



(JOSEPH PETER KAMVABINGU)
MY STORY

Overcoming Adversity and Pursuing My Passion

I still remember the day I graduated from Secondary School, filled with hope and dreams for a brighter future. My next step was to attend University in Lilongwe, where I was determined to pursue a degree in Computer Science.

However, my journey was not without its challenges. Due to financial constraints, I was only able to complete one and a half semesters before being forced to drop out. Despite this setback, I refused to give up on my passion for computer science. It was during this time that I met Fazwell, a computer lab assistant at University.

He became a valuable mentor, teaching me the basics of computer programming and inspiring me to continue learning. I also had the support of my twin brother, Emmanuel, who shared my passion for computer science. Together, we explored the world of programming and encouraged each other to pursue our dreams.

Another significant influence in my life was Isaac, a friend from Lilongwe who introduced me to web development. His expertise and guidance helped me to expand my skills and explore new possibilities. Despite these positive influences, I faced another significant challenge when a lawyer from Malawi, backed by an Indian businessman, attempted to take our family's land. This experience was not only traumatic but also had a profound impact on my life.

One day, I received a phone call from the lawyer, warning me to stay away from the land. Shortly after, I was confronted by a group of unknown men in a white Hilux. They attacked me, beating me mercilessly and leaving me for dead.

Miraculously, I survived the ordeal, but the experience left me shaken and determined to make a difference in my community. I realized that I wanted to use my skills to help others, particularly those who were facing similar challenges.

It was during this time that I discovered TME Education Africa, a free training program that offered workshops in computer programming and electronics. I attended the program for two months, learning valuable skills and gaining confidence in my abilities.

As I was completing the program, I stumbled upon a paper about the Old Path Baptist Church in Area 49, Lilongwe. I was intrigued by their mission and values, and I decided to attend the church for two weeks.

It was there that I met two friends from the United States and Canada, Brenno Allen and Brayden. They were visiting Malawi as part of a church conference, and we quickly bonded over our shared passion for technology and community development.

Brenno, in particular, became a close friend and mentor. He was impressed by my web development skills and encouraged me to continue pursuing my dreams. We stayed in touch, and he eventually became my co-founder at Code-Tailors.

Code-Tailors is a company that I founded to provide web development services and support community development projects. Our mission is to empower marginalized communities through technology and education.

One of our flagship projects is the Nelson Mlolo Foundation, which aims to provide educational support to underprivileged children in Malawi. I have always been passionate about education, and I believe that every child deserves access to quality learning opportunities.

In addition to my work at Code-Tailors and the Nelson Mlolo Foundation, I have also founded Dziko Lathu, a networking platform that aims to promote community development and social change in Malawi.

Dziko Lathu, which means "Our Earth" in Chichewa, is a platform that connects individuals, organizations, and communities working towards positive change in Malawi. Our mission is to promote collaboration, innovation, and social entrepreneurship, with a focus on sustainable development and community empowerment.

Through Dziko Lathu, I hope to create a movement that inspires Malawians to take ownership of their development and work together towards a brighter future. I believe that by harnessing the power of technology, innovation, and community spirit, we can overcome even the most daunting challenges and create a better world for ourselves and future generations.

This is my story, a journey of perseverance, passion, and purpose. I hope that it will inspire others to pursue their dreams, despite the obstacles they may face. And I look forward to continuing this journey, armed with the knowledge that I am not alone, and that together, we can achieve greatness.

MY DETAILS

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