

IT WAS ALMOST LIFE OR DEATH FOR ME AND MY FAMILY.

It was the end of the year 2007 at the month of December when we had closed, atleast to relax preparing for the festive season Christmas and also go for elections. There was campaigns all over the town of Kericho under many parties P.N.U, D.D.M, U.D.M, M.P.K etc. In Kericho, the D.D.M party, had the majority campaigners.

After Christmas day, we were now ready for December 27th election. Still in the mood of Christmas, I had slaughtered enough chicken and more chapatties for my family to enjoy as I rushed to Nakuru to vote. After casting my vote, I returned to Kericho since there was a farmer who offered me a job with other men to dig for him a well. He had promised me that in the succession, he will buy a Super money maker pump. While at work we had a small Radio announcing results of every constituency.

It was on 31st December in the morning at 2:00am still at work guys giving out their view (who do you see will win this elections?) I remember Kotich saying (if Kibaki wins this election Kenya will not be the same again.) ~~and~~ I asked why? The answer was, (wait you will see).

At around 9:00 AM - 10:40 AM, the result were announced by E.C.K, by Kivutu. I just imagined of what my friend had just told me one hour ago. I couldn't believe my ears. I had scream all over Kericho ooooooh, ooooooh, ooooooh men shouting also women and children.

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And now it was announced that Kibaki is the winner on the side of P.N.U. whose majority in Kericho were the Kikuyus. The O.D.M team were the Kalenjins, Jaluos, Luhyas and a bit of Kisii while few of Kisii supported P.N.U.

The Kalenjins and the rest supporters joined and off they started chasing the Kikuyus out of Kericho and burning of their properties. Suddenly I saw smoke up the sky from various point and that was when I saw either life or death. Boreas and arrows, swords pangas, stones carried every where. There was no corner whereby you could pass, escaping, saving up your life. There were no vehicles others were burnt and road block all over not by police coz even police gun of AK-47 could not help. They also ran for their safety.

It was almost 6pm before they sworn in president Kibaki back to state house. I thought of my family how was their condition. From Kapsoit to town is 100ksh and there was no means to travel. What was I to do? I received so many please call me from my wife but I had no credit to call. No credit and no shop selling. All were closed.

I thank very much the farmer Mr David Mitei for great human he did to me. He had a vehicle and by good luck, the tank was full since he was preparing to rush to Nairobi where finally he couldn't go. Mitei told me (There are road blocks everywhere and the guys want money and also we should identify our self with I.D.s. Did you carry yours?) Their answer was no.

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To shorten the story, I was put in a sack and covered on top which Kikuyu grass only a small space to breath. Before we could set off of Kericho with his vehicle, I remember her wife prayed and covered us with the blood of Jesus. She asked us to believe that nothing could harm us.

As we approached 20km the car was stoped by gang (where are you going Mr Mitei?) He answered (taking grass to my cows. He gave out sukuti and off we went. While approaching Kisumu Road, again another squad. They said, (Identify your self or we burn you and your vehicle), when I had that I almost fainted badly thinking of my one week old baby and my wife. I cried to God to ~~forgive~~ ^{FORGIVE} my sins and if I was to die atleast to ~~be~~ with my God in the second coming of Jesus christ in Heaven.

Mr Mitei was finally released and of we drove. I thanked God very much. As we reached Kericho town, I was told now to help my self home. On my way to reach my family, I was not lucky even if it was almost dark about 7pm. Approching a ~~at~~ ^{at} certain corner to Nyagachia a guy came after me and hit me hardly on my chest ^{with the pangon} and finally I was on the ground, I felt as if all my ribs left side were broken. I thought I was dead but to find my heart bit still on.

While on the ground unconscious, I had kill him. Luckily somebody new me and said to the rest no please dont kill him, please dont kill Money maker. They wanted to kill me because I resembled the Kikuyos. I was later told to rise up and quickly to disappear.

Before I reached my house, I saw fire and I also heard scream ~~re~~ from helpless mothers and childrens

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crying for help. I asked my self (what about my wife and the child?) No body could get in house we feared maybe we were to be burnt inside. All kikuyu houses or plots were burnt down. At 8:00pm they announced or declared Kibaki the president. Now things turned worse.

Early in the morning, there were ~~the~~ pickups rescuing family to the so called I.D.P camps any I was to pay 200/= per person. I paid 400/= for me and my wife. It was just 10 minutes walk to the D.C's office. We just carried only few clothes for my one week old baby and nothing else. You can imagine squeezed more than 60 people in an open pick up.

In the I.D.P camp, life became now harder and harder no food no water, toilets, blanket or mattresses. We spent the night in the cold ~~later~~ after two days, Red cross society came in. They made us porridge (white) no sugar and litheri (maize and beans) life became harder and harder my wife first felt sick due to cold through out the night, the second day my child developed malarial. no where to run to. Hospital was already full with injured people with serious cuts and also mortuary almost full with killed people. People also killed along the roads, blood all over. Thank God in ~~the~~ our small bag, there was paracetamol and some few tablets (paracet) atleast I did first aid to my wife and my child.

Two weeks in the I.D.P camp, I couldn't imagine Kickstart International could remember me. I thank the management very much, under the leadership of the Country director Mr John Kihia our human resource manager Ann Lantui my regional manager Mr George and my territory representative Mr Paul Mungala for the great supports through giving me call of consoling and finding up ways to see me off the I.D.P camp.

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Finally money was sent to me through M-pesa 3000/=. Although my parents live in Nakuru, there was no way to access to Nakuru. The alternative was to go to Kisii where my grandmother is. We were about 10,000 people displaced, only those who had money could be rescued.

To cut story short, the D.C organised big Lorries. Normal price to Kisii is 300/=. But things changed and now was 1000/=. And also we were to pay the police 1000/= shilling also because he had the gun for security. I then called Mr Mitei who decided to come. Since that day things had cooled down. I spend 2 days with my family in his place.

In Mr Mitei's home, we washed, we were fed nicely, consoled and later he escorted us and ensured we got the truck to ferry us to Kisii. Finally we were at home in Kisii. Our relatives received us with tears and joy. They saw us as if we were dead and lastly resurrected.

After some days before the Anumoi M.P David Kimtai too killed in Eldoret, I rushed to ~~the~~ Kericho to see my properties only to find where I lived burnt to ashes and lastly I saved nothing. If I can approximate, my properties, were almost 60,000/=. Nothing I got from Kericho.

Later I went back to Kisii where now I had the killing of the Kericho M.P and thing went and now turned worst. Thank God I was lastly in the safe hands of my relatives despite of what I lost.

Lastly I now so life after almost death.

Thanks alot to Kickstart International. God bless you so much