

# Tangaza Update

A Publication of Tangaza College, Catholic University of Eastern Africa

November 2004

## Knowledge

"If your studies are only for you, you are poor indeed". These words stood out tall at the DPSL notice-board for several days at the beginning of this semester.

As the semester comes to an end, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the savior, as we prepare to usher in the New Year, let us reflect on our studies and how best we can apply the knowledge we have acquired in the service of our society.

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We strive to acquire knowledge so that we can equip ourselves better in whatever missions we will be engaged in after our study years.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I congratulate the various students of Tangaza who recently were ordained to priesthood, deaconate and to our brothers and sisters who professed their vows.

Have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New and Prosperous, 2005.

### Celebrating Christmass with the needy

*Ekpenyong G. Gabriel*

This year's Christmas party held in the college hall on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2004 to mark the end of the year, elicited feelings of joy and concern. The celebration started at about 1:30pm with a delicious meal and drinks served to all. People marched into a hall of grandiose decorations, which brought forth the mood of Christmas.

Among the invited guests were children from the Ukweli home of hope, Cheryl's children's home, Child-Love-Child Home and the Karen school of the hearing impaired. They all had time to grace the occasion with their presentations. Mr. Baron from the Cheryl's children's home emerged the winner of this year's chair dance competition.

Br. Makari D. Codrington from the Christ the Teacher Institute of Education (CTIE) showed his expertise in sign language as he interpreted almost everything said to the impaired children with signs and gestures.

Lots of gifts and prizes were given to those who emerged winners of this year's Tangaza football tournament.

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The College Academic Council and the Editorial Board would like to apologize to the Lay Ladies and some Theologians who took issue with an article appearing in the 1<sup>st</sup> issue of Tangaza Update under Tangaza Palaver. We sincerely apologize for any inconveniences that the article may have caused.

## Merry Christmas

From the Principal's Desk:

### The Year of the Eucharist

While seriously engaged in preparing ministers of the Gospel to the world of today and tomorrow, we as a College would like to respond to the call of Pope John Paul II by reflecting on the Eucharist as the source and summit of the life and mission of the Church as well as celebrating and living the mystery of the Eucharist here at Tangaza with reverence and love

All the categories of Christians mentioned specially in the Pope's letter have a representation in Tangaza College. It is worthwhile to heed the specific call that the Holy Father makes to each of these groups, for all of us fall into at least one of these categories:

*Dear priests, who repeat the words of consecration each day, and are witnesses and heralds of the great miracle of love which takes place at your hands: be challenged by the grace of this special Year; celebrate Holy Mass each day with the same joy and fervour with which you celebrated your first Mass, and willingly spend time in prayer before the tabernacle.*

*May this be a Year of grace also for you, deacons, who are so closely engaged in the ministry of the word and the service of the altar. I ask you, lectors, acolytes and extraordinary ministers of holy communion, to become ever more aware of the gift you have received in the service entrusted to you for a more worthy celebration of the Eucharist.*

*In particular I appeal to you, the priests of the future. During your time in the seminary make every effort to experience the beauty not only of taking part daily in Holy Mass, but also of spending a certain amount of time in dialogue with the Eucharistic Lord.*

*Consecrated men and women, called by that very consecration to more prolonged contemplation: never forget that Jesus in the tabernacle wants you to be at his side, so that he can fill your hearts with the experience of his friendship, which alone gives meaning and fulfillment to your lives.*

*May all of you, the Christian faithful, rediscover the gift of the Eucharist as light and strength for your daily lives in the world, in the exercise of your respective professions amid so many different situations. Rediscover this above all in order to experience fully the beauty and the mission of the family.*

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## INTER INSTITUTE SYMPOSIUM

By Wageni Kimani.

The first ever inter-institutes symposium was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2004, drawing third-level students from C.U.E.A the Institutes of Social Communication, Youth Ministry and Institute of Social Ministry in Mission who came together to brain storm on the progress of Kenya.

Dubbed 'Kenya in Transition. The dawn of a new social consciousness?' the symposium drew facilitators from the political, educational, religious and media spheres. Professor Oyugi a social psychologist from Kenyatta University candidly tackled question such as; 'What is transition?' others addressed questions such as, what hinders young people from getting what they are searching for? and what's the role of the media in Kenya?

An opening address speech presented by the college's principal Father George Kocholickal, sdb, highlighted the

disparity between the rich and the poor in Kenya, noting that for every shilling a pauper makes the rich man makes 56(fifty six). He commended the symposium saying it was a good forum to brainstorm on issues facing Kenyans.

Interactive sessions were held not only during the tea breaks but also when participants were divided into small groups working in order to raise and share issues.

With all the information passed on to the participants, the challenge, as posed by one of the facilitators - Kwendo Opanga - was "what do you do with what you know?" For all those who missed out on this very informative and educative symposium, we missed you, though you missed more and remember the words

of the French writer, Victor Hugo: "There is one thing stronger than all the animals of the world, and that is an idea whose time has come."

Blessings!

from page 1

## TANGAZA SPORTS: WHICH WAY FORWARD From the SRC Sports Desk - Jerome Ituah, OCD

When I was approached to take the office of the Sports Representative, I felt a lot of inner struggle and had to contemplate for a period of time before accepting this seemingly noble task. "Sure," I thought, "if this will give me the opportunity to serve Tangaza, let me do it". We are still in the race though it is not easy; I have found much solace in the caliber of staff and students in this great institution.

Our Annual Football Tournament, which started on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2004 with a novelty match between the male and female staff, ended on a grand note on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2004. Fifteen teams participated in this year's Tournament, with the Lay team and several Brother Congregations participating for the first time. The defending champions, De la Salle Team, emerged winners for the third consecutive time. Kudos and congratulations to De la Salle Brothers! I wish to use this medium to thank Administration and all the Directors for their donations and support. Worth mentioning are the Sports Committee and the SRC executives; they never abandoned the task of organization to the office of the sports representative alone.

I leave the job of assessing the competition to you. Your comments are welcome! As a follow up of the Tournament, we are in the process of raising a football team for the College.

Soon we shall be writing to all the male and female religious Congre-

gations, inviting them for the Volleyball/Basketball tournament bid to begin in January 2005. This time, we are hopeful that our female students will come out in large numbers to participate in this "All-uniting" competition. Providentially, female volleyball team has already taken off. They meet for training every Friday at the Consolata Community at 3.30pm. We invite all our female students to avail themselves this opportunity.

The place of sports in unifying people cannot be overemphasized in the world today. This is also evident in our just concluded Tangaza Football Tournament. Lets join hands towards building a school where people will not only meet for serious academic work in the walls of the classrooms, but also, a place where we can laugh away our stress and enjoy the company of others in an informal way. The playground could be a good place for this.

Our vision this year is to build a formidable sports awareness within and without! Together we can take Tangaza out in the field of sports. (cont. pg 3)

*Receive the joy and blessings of the*

*Child Jesus.*

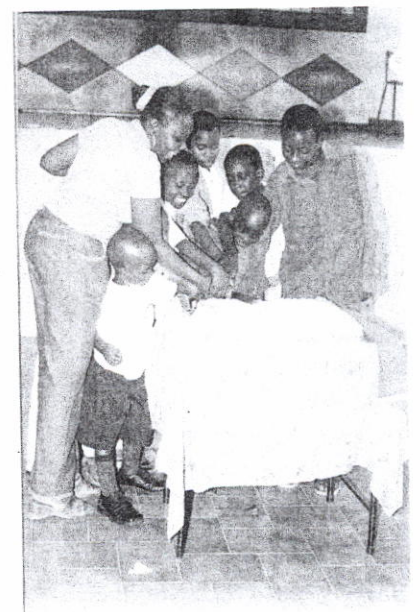
we wish you

*Merry Christmas*

*We at the College shall continue to celebrate the mystery of the Eucharist liturgically every day, as we*

*know that the Eucharistic Lord can build our community and strengthen our mission of preparing future presbyters and ministers for the Church and society. Besides, with effect from next semester, we shall have monthly liturgical moments in the College, which will underline the theme of the Eucharist. We shall also continue with our weekly adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It is to be time of prayer for the Tangaza family, for the students, lecturers, administrative and supportive staff as well as for our families and benefactors. That is to be one of the important ways we manifest our dependence on God, for we know very well, "Unless the Lord builds the house, in vain do the builders labour" (Psalm 127:1).*

*I call upon all of us in Tangaza to play our part in making our community a House united around the Eucharistic Lord.*



## CULTURAL DAY

Cultural day 2004 was a huge success. Due to bad weather the turnout was lower than expected but nevertheless good enough. The annual event had earlier been scheduled to take place in the graduation square to accommodate the high student number. Unfortunately due to the unfavourable weather, hasty relocations to the main Hall had to be made on the material day causing the event to be kicked off slightly later than intended. Good planning by the organising committee and a competent in-house dj saved the day and ensured that all moments were electrified. The master and mistress of ceremony Marcellus and Maureen managed to have all the events on stage in good time to everyone's delight.

As usual, the audience sampled the rich variety of cultural diversity. The performances were by clubs institutes and cultural groups; the dances ranged from the indigenous varieties to the more exotic ones not just within the African continent but also from outside. There were vibrant dances from Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi, India and Ethiopia. Indeed the performances were not just dances but also cultural expressions. The Nigerian dance portrayed the rituals practiced at the harvest season.

The success of the day cannot be elaborated without mentioning the guest performers. They portrayed various artistic forms ranging from dances choral verses and songs. These groups included among others SOS from Buruburu and Kariobangi youth group and Kayamba Africa. Kayamba Africa is a renowned music group of international fame. Their rich voices and lively performances set the pace and mood of the day and always managed to have the crowds moving and constantly asking for more.



Blended into the rich melee were a series of participatory games that were also very instrumental in adding to the already present excitement. Arguably the most memorable games were the musical chairs and tug of war. In the tug of war the seemingly petite ladies overpowered the men to take the applause and trophy that came in form of small moments.

To crown the event was the presence of the Nigerian High Commissioner Mr Omene and his wife. In an impromptu speech he appreciated the rich cultural display and elaborated the importance of entrenching culture in our everyday living. He also appreciated the place of technology in contemporary society but stressed the importance of striking a balance between culture and technology.

Also present at the event were the Principal, Fr. Goerge Kocholickal, the Deputy Principals Fr. Albert de Jong and Mrs. Edel Churu Ebale and several Institute Directors and other members of staff.



Photographs: It is all laughters dance smile on cultural



The most important moment was the recognition of the following: the highest goal scorer, Oche Anthony from the Don Bosco community, whose golden booth was presented by Mr. Ngure Githinji, the registrar of the college.

The best defender of the year's tournament Dennis Nyakundi a lay student whose trophy was presented by Sr. Loretta, the head of the spirituality department. The trophy of the best goal keeper was presented by Fr. Tim Redmond, the head of the Theology department, to Makari D. Codrington of the De la Salle community.

The best player cup went to Steven Kimani from the St. Patrick's community, the presenter was Mr. Mark Leleruk, the chairperson of the SRC. Finally, the over all best behaved team's trophy went to the Passpat. The principal of the college Fr. George Kocholichal SDB, presented the trophy to the Passionist- St Patrick's combined team.

Certificate of thanks was presented by Mr. Mark Leleruk the chairperson of the SRC to the various heads of departments and institutes, who had given donations both in kind and cash to aid the success of the tournament.

The concern during this Christmas party celebration was about the poor and less privileged around us. This found expression in the various children's homes that were invited to share the joy of Christmas with the Tangaza community. This gesture drew the consciousness of the students that they have to donate generously to the care of these homes and the poor in general, said Mr. Gabriel Gregory a third year student from the theology of department.

The celebration ended with cake cutting and distribution of gifts to the children's homes invited to share the joy of he Christmas party. Lucy Ndu'ngu, a lay student from the institute of Youth Ministry did the distribution.

# The Kingdom of mobile phone

By: Walter B. Tubis, MAfr.

Everyday when I wake up in the morning, the first thing I do is to check my mobile phone if there was a message or a missed call while I was a sleep. The Bible I don't consult because I don't want to know God's message for me.

Everyday, wherever I go and whatever I do, I make sure that my mobile phone is either in my bag, my pocket, or on my hand in case somebody calls me. The Bible I don't carry with me because I don't want God's word to follow me.

When I get stuck somewhere for one reason or another, I immediately take my mobile phone, call a friend and say 'come and rescue me'. The Bible I don't open that I may say to God 'please help me'.

When I go to bed at night, I make sure that my mobile phone is within my reach in case somebody phones me. The Bible I hide away because I don't want God to talk to me.

When somebody calls, I answer because the person might have an important message for me.

But when God talks to me through the Bible, I don't care because God's word does not mean anything to me.

When I am tired, confused or downhearted, I immediately call a friend and express my disappointments. The Bible I don't consult to tell God 'Lord, I need you to comfort me'.

When I am happy, I call a friend and say 'Come, let's celebrate I am happy today'. The Bible I don't open to tell God 'Thank you, Lord, for the nice day'.

Now my friend, that is me, my mobile phone, my Bible and my God.

What about you, your mobile phone, your Bible and your God: Do you do better than I?

*Opinion expressed in this publication does not necessarily represent the opinion of the College Administration, the Institute of Social Communication or the Editorial Board.*

*Articles may be edited for clarity or space. All correspondence should be addressed to the editor.*

## LAUGHTER LINES

An Anglican Bishop happened to read an article on Leprosy. He was greatly intrigued to learn that an indication of the disease was an absence of sensation in the affected body parts.

Shortly after, the bishop attended a lecture with his wife. As they sat side by side listening, all of sudden, the Bishop felt his right leg begin to itch. He bent down to scratch it. But as he did so he was amazed to find he felt nothing.

He turned to whisper to his wife in Horror. "Dear, I think I have contracted leprosy! I just scratched my leg and there was no sensation". "I don't think you've got leprosy, dear," reassured his wife. "The leg you just scratched was mine, not yours."

A bishop once visited a rural church where as part of the service he was required to grant an absolution, in response to the congregation's prayer of contrition.

The priest of the church was highly nervous in the presence of his superior when the appropriate moment arrived, he stood up and announced. "And now the Bishop will recite the prayer of contrition, and the congregation will pronounce the absolution".

An archbishop was once due to lead a service of confirmation in a certain school.

The parish priest had gone to great lengths to teach the children the various prayers.

One of these was: "and with thy Spirit", in response to "The Lord be with you".

Came the great day and everything went on smoothly. When the archbishop was due to say, "The Lord be with you", the microphone began to fail and the archbishop commented loudly that, "there is something wrong with this blessed mike". "And with thy spirit", chanted the children.

A young man consulted the vocations Director of some local missionary congregation. "Father," he said, "I would like to become a Father (read priest) but I also want to do law and become a lawyer. Is it allowed in your congregation?" "Yes", answered the priest, then you will become a father in-law.

## Condolences

It is sad that the Institute of Social Ministry and Theology Programme lost two students during the long break. Tangaza family shares the pain of their loss and we send our condolences to the institutions and their families.

We also share in the sorrow of Society African of Missions for the loss of their beloved brother Fr. John Hannon who was killed in his parish Matasia Ngoge diocese by gangs. May their souls rest in the Peace of Christ.

## ORIGINS, OBJECTIVES and PROCEDURES of TANGAZA UPDATE

By Edel Churu-Ebalé, DPSL

### Origins and Objectives

Tangaza Update is an initiative of the Academic Board of the College. It is a Newsletter, aimed at providing a News brief of life in the various sections of the College and circulated within the College.

The chief purpose of the newsletter is to promote the spirit of unity and collaboration in the College, through sharing of information, experiences and reflections.

The Academic Board has commissioned the Institute of Social Communication to produce the newsletter for the College. It is hoped that besides giving a service to the rest of the College in this way, the students in ISC will also find this a worthwhile exercise in practice of some of the skills they learn.

The newsletter is expected to be produced monthly so that it can pass on News. For that reason, it is not expected to be large.

### Procedures to be Followed by Editorial Committee of Tangaza Update

1. Each Institute Representative to SRC will be requested to gather news from his/her Institute and deliver it to the Editorial committee by 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.
2. Any news from Administration should be given to DPSL by the same date.
3. The Editorial committee will work on putting together the news and other items got, and before type-setting, present them for approval to the ISC staff representative (Ms. Esther Kamweru).
4. The materials will also be presented for checking and approval to the DPSL.
5. The editorial committee will then proceed with the typesetting, and give the final draft to the DPSL for approval.
6. The DPSL will see to the printing of the Newsletter, which will usually be in one, or at most two colours.