Clerics blame culture

for fuelling Aids cases

**BY NATION**

**CORRESPONDENT**

**Kajiado**

The HIV and Aids scourge

is still not accepted among

the Maasai as a reality yet it

is claiming many lives, a forum

was told yesterday.

A meeting of clergy in Kajiado

County heard that many

locals had refused to undergo

HIV tests in rural areas despite

efforts made by churches and

non-governmental organisations

to fight the menace.

“It is very unfortunate that in

this time and age, sexually active

youth do not use condoms

despite the scourge that has hit

the villages hard,” said Pastor

John Mpidaki of PEFA church,

during the meeting at Kumpa

Primary School in Kajiado

Central District.

The church leaders vowed

to step up campaigns to prevent

the spread of HIV, but

raised concern over deeply

entrenched traditions that put

the lives of many at risk.

The 30 clerics regretted that

the area’s culture which puts a

woman as belonging to all the

age mates of her husband