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Kata Kata is an authentic African cartoon magazine with both online and printed versions. In a humorous way, Kata Kata tries to discuss and sensitize typical African / global socio - political issues, mainly through illustrations, animations etc. Furthermore, through its social network (Kata Kata Community), it tries to keep those cultural entities alive by stimulating personal interactions and exchange of ideas amongst the readers.

At the same time, Kata Kata equally offers a maxim that life is perhaps not all about seriousness. One needs some laughs and relaxation to face serious challenges in life.
The duality of Kata Kata is such that it tries to discuss serious issues, at the same time, it offers a therapy for the problems through laughter.

The quarterly printed edition of Kata Kata is widely available in the Netherlands and some countries in Europe. Equally, the digital version of Kata Kata can also be read online or subscribed to via Kata Kata website or Magzter, the world's largest digital newsstand with more than 20 million readers.

See: https://www.magzter.com/NL/KataKata-Cartoon-Magazine/Kata-Kata-CartoonMagazine/Comics/

With our East African edition, our readers in East African countries can now enjoy our humorous Kata Kata Magazine. Likewise, the magazine can be read or borrowed from different libraries globally, including Stanford University Library, USA, Federal / Royal Library (Koninklijke Bibliotheek) Den Haag, (Netherlands), University of Leiden Library -African Studies (Netherlands), University of lowa (Main Library), USA, Southern Africa Library, Basel, Switzerland etc.

Hurry now and get your copy or become a subscriber.
Please visit our website : www.katakata.org and relax yourself with our humorous cartoons.

## Welcome on board Kata Kata. Sit up and get ready for a long laugh....



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## I HEAR YOU

Yashinga mu minzi itelaga.
Kukaa muda mrefu ndani ya maji si kutakata.

Rester longtemps dans l'eau ne lave pas.

To stay a long time in the water does not make you clean.

For you to succeed in life, you must work hard. Never assume that your condition is sufficient for you to reach a certain aim; you must always work harder to succeed.

## TELL ME SOMETHING



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## Publisher's note

## Child Marriage

Despite the religious, cultural, ethnicity or whatever reasons to support the dehumanizing child marriage practice, the overwhelming fact remains the same: A nation that turns a child into a bride turns its future into a hell.

As a child, a young innocent girl, you had those rosy ambitions, hopes, aspirations and dreams - from being a doctor, nurse, lawyer, teacher to an engineer, etc. You looked forward to building a beautiful, peaceful, healthy and happy family with a man you loved. A man of your choice. But impromptu - and unceremoniously - those your childhood dreams are scattered and shattered by gender ideology. Your life aspirations are completely disoriented and forcefully altered in an unimaginable way. Abruptly, your golden blossom life would change from the epitome of hope to void of hopelessness, leaving you incredibly helpless and a precarious victim. Why? Because, as a girl, you are forced into a child marriage with an older man you never knew or loved. That would become the sad end of those your hopeful dreams - and the beginning of your existential nightmares.

Of course, some of us would simply argue that child marriage is an integral part of their culture and religion, but such an argument often fails to address blatant global gender inequalities, violence against women, health problems, poverty, which are part of many harms associated with child marriage. The general assumption in some quarters is that child marriage to an older man offers the girl protection by the older husband, holds no water when evaluated in the light of the fact that the girls are effectively turned into victims of violence - physically, mentally, sexually and otherwise - in the hands of the very older husbands who see their baby wives as their properties and treat them as slaves, without fear of losing them. It does not help that these brides face enormous health challenges during pregnancy and labour, which often lead to the death of the girls.

How do the young brides fair, economically? Without any formal education, job opportunity and entirely dependent on their husband financially, you could rightly argue that the girls are systematically turned into economic slaves by their husbands. They depend solely on their husbands to survive economically.

But that is not all. In an African society, where women are seen and treated as a sex object or (re)productive machine, it is, therefore, not hard to understand why girl marriage - some of them marry as early as 13 years persists. Those who support girl marriage would insist that the girls should marry early to maximize their fertility before they reach menopause. But such an act effectively turns the girls into child-production machines by way of marriage. Furthermore, when a girl, who is physically, mentally, socially, economically, physiologically not fit to bear a child is forced into giving birth, who should take care of the baby? The girl-mother?

Does Kata Kata Village know the fate that awaits its girl brides? We need to quickly enlighten the villagers of the danger before it is too late. Follow me to the Kata Kata Village square if you believe that the village is driving its future into hell by turning children into a bride.

Yours in Kata Kata,
Ogo Ubabukoh
Editor In-Chief/Publisher

## ENOUGH OF CHILD MARRIAGE IN KATA KATA VILLAGE

IN KATA KATA KATA VILLAGE. A LITTLE GIRL IS RLINNING AWAY FROM THE FATHER, CRYING. THE FATHER IS PURGUING HER WTH A STICK

 KABALAGALACLUB OR MLIKONO? WHICH ONE IS DIS "IDON WAN, IDON WAN NONSENSE?" "YOU




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