

Wiki Loves Africa





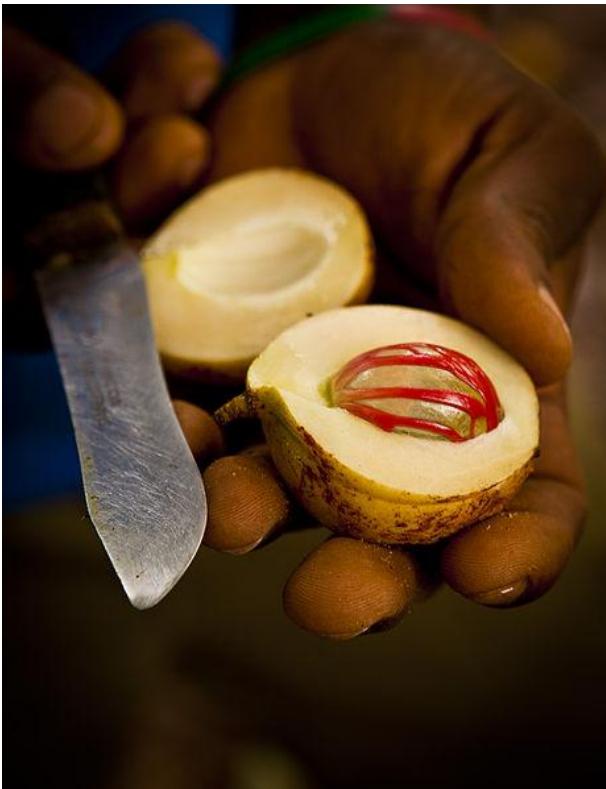
WIKI LOVES AFRICA

Wiki Loves Africa is an annual photographic competition that is a visual celebration of all that makes up Africa. Every year, under a different theme, people across Africa and beyond [enter their very best photographs, video and audio files to Wikimedia Commons](#) for use on Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects.



Source: Wiki In Africa youtube channel: <https://youtu.be/GgYHj2wWdz8> author: IslaHaddow-Flood and thousands of photographers

2014 : Cuisine



- 873 people contributed
- 6,116 photographs entered
- 2,420,791 page views
- 969 images used (15.44%)

2015 : Cultural Fashion and Adornment



- 722 people contributed
- 7,500 photographs entered
- 10,482,196 page views
- 609 images used (8.25%)

2016 : Music and Dance



- 836 people contributed
- 7844 photographs entered
- 1,206,727 page views
- 319 images used (4.04%)

2017 : People at Work



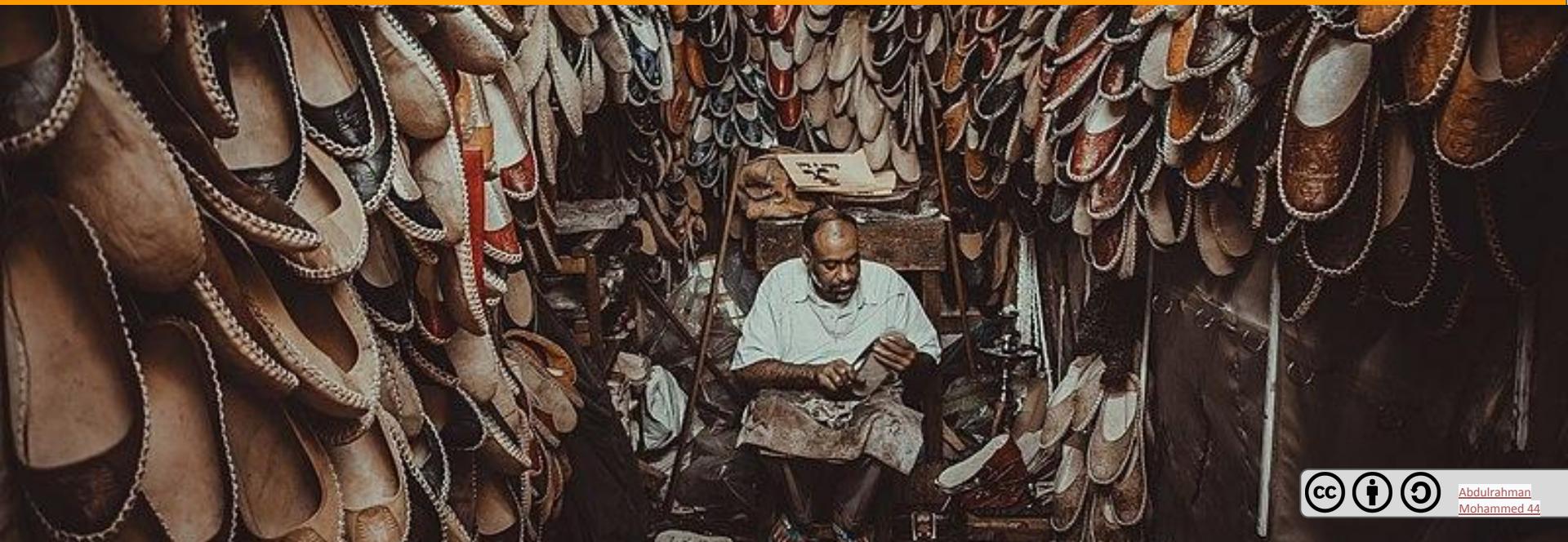
- 2,473 people contributed
- 18,294 photographs entered
- 2,929,945 page views
- 1,124 images used (6.14%)

What was done differently in 2017 ...

- Photo essays
- Autonomy for WLA experienced groups via Rapid Grants from WMF
 - [Algeria](#), [Cameroon](#), [Egypt](#), [Ghana](#), [Ivory Coast](#), [Nigeria](#), [Mali](#) and [Tunisia](#)
- Continental team to assist 5 groups
 - Uganda and Tanzania (amazing!)
 - Malawi, Ethiopia (very challenging)
 - Zimbabwe (in the middle of the “coup that was not a coup”)



2017 winners are ...



Abdulrahman
Mohammed 44

1st Prize



Gift of the Ocean by Yann Macherez

Tanzania

Each women as a parcel to grow "Mwani", seaweed in Swahili. The farms are made up of little sticks in neat rows in the warm, shallow waters of the Indian Ocean.



Yann Macherez

2nd Prize



The girls of Mogadishu are heading back to the beach by Marco Gualazzini, Somaliland

A man carries a huge hammerhead through the streets of Mogadishu. A recent escalation of plunders of Somali waters by foreign fishing vessels could mean the return of hijackings, locals warn. The country's waters have been exploited by illegal fisheries and the economic infrastructure that once provided jobs has been ravaged.



Marco
Gualazzini

3rd Prize



Hassanelsayad 10 (Goat-herding) by Hassanelsayad, Egypt

No description

integration:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hammerhead_shark#Description



Hassanelsayad

Photo essays : Women at Work



The seaweed grows underwater for 45 days. When it reaches one kilogram, the women pick it and dry it, then pack it in bags to be exported to countries like China, Korea and Vietnam. There, it's used in medicines and shampoos.



The farmers have a lot of problems due to climate change. Two decades ago, 450 seaweed farmers roamed Paje. Now, only about 150 farmers remain.



Mwanaisha holds up a healthy clump of seaweed. Then she holds up seaweed the farmers won't be able to use. A hard white substance grows on it - ice-ice disease, caused by higher ocean temperatures and intense sunlight.



The seaweed farmers learned how to make soap from their seaweed at the Zanzibar Seaweed Center, a business that started as an NGO in 2009. At their homes, they mix water, ground seaweed powder, coconut oil, caustic soda and essential oils in a large plastic tub.



Later in the week, the seaweed farmers will sell their finished soaps in Zanzibar town or to regular local customers. As seaweed levels decline, they have found a way to increase the value of their work.



The finished product - a bar of seaweed soap.

Zanzibar seaweeds by [user:Rachelclarareed](#)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seaweed#Photo_essay_showing_women_in_Zanzibar,_Tanzania_farming_seaweed_and_making_seaweed_soap

Photo essays : Rare or threatened work



The creativity that comes with mud housing in rural areas is majorly in the art of its roofing, of crafting thatch. With the continuous movement of development reaching far into these area, newer ways of doing things have been discovered, faster, reliable, more durable ways. Houses are now being raised with modern materials, and even the ones standing still in traditional clay and thatch are being refurbished with the fashionable cement blocks/metal roofing sheets. This progression has no doubt brought about a decline to the practice of traditional crafts such as thatching.



Mr. Bassey Ekpenyong, an indigene of Ito community in Cross-River state, Nigeria, calls me his friend in that manner that, as a stranger serving in his community under the National Youth Service Corp, makes me feel safe. He invites me to his shop at evening hours, and as he offers me roasted nuts, he makes a new promise to take me on his bike to the beach when the rains have stopped and the roads are accessible again.



It is on my return to Ito after a couple of weeks away that I first see him sitted in the shade outside of his shop, palm leaves littered all over. He sees the excitement register on my face a top the moving bike and signals that I return, as if to say "I have been waiting for you". And truly, he has.



He is making a new roof for his shop, he tells me. He wants me to make pictures. There are palm leaves all over, some tied up in a bunch, some lying underneath the sun, others thatched already and staked up in a pile. On his hands are two long, thinly carved sticks that would function as the skeletal frame for a pair of thatch.



He begins a new pair and laughs as he talk; a satisfaction that comes with the knowledge that he is creating for me yet another experience to take home when service is over. He makes a joke of it.



When asked how and when they had learnt thatching, the story is the same for everyone. They throw back to a time when they were just kids, when it was only made of the traditional mud houses.



As kids, they had been taken along with other kids by The Contractor, an older member of the community who dealt in a sales of thatch, to the beach. There, they had, each person assigned to a bunch of palm leaves, made dozens of thatch. This contractor, in return had provide their meal for the day and bought them treats. He had, later, on completion of their work, also paid for their services to their mothers; money meant for their upkeep.

The making of thatch by Eric Atie
Usage:
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thatching#Material>

Organisers' prize



A team of glass blowers creating wine glasses. As it passes through the various team members the wine glass becomes apparent.



Glass blowing a large terrarium.

From the photo essay [Glass in Swaziland photo essay](#) by user:Bentaylor13413

Thank you!

Wiki Loves Africa

<http://wikilovesafrica.net/>

Wiki Loves Africa 2017: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki_Loves_Africa_2017/en

Wiki Loves Africa video: <https://youtu.be/GgYHj2wWdz8>

Isla Haddow-Flood and Florence Devouard



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