

MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Introduction.

Life is a fascinating journey filled with twists, turns, and unexpected moments. As I look back on my own path, I am reminded of the diverse experiences that have shaped me into the person I am today. This autobiography is a glimpse into my life, a collection of moments that have left an indelible mark on my heart and soul

CHAPTER 1 : EARLY YEARS

My name is Mary Wajiru Kinyanjui, and I came into this world on a day etched in memory, born in the comforting halls of Kitale Hospital. My parents, Joseph Kinyanjui and Jesintah Gathoni, welcomed me into their loving embrace, marking the beginning of my own unique journey.

As the sixth child among my siblings, I found my place within the bustling household, surrounded by the warmth of familial bonds. Alongside my four sisters and two brothers, I discovered the beauty of companionship and the strength found in unity.

Though each member of my family contributes their own distinct thread to the fabric of our collective story, I stand here as a testament to the love and support that has nurtured me throughout the years. From the guidance of my parents to the laughter shared with my siblings, every moment has shaped me into the person I am today.

As I navigate the winding paths of life, I carry with me the values instilled by my upbringing: resilience, compassion, and a steadfast faith in the journey ahead. With gratitude in my heart and determination in my step, I embrace the challenges and joys that await, knowing that I am surrounded by the unwavering love of my dear family.

Early Years: A Harmonious Childhood

My early years were characterized by a harmonious upbringing, rich in the bonds of family, friendships, and a strong sense of community. I grew up in a close-knit village, where life was simple, and the values of unity and togetherness were deeply ingrained.

Life with Cousins and Childhood Friends:

I was fortunate to have cousins and childhood friends as neighbours. We shared a unique camaraderie that added a special dimension to my upbringing. Together, we explored the village, climbed trees, played games in open fields, and embarked on countless adventures. Our friendships were forged in the laughter and joy of carefree days, forming bonds that would last a lifetime.

Playtime in the Village Playgrounds:

In our village, we had playgrounds where we played games and had fun. We ran around playing tag and other games. Sometimes we even had little sports competitions. These playgrounds taught us to work together and be fair. We learned a lot while having fun with our friends.

Helping Our Parents:

In our tight-knit neighbourhood, kids like me often pitched in to help our parents with their daily tasks. I happily joined in, doing things like getting water from the nearby well, working in the garden, and looking after our animals. Doing these jobs taught me about responsibility and why it's important to help out at home.

Taking Care of Younger Siblings:

As an older sibling, I was entrusted with the care of my younger brothers. It was a role that I embraced wholeheartedly. I watched over them, played with them, and assisted with their needs. This experience not only taught me the value of patience and empathy but also deepened the bonds within our family.

Simple Pleasures of Village Life:

Life in the village was a tapestry of simple pleasures. We enjoyed storytelling sessions under the starry night sky, participated in cultural festivals, and celebrated traditional holidays with favour. These experiences nurtured an appreciation for our heritage and instilled a sense of belonging to the rich tapestry of our village life.

In conclusion, my early years were a time of innocence, friendships, and the beauty of village life. It was in these moments that I learned the values of unity, responsibility, and the joy of communal living. The friendships I formed, the experiences I shared with cousins and childhood friends, and the lessons learned while helping my parents and caring for my siblings have all been instrumental in shaping the person I am today.

These early experiences continue to influence my outlook on life, reinforcing the importance of strong connections with family, friends, and community. As I look back on these cherished memories, I carry with me the lessons of harmony, togetherness, and the profound impact of simplicity and unity in our lives.

CHILDHOOD MEMORIES.

When my dad came to visit, he always brought a smile to my face. His bags were full of surprises – treats and toys that made me so happy. Unwrapping those gifts and enjoying the treats was the best part of my childhood. His thoughtfulness made me feel special and brought us closer together.

Looking back on those days, I realize how much they taught me about love and family. Even when Dad had to leave again for work, I learned to cherish the time we had together. His visits showed me that family is the most important thing, no matter how far apart we are.

But saying goodbye was always hard. I felt sad when Dad had to go back to the city. Our home felt empty without him. Even though I knew he'd come back, it was tough to see him leave. Yet, his return brought joy and warmth back into our lives, and I treasured every moment we had together.

Introduction to Faith:

My journey through education and faith was deeply influenced by my upbringing. Even before I stepped into primary school my parents played a significant role in introducing me to the faith.

Early Years of Faith:

I grew up in a household where the values of faith, love, and compassion were a way of life. My parents were devout to faith, and they imparted their spiritual beliefs to me from a young age. I was surrounded by religious symbols, attended Mass regularly with my family, and learned the stories of the Bible at bedtime.

Growing Spiritually:

My early experiences with the faith laid the foundation for my spiritual growth. The values of faith, love, and compassion that my parents instilled in me were reinforced by my school's strong emphasis on faith. It was a beautiful union of home and school that nurtured my faith and character, shaping the person I am today.

In conclusion, my early years of faith have been intertwined in a tapestry of growth, learning, and self-discovery. The values instilled in me by my parents, the lessons learned through the Catholic faith, and the experiences at school have prepared me to face the future with a strong moral compass and a deep sense of purpose.

As I look forward to the next chapter of my life, I carry with me the profound influence of faith, family, and education, all of which have shaped my character and continue to guide me on my path in life.

CHAPTER TWO: EDUCATION AND GROWTH

At the age of three, I started feeling nervous about going to school. I lived with my cousin, who was already attending school at around ten years old. Every morning, I would watch her get ready for school and feel a sense of anticipation. I wanted to be just like her, so I would put on her uniform, pretending I was also going to school.

My father noticed my interest and decided to buy me my own school uniform. He then enrolled me in preschool. However, despite his efforts, I still didn't like the idea of going to school.

The First Day of School:

I have a vivid memory of my first day of school back in 2006. It was a thrilling experience stepping into the vibrant world of Standard 1 at St Bakhita academy school. Though I felt a bit nervous amidst all the new faces and surroundings, my beaming smile helped me make friends quickly.

I loved going to school because I got to learn new things every day. One of the highlights was the tea that was always waiting for me after school. If I didn't find it, I would sometimes throw a little tantrum - I suppose I was just being a typical child.

After school, the older girls from the village would often carry me on their backs, which I found incredibly enjoyable. It was moments like these that made going to school even more special to me. After preschool, I moved on to primary school, still attending Bakhita academy. At just five years old, I embarked on this new journey alongside my cousin, with whom I shared a deep bond. We were so close that people often mistook us for twin sisters.

Unfortunately, my academic performance wasn't great during this time. My teacher even suggested to my mother that I might need to repeat a class. However, my mother was determined to help me succeed. She came to school, and after discussing with the teacher, they agreed to give me a chance to catch up with the rest of the class.

My mother's support didn't end there. She dedicated herself to helping me with my studies every evening. She patiently assisted me with my homework and revisions. At the end of the term, I surprised everyone by coming second best in my class. Both my teacher and my mother were thrilled with my progress.

My mother continued to accompany me in my studies every day, even after her long day's work. I'm incredibly grateful for her dedication and support. With her guidance and encouragement, I eventually became one of the top students in my class.

Academic Challenges and Triumphs:

My primary school journey was not without its challenges. I struggled with mathematics and science during my early years. However, with unwavering determination and the support of my parents, I persevered and gradually improved my performance in these subjects. My teachers played a crucial role in my academic growth, offering extra guidance and support when needed.

Extracurricular Adventures:

Beyond the classroom, I embraced the world of extracurricular activities. I joined the school Drama club and earned recognition at local competitions. I also discovered a

love for sports and became a member of the school's volleyball team. It was on the volleyball court that I learned the values of teamwork and sportsmanship.

Community Involvement:

From a young age, my family taught me the value of community service. I enthusiastically took part in different outreach programs, such as planting trees and mentoring younger students at school. These experiences showed me how even a small act of kindness can make a big difference in people's lives.

Cultural Appreciation:

Growing up in Kenya's diverse and culturally vibrant landscape, I gained a profound appreciation for our nation's traditions and heritage. I eagerly took part in cultural festivals and joyfully celebrated Kenyan holidays alongside my classmates and family. Through these experiences, I learned the significance of unity and came to admire the beauty found in our diverse traditions.

Achievements and Award

Throughout my primary school years, my dedication to my studies and my involvement in school and community activities did not go unnoticed. I was fortunate to receive several awards for my academic achievements, leadership skills, and contributions to the community. These moments of recognition fueled my desire to excel even further.

As I look ahead to the future, I am filled with excitement and hope. I completed my primary education with flying colors and earned a spot in a prestigious high school. My dream was to become a doctor, following in the footsteps of my parents, who have been my role models throughout my life. I wanted to continue making a positive impact on my community through education and leadership.

In conclusion, my primary school years in Kenya have been a beautiful journey of growth, learning, and self-discovery. The challenges I faced, the friendships I made, and the lessons I learned have shaped me into the person I am today. I am grateful for the support of my family, the guidance of my teachers, and the love of my community. As I step into the next chapter of my life, I carry with me the values and experiences that will continue to inspire and guide me on my path to success.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Introduction:

As I reflect on my years spent at St marks girls high school in TransNzoia, Kenya, the memories come flooding back, each one holding a special place in my heart. Joining this prestigious institution in 2016 marked the beginning of an incredible journey of growth, learning, and self-discovery.

A New Chapter:

The year 2016 was a year of new beginnings. It was the year I left the familiar halls of primary school behind and embarked on a new adventure St marks girls high school in TransNzoia. I remember the mix of excitement and nervousness as my parents dropped me off at the school gate, where I stood on the threshold of my teenage years and the world of secondary education. I was so excited after finally leaving home not knowing what the future held for me in this beautiful school.

Dedication to Academic Excellence:

Mrs. Obiri, our principal, was not merely an administrative figure but a source of inspiration. She set high standards for us and believed that every student had the potential to achieve academic greatness. Her dedication to academic excellence was unwavering, and she expected nothing less from us. Under her leadership, the school earned a reputation for producing top-performing students in national examinations.

By setting the bar high and pushing us to excel, Mrs. Maranga instilled in us a strong work ethic and a passion for learning. Her strict demeanour was balanced by her genuine concern for our well-being, and she frequently emphasized the importance of holistic development, encouraging us to engage in extracurricular activities alongside our studies.

Mrs. Obiri's belief in the potential of each student was contagious. She often reminded us that education was the key to a brighter future, and she guided us with the vision that we could achieve anything we set our minds to. Her dedication to our academic growth was a driving force in our journey through secondary school, and it was under her leadership that we achieved remarkable academic milestones.

As we navigated the challenges of secondary education, Mrs. Orioki's unwavering support and high expectations pushed us to reach new heights. Her legacy as a dedicated principal will forever be etched in the history of St marks Girls High School, and her influence on our academic journey was profound.

Academic Challenges and Triumphs:

Secondary school was a whole new world, and I quickly realized that the academic challenges were a step up from primary school. Subjects became more specialized, and the workload increased. In those early years, I faced my fair share of academic hurdles. Mathematics continued to be a challenging subject, but I was determined to conquer it. With the guidance of my teachers and the support of my fellow students, I made steady progress.

Extracurricular Activities:

St marks Girls High School wasn't just about academics; it was a place where I had the opportunity to explore my interests beyond the classroom. I joined the school hockey team, where I honed my skills and talent

As I entered my sophomore year, I discovered my love for sports. hockey became my outlet, a way to release the stress that sometimes accompanied the demands of academics. Additionally, I was elected as a subject leader, which gave me my first taste of leadership. It was an honour to represent my classmates and contribute to the school's discipline and order.

Community Involvement:

The school encouraged students to be active contributors to the community. St marks Girls High School was involved in several outreach programs, including visits to local orphanages, tree-planting initiatives, and hygiene campaigns. These activities instilled in me a sense of responsibility and a commitment to making a positive impact on the world around me.

Friendships and Bonds:

One of the most beautiful aspects of my secondary school journey was the friendships I formed. I met students from diverse backgrounds, each with their own stories and dreams. These friendships grew stronger with each passing day, and together, we faced the ups and downs of our high school years.

Achievements and Awards:

Throughout my time at St marks Girls High School, I was fortunate to receive recognition for my academic achievements, leadership skills, and contributions to the school community. These moments of acknowledgment served as a reminder that hard work and dedication do not go unnoticed.

Challenges and Growth:

Like any educational journey, mine was not without its share of challenges. The pressures of examinations, the balance between academics and extracurricular activities, and the emotional ups and downs of adolescence all tested my resilience. But it was through these challenges that I learned the importance of perseverance and self-belief.

Our teachers were not only educators but also spiritual guides. Religious education was an integral part of the curriculum, and we were encouraged to explore our beliefs and engage in thoughtful discussions. The values of kindness, empathy, and community service were instilled in us, aligning with the core teachings of the Catholic faith.

Nurturing Spiritual Values:

The strict adherence to the faith at St marks girls High School went beyond rituals and ceremonies; it was about nurturing the values that the faith represented. We were taught to embrace humility, forgiveness, and a sense of responsibility to those less fortunate. Our faith was a cornerstone of our character development.

The school's emphasis on faith-based values created a sense of unity among students and strengthened our commitment to community service. We engaged in various

charity projects, from visiting local orphanages to organizing food drives for the less privileged. These experiences instilled in us a profound sense of duty to society and a belief in making the world a better place.

DEDICATED SECTION

Exploring Beyond the Classroom: Academic Trips

One of the most exhilarating aspects of my secondary school years at St marks Girls High School was the opportunity to participate in various academic trips that expanded our horizons and enriched our education. These trips were more than just journeys; they were immersive learning experiences that left an indelible mark on my academic journey.

The History Trip to the National Assembly:

In Form 4, I had the privilege of joining a history trip to the National Assembly in Nairobi. It was a day filled with awe and inspiration as we explored the heart of Kenya's political landscape. Walking through the corridors of power, we gained a first-hand understanding of our country's governance and the democratic process. It was an eye-opening experience that ignited a passion for civic engagement and an appreciation for the history and significance of our nation's institutions.

A Visit to the National Museum:

The National Museum trip was another unforgettable experience. We embarked on a journey through time, delving into the rich history and cultural heritage of Kenya. It was here that I realized the beauty of our diverse nation's history, traditions, and archaeological wonders. The visit encouraged us to embrace and celebrate our heritage while fostering a sense of national pride.

A Day at the Orphanage:

In Form 3, we took a day to visit a local orphanage. This trip was more than just an outing; it was an opportunity to give back and connect with the less fortunate in our

community. We engaged in activities, shared stories, and lent a helping hand to those in need. The visit was a reminder of the importance of empathy, kindness, and the joy of giving back. It was a lesson in compassion that left a lasting impact on my perspective on life.

Agricultural Trip to Kenyatta University in Form 4:

One of the most exciting academic trips was the agricultural excursion to Kenyatta University during my Form 4 year. This trip immersed us in the world of higher education, exposing us to the latest research, technologies, and practices. We toured the university's agricultural facilities, engaged in hands-on learning, and interacted with experts in the field. It was a journey of discovery, broadening our understanding of the agricultural sector and igniting a passion for sustainable farming.

Conclusion:

These academic trips, along with my classroom experiences, shaped my education in ways that extended beyond textbooks and exams. They were a testament to the school's commitment to holistic learning, providing us with the opportunity to learn, explore, and apply our knowledge in the real world. These excursions were not only educational but also unforgettable adventures that enriched our academic journey and left us with cherished memories to carry into the future.

The Future Ahead:

As I concluded my time at St marks Girls High School, I looked forward to the next chapter of my life. The knowledge, experiences, and values I gained during my secondary education prepared me for the future. My dream was to continue my academic journey, pursue higher education, and make a meaningful contribution to my community and society at large.

In sum, my years at St marks Girls High School were a trans-formative period of self-discovery and personal growth. The challenges I faced, the friendships I cultivated, and the experiences I embraced have prepared me to embrace the future with open arms. I am grateful for the support of my teachers, the guidance of my parents, and my unwavering belief in myself. The memories of my secondary school years will

forever hold a special place in my heart as I carry their lessons and values into the exciting journey that lies ahead.

UNIVERSITY JOURNEY.

Continuing the Journey: Dedan Kimathi University of Technology

My transition from secondary school to Dedan Kimathi University of Technology in 2020 marked the beginning of a new chapter in my education and personal growth. Pursuing a degree in Business Information Technology at this prestigious institution was a dream come true, and it has been a transformative experience that has shaped my aspirations and character.

Academic Pursuits:

My academic journey in university has been an exciting and intellectually stimulating one. Business Information Technology is a dynamic field that combines business management principles with cutting-edge technology. The comprehensive curriculum introduced me to a wide range of subjects, from software development and database management to business analysis and project management.

Throughout my university years, I dedicated myself to academic excellence, consistently pushing my boundaries and striving for top performance. This pursuit of knowledge has been complemented by the guidance and mentorship of my professors, who share their expertise and provide insights into the ever-evolving field of business and technology.

Research and Innovation:

In the world of Business Information Technology, research and innovation are paramount. My involvement in research projects and innovative initiatives allowed me to delve deeper into this dynamic field. I had the opportunity to collaborate with fellow students and faculty members on projects that addressed real-world challenges and explored innovative solutions. This hands-on experience has equipped me with problem-solving skills and a creative mindset.

Personal Growth:

University life brought not only academic growth but also personal development. It was a period of self-discovery, where I learned to manage my time effectively, adapt to new challenges, and maintain a work-life balance. My interactions with diverse groups of students and exposure to different perspectives broadened my horizons and enriched my cultural awareness.

Pursuing Faith and Community Service in University

My university journey at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology not only expanded my academic horizons but also deepened my commitment to the Catholic faith and community service. This period of my life was marked by a sense of spiritual growth and a strong desire to make a positive impact on the lives of others.

Deepening My Faith:

In university, I sought opportunities to further explore and strengthen my Catholic faith. The campus had a vibrant Catholic student community, and I eagerly became a part of it. Attending Catholic Masses on campus and participating in spiritual events allowed me to connect with like-minded peers who shared a common belief and a commitment to their faith. It was through these interactions that I discovered a sense of belonging and camaraderie.

Involvement in Catholic Groups:

I joined the Catholic students' association at the university, which provided a platform for spiritual growth and community service. As a member, I actively participated in organizing prayer sessions, retreats, and discussions that allowed us to explore our faith more deeply. These experiences not only nurtured my own spiritual development but also allowed me to share my faith with others.

Joy in Giving Back:

Participating in community service was a source of immense joy and fulfillment. We organized food drives, visited orphanages, and contributed to local development projects. These experiences reminded me of the importance of empathy and kindness and reinforced my commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of others.

Balancing Faith and Academics:

Balancing my faith, academics, and community service was a rewarding challenge. It taught me valuable lessons in time management, organization, and the importance of prioritizing my commitments. The university's environment of exclusivity and acceptance made it possible to seamlessly integrate my spiritual and academic pursuits.

Community Service and Outreach:

My involvement in the Catholic community also led to opportunities for community service. The university's Catholic group organized outreach programs to support local orphanages, schools, and the less fortunate in the community. It was an extension of the values I had learned in primary school and high school, and it was a privilege to continue serving those in need.

In conclusion, my journey through Dedan Kimathi University of Technology has been an enriching and holistic experience. The academic growth I achieved in pursuing a degree in Business Information Technology was complemented by my dedication to the Catholic faith and community service.

As I approach the conclusion of my university education, I am deeply grateful for the opportunities to nurture my faith, connect with a community of like-minded individuals, and engage in meaningful acts of service. The values instilled in me during my educational journey continue to guide me as I transition into the next phase of my life, filled with the aspiration to make a positive impact on the world, both professionally and through acts of kindness and service.

Challenges and Triumphs:

The university journey was not without its challenges. Balancing academic responsibilities with extracurricular activities and personal life sometimes felt like a juggling act. However, these challenges served as opportunities for growth and resilience. Overcoming obstacles and setbacks has made me a more determined and resilient individual.

Future Aspirations:

As I near the completion of my degree in Business Information Technology, I am filled with excitement and anticipation for what the future holds. My academic journey has equipped me with the knowledge and skills to pursue a career that bridges the gap between technology and business. I aspire to work in a dynamic environment where I can leverage technology to drive innovation and solve complex business challenges.

In conclusion, my autobiography is a reflection of my educational journey from primary school to Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. Each phase of my life has contributed to my growth, learning, and self-discovery. I am grateful for the unwavering support of my family, the guidance of my teachers, and the enriching experiences at each educational institution.

My university years have been a pivotal period in my life, where I combined academic excellence with personal development and a vision for the future. The skills I have acquired, the friendships I have made, and the experiences I have cherished will continue to shape my journey as I step into the world beyond academia.

As I approach the final year of my university education, I am eager to embark on new challenges and seize opportunities that align with my passion for Business Information Technology. The exciting journey continues, and I carry with me the values, knowledge, and experiences that have prepared me for the next chapter in life.

