MY BIRTHDAY IS:
December 28, 2021

Samwel Kang'uo Etabaa

lives in the village of Namariat which is located in the Kapua region of Turkana. This area is very isolated from the rest of Kenya. Their main language is Turkana. Their only sources of income are weaving baskets or mats out of palm leaves found in the area, partially burning wood to make charcoal, gathering gypsum, or herding goats. Lodwar is the closest city to Kanukurmeri, which is a two day journey by foot. This is where families take their goats to be sold in the market.

Please remember Samwel in your prayers. Your love and support are not only giving him a tomorrow but making his future bright with possibilities.

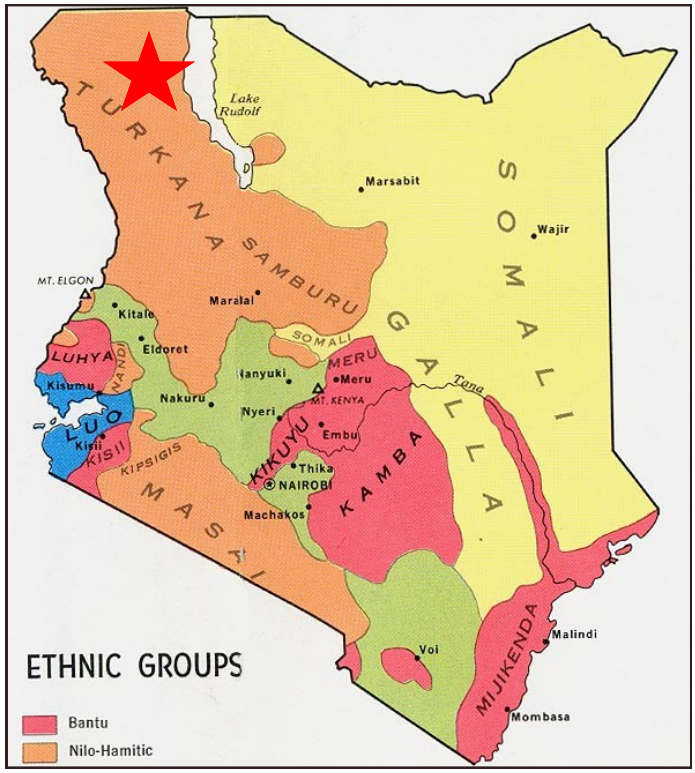
country information

The country of Kenya is located in East Africa. The two national languages are Swahili and English. Many residents of Kenya are trilingual including the mother tongue of their tribe. Even with all of its modernization, Kenya is very tribal. A sense of Kenyan nationality comes second to a loyalty and pride for one's tribe of origin. This has caused much strife and conflict politically with the growing urbanization of the country. Unlike most of the rest of the educated population of Kenya, most of the Turkana people only speak their mother tongue. This is due to the severe isolation from the rest of the country. Nairobi is the nation's capital and is in the southern portion of the country. As you travel northwest through Kenya, the land becomes more arid and sparse until you reach the desert of Turkana. Many Kenyans will not venture out into this area of the country and speak of Turkana as if it might belong to another country. Despite all of the urbanization found in Kenya, in general, it is still very rural in comparison to Western culture. Advertisements are still painted on building walls, livestock is kept just outside houses and apartments, and the roads are barely covered in cement. Nairobi is home to the world's largest slum and poverty is evident everywhere. The exchange rate in Kenya is roughly 80 Shillings to every $1 in American currency.

Samwel lives with his mother Selina, 1 sister and 2 brothers. His mom makes charcoal to support the family.

community information

The Turkanan people are still known to war with their neighboring tribe, the Pokot, and tend to be a semi-nomadic tribe. The women are incredibly hard-working and among the most giving people you could hope to find. Kanyangapus is located near a laga (dry river bed). This area is home to most of the trees in the village and produces one of the few places to find shelter from the sun. Families live in manyatas (straw huts) made by hand, with 2-3 manyatas joined by a fence of grass creating a family's boma. The recent drilling of a well in Kanyangapus has afforded these people a chance to stay alive and keep their livestock alive as well. God is also working through Bread of Life's discipleship students who live in Kapua and minister to the village on a regular basis as well as a Bread of Life missionary who lives near in the center of the area.



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