhuja Prabhu, 36, and their eight-year-old daughter Avyaya recently moved to Fumba**

**PHOTOS: A.TAPPER**

**PHOTOS: KEEGAN CHECKS**



A healthy home is a healing home, says wellness coach Fatma Zaidi. Her advice: avoid too many chemicals

### TOGETHER GREENER



Fatma Zaidi, wellness consultant, born in Zanzibar, living in Toronto

**Do you have a toxic relationship with your own life? Now is the best time for a clean-up, says Zanzibar-born wellness coach Fatma Zaidi, and shares her ideas.**

Some call it spring-cleaning, others simply feel they have enough unhealthy stuff in their life and want to get rid of it. I was born in Zanzibar and I now live in Toronto. I recently visited the island to reconnect with my family's roots and stayed in Fumba Town. When I was looking for green home cleaning products there were very few. And I noticed a lot of pesticides and chemicals used in homes. That's why I am happy to share some detox secrets with readers. Why declutter now? First, you have to start sometimes! Second, because it's that time of the year again, time to let go of what is stressful in your life.

**Where to donate in Fumba Town:** Books can be donated to the new Fumba Town Library. Contact Sharmin

## ASK DR. JENNY BOURAIMA

### READERS' QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY OUR OWN MEDICAL EXPERT

## NEW CLINIC, NEW SERVICES

### More insurances accepted

**Wanja Otieno, Fumba Town**

Dear Dr. Jenny, congratulations on your new, enlarged clinic. Here in Zanzibar, we truly wouldn't know what to do without you! Can you please enlighten us as to what services are now on offer? I heard you also have a gynaecologist and a pharmacy?

Thanks, Wanja

**Dr. Jenny Bouraima answers:**

Dear Wanja, thank you very much for your feedback, we are glad that we can assist you and your family with your health-related needs. With our recent move into our new facilities at the Pavilion, we already have exciting news for our patients - and more to come in the near future!

We were able to expand our team and capacities as follows:  
■ our new obstetrician/gynaecologist is providing much needed preventative and curative services,  
■ a new nutritionist is accompanying a lot of our patients with chronic illnesses, giving them nutritional guidance improving our patients' quality of life,  
■ laboratory capacities now offering

more in-house tests, thus reducing delays and ensuring timely treatment,  
■ longer open hours: we have extended our opening hours and are now available for our regular outpatients and OTC (over-the-counter) medication dispensing at our pharmacy until 8pm,  
■ emergency availability remains 24/7 with always one of our doctors on call, until we will be open 24/7 in 2023  
■ more insurances accepted: We have entered into an agreement with Jubilee as well as Assemblage insurance to see their patients on a direct payment basis; this means, the patient does not incur any out-of-pocket payment (depending on her/his insurance policy). More insurances will follow in the near future, so don't forget to follow us on social media to stay informed! (IG @urban-careclinic; FB urbancarezanzibar) We are also very excited that we have recently entered into a PPP

(public-private-partnership) with the Ministry of Health Zanzibar, which enables us to further extend our services to marginalized communities in line with our vision to make quality healthcare accessible. We are now offering HIV testing and counseling free of charge to everyone, expanding ANC (antenatal care) services and NCD (non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and hypertension) diagnostics and treatment.

**Quality control**  
Our dedicated staff members, medical and non-medical, are all committed to providing the best services to our patients. This involves that all our staff members are keen on evolving and constantly improving. Our medical doctors stay up to date with current medical guidelines and based on those frameworks, we have developed our own quality control at Urban Care to ensure that you receive the same standard of care, regardless who attends to you. Karibuni Urban Care!



## LIFESTYLE NEWS

### ARTFUL EXPERIENCE

A new eclectic underground showroom expands Zanzibar's prime gallery for contemporary art.

**The Forster Gallery** in Mbweni, founded and run by Swiss national Markus Forster, has extended its exhibition space to more than 400 square metres, parts of it underground. Forster displays the broadest, professionally curated selection of modern African art in

Zanzibar. He recently staged his second art auction here with a painting by Tanzania's David Mzungu (1951-2010) receiving the highest bid of \$2,875. "Tanzanian art has an increasing value", Forster said. Recently, Sungu Mlengeya (born 1991, Dar es Salaam) has received worldwide attention.

**Forster Gallery, Mbweni.**  
Vernissage Ephrem Gino  
9 Dec, 6.30pm;  
viewings upon appointment:  
+255 (0)62 693 12 03  
info@forster-gallery.com



Architecture meets art at the Forster Gallery in Mbweni

## ZANZIBAR'S DOREEN MASHIKA

### SUCCESS IN LONDON

Featuring 45 designers from twenty countries, the famous Victoria & Albert Museum in South Kensington has dedicated an entire show to "Africa Fashion". Zanzibar's Doreen Mashika (DM) is featured with several kanga-inspired creations from her Mikono collection. "It's an honour to be shown in this outstanding museum of arts and design", the designer

said. The landmark exhibition celebrating contemporary African fashion opened in July and is running until 16 April 2023. Over 250 fashion objects are on display. Starting with African independence and liberation years, the exhibition looks to explore how fashion, alongside music and the visual arts, formed a key part of Africa's cultural renaissance. **DM boutique, opp. Park Hyatt Hotel, Stone Town**



Zanzibar in London: Kanga inspired fashion by Doreen Mashika at the V&A in London, the world's largest museum of art and design

## Happy&Healthy



### URBAN CARE NOW OPEN

Meet team members of Urban Care (From left): Hanifa, Pascale, Dr. Beatrice, nurse Andrew, Dr. Jenny, Dr. Augustine, nurse Pendo

**Urban Care, The Pavilion**  
ground floor, Fumba Town, Nyamanzi  
Contact: +255 622820011;  
contact@urbancare.clinic

Opening hours: 9am - 8pm Monday to Friday; Saturday and Sunday on call  
www.urbancare.clinic

PHOTOS: KEEGAN CHECKS





Dream location Kizikula with an amazing pool and raw architecture (r). Is it a villa, hotel or resort? “The place is so special, we have never found the right name for it”, says owner Shehab

Plastic-free and all waste recycled, solar-heated water - some hotels and holiday homes in Zanzibar and Tanzania are definitely greener than others. A trailblazer is Kizikula on the island’s remote south coast. And safaris, too, can be sustainable.

By staff writer

My challenge starts right after booking. I receive a message by Kizikula Happenings: “We welcome you warmly.” The chat group will look after me during my stay at the unusual gem of a nature hotel in Zanzibar. Gently it reminds me “to come plastic-free”. Well, I do live relatively plastic-free but when I look at my vanity bag it’s different. Shampoos, creams, even the bag itself... and I hate re-packing it.

Once I arrive in the green oasis of calm on Zanzibar’s remote south-western coast all goes smoothly though. No environment police, of course, searching me or my belongings, and clinging to my vanity bag I am shown to an ultramodern coral stone room in the midst of a green jungle. Immediately I fall in love with it. The radical modernity yet seamless intimacy with nature is the first thing that strikes visitors to Kizikula. Opened during Corona in

2020, the unusual boutique resort with nine rooms in three buildings - partly run as a hotel, partly as Airbnb - offers farm-to-table cuisine, permaculture gardens, yoga platforms, a huge serene pool but no beach. The coast is rocky here. The holistic style icon has already been featured in Wallpaper and Architectural Digest. For Zanzibar, it’s a perfect example for a green holiday.

**1 To fly or not?**  
What makes a sustainable holiday? It starts with transportation, of course, placing long-haul destination Zanzibar almost automatically at a losing end. A single return flight from Europe causes 4,000 kg of harmful CO2 emissions per passenger into the atmosphere - twice as much as a small car emits in a whole year, says Germany-based climate observer atmosfair. Offsetting your flight’s carbon footprint by a compensation payment - which in turn finances climate protection projects - is not the final solution but a good idea. A climate compensation to Zanzibar from Europe and back costs €101, according to atmosfair.

Overall, aviation is actually a minor player in climate change - accounting for 2.5 per cent of CO2 emissions. Another truth: Tanzania causes much less emissions than richer countries, only 0.1 tons per person compared to an average of 4.7 tons per capita worldwide.



PHOTOS: KEGAN CHECKS

**2 Choosing the right hotel**  
Coral rocks, wooden doors, granite floors, black Tanga stones: Kizikula has an archaic, reduced look. “We looked at the construction of a local village and raised it to a modern level”, explains Simone Picano, architect with Case design in Mumbai, the renowned company of Samuel Barclay. “Simplicity does it”, he says, “local mninga wood for instance just needs to be varnished every few years and lasts forever”. Responsible Tourism Tanzania (rttz.org) lists around 45 certified green hotels in Tanzania, among them Kizikula, Kilindi, Emersons Boutique Hotels, Hodi-Hodi, Blue Oyster Hotel, Melia and the Red Monkey Lodge in Zanzibar. The trend is unstoppable: “Certification is picking up well after Covid”, says Julius Majaliwa, program manager of RTTZ. He confides that another award is coming soon.

“Radical modernity and intimacy with nature”

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**3 Enjoy local food!**  
Lettuce, rosemary, Chinese spinach, cucumber, beetroot - there is green everywhere and in the midst of it stands Tomas Thiongo. “I don’t like refrigeration”, the gardener at Kizikula tells me. Chef Marina Juvent Mworeka gets a good 30 per cent of all her cooking needs from his veggie garden. Whether lamb curry or egg benedict - all food at Kizikula stems from organic farms in Tanzania. Tomas keeps goats to produce homemade cheese like feta, 90 brown chickens wiggle around.

**4 Let nature rule**  
Palms and fruit trees, herbs and flowers at Kizikula are as useful as

beautiful - another distinguishing feature of a sustainable holiday spot. The permaculture landscape, designed by Fumba Town specialists Bernadette and Franko Goehse in co-operation with New Zealand based Andy Hamilton Studio, kicked off a green cycle: “Minimal plastic influx, strict composting and waste recycling are high on our agenda”, says Kizikula owner Shehab: “The very idea from the beginning was to have an ecologically sensitive hotel.”

**5 The green safari check**  
While first safari companies in East and South Africa are testing electric vehicles, with sometimes surprising results such as animals being irritated by the silent cars, there’s more to sustainable wildlife exploration. Guides must be paid fairly, tour companies give back to local communities and safari lodges should strive to be carbon neutral. “Ask your travel agents these hard questions about the products they are suggesting”, suggests Gabriele Brown, owner of Urth Safaris with a long track record in Tanzania. Generally she is convinced: “The most constructive way to travel sustainably in Africa is to go on safari. Conservation fees help to protect the fragile ecosystem directly.”

**Going green**  
**Hotels:** Boutique Hotel Kizikula +255 677 205050, kizikula.com, tablethotels.com, eco boutique hotels picked by Michelin  
**Flight compensation:** flygrn.com; atmosfair.de/en/  
**Sustainable tourism:** Responsible Tourism Tanzania, rttz.org  
**Safaris:** urthsafaris.com; youarafricansafari.com

JUST DISCOVERED  
CAFÉ 27 ON AIRPORT RD.

the FUMBA TIMES TEST

Roadside paraphernalia at the bar counter of “27”

SPORTS BAR WITH PIZZA AND FLAIR

✓ **SPECIAL:**  
Restaurant and 11 hotel rooms

✓ **THE BOTTOM LINE:**  
Homely haven 24/7

Half sports bar, half Italian-African restaurant, with a casual garden atmosphere and polite service - all that is Café 27 in Zanzibar.

Should you ever miss your plane, or depart from Zanzibar at a ghastly hour - there is one place to turn to. Café 27, a neat and inviting roadside bar-cum-restaurant-cum hotel in Kiembe Samaki. Situated only 500 metres from the airport on Nyerere Road, the convenient hide-away even started calling itself an “airport hotel”. The restaurant, open-air but covered by a canvas, first opened in 2017, and for two years it has been owned by no less than the Italian consul to Zanzibar, Stefano Totiseo. Always having been in Italian hands, Italian cooking tradition plays a major role here. Every Tuesday is pizza day, with all pizzas at TZS 15,000. Fridays is burger day with a buy-one-get-one-free offer.

**Much more than fast food**  
But to see Café 27 merely as a fast food place would do it no justice. There’s Freddie Mercury, opera singer Luciano Pavarotti and Nelson Mandela art decorating the walls. Vintage bicycles, retro radios and fridges, and of course large sport screens, fill up the rustic location. Whoever enters 27, usually has one immediate reaction: “Ah, I did not know such a place exists in Zanzibar.” And someone showed practical sense. Sockets to charge your phones and laptops (pre-flight or otherwise) are placed all along the

bar. A simple two-floor annex with-in the premise, separated by a dense palm garden, houses eleven simple but immaculate double and family rooms with TV, coffee-makers and modern bathrooms. Prices are fair at TZS 90,000 for a single and TZS 115,000 for a double room including breakfast. In the restaurant, wines are TZS 7,000 a glass, beer TZS 5,000.

**Winning formula: a roadside bar**  
The latte macchiato is perfect and so is Makange boneless chicken with ugali. Tuna or beef carpaccio, prosciutto paninis and cotoletta Milanese, lamb chops and T-bone steaks - yes, that is Zanzibar, too,



**Homemade samosas and international snacks on offer**  
and many regulars enjoy it from morning till late night, even if not on the way to the airport. Because that is 27’s greatest merit: it’s the only restaurant in Zanzibar offering late night cuisine; it is open 24/7.  
**Café 27 Airport Hotel**  
**Ph +255 777 841741**  
**for bookings and take-away**

PHOTOS: TAPPER

An inviting garden space and round-the-clock service at “27” on airport road

# HOW OLD IS ZANZIBAR?

## Gravesite and church remains discovered at Old Fort



PHOTO: MUSEUM DEPARTMENT ZANZIBAR

Digging at the Old Fort, archeologists made important finds

New archaeologists’ findings at the Old Fort have scientifically confirmed that Stone Town has been inhabited for at least 1,000 years. The first to settle here were Swahili people. But traces of homes, cooking pots, porcelain and pottery dug out this year during excavations prove that the archipelago has been home to a very cosmopolitan mix of people from Africa, Asia and Europe for a long time. “We found a lot of important pottery especially from China and ceramics dating back to the 11th century”, the researchers said. Some buildings date back to the 16th century. “Zan-

zibar was urbanised in a much earlier historical period than thought”, said Prof. Tim Power of UAE university: “Stone Town was the Venice of East Africa”. The excavation was a joint project of universities from UAE, New York, UK and the Department of Museums and Antiquities in Zanzibar. The Old Fort was built 1689-1701 at the beginning of the Omani area in Zanzibar. The Portuguese had built a large church on the site in the early 17th century. Remains of the important church and a graveyard with 18 skeletons have now been discovered. The Portuguese era started in the 16th century and lasted for about 200 years.

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