The

**Autobiography of**

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# Introduction

This text invites you to walk alongside me through my life's journey. It's a story of both ordinary and extraordinary experiences that have shaped who I am today. From childhood innocence to academic challenges, family bonds to meaningful friendships, I've learned, grown, and found my place in the world.

Through these pages, you'll encounter laughter and tears, dreams achieved and dreams postponed. You'll meet the people who have impacted me deeply, for its these connections that truly define my story. This autobiography isn't just a record of events, it's a reflection on the lessons learned, the values I cherish, and the aspirations I continue to pursue.

My hope is that by sharing my journey, you'll find some resonance with your own life, perhaps even gaining inspiration or comfort. So, let's embark on this exploration together. Each page delves deeper into the story of my existence, where every experience has shaped me like a brushstroke on a canvas. Thank you for joining me; I hope my story enriches yours in some way.

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# Chapter 1

## Early Years and Family Beginnings

### Birth and Early Childhood

My arrival on November 12, 2000, marked the beginning of my journey in the idyllic village of Mtaragon, nestled within the heart of Kamasian ward, Kericho County, Kenya. This picturesque haven, where I spent my formative years, pulsated with life and embraced a beautiful diversity.

Mtaragon wasn't just a hub of economic activity; it was a vibrant tapestry woven from the threads of various cultures and social backgrounds. People from different walks of life converged here, bringing with them their unique perspectives and traditions. The spirit of community and the rich cultural heritage were defining characteristics of this place. It was within this warm embrace that I learned the values of unity, appreciating diversity, and the importance of living harmoniously alongside others.

One of the most striking aspects of life in Mtaragon was the diverse range of religions practiced. Different faiths coexisted peacefully, offering a profound lesson in religious tolerance and understanding. Growing up in this environment exposed me to various belief systems, fostering a deep appreciation for the richness of spiritual diversity.

My personal journey began within the close-knit circle of my family. I was the third-born child amongst four siblings, welcomed into a loving family of six by my parents, Shadrack Kiarie and Leah Njeri. They were pillars of love and guidance throughout my formative years. My siblings, Daniel, Isaiah, and Gideon, completed our close-knit family unit.

Our faith in the A.K.ISRAEL church, with its emphasis on worship on Fridays and Sundays, played a significant role in shaping our lives. It not only strengthened our spiritual connection but also instilled values of discipline, active participation within the community, and unwavering moral integrity.

My early years were marked by the simple beauty of my surroundings and the unbridled joy of exploration. The lush, verdant landscapes of Mtaragon served as my playground, where I made countless cherished memories. Surrounded by the warmth of my family and the vibrant spirit of my birthplace, I embarked on my personal journey, laying the foundation for the path that lay ahead.

### Family Background

I come from a modest background, born to Shadrack Kiarie and Leah Njeri. They brought us up with consistent love and commitment. Our family of six, including my four siblings, was very tight-knit. Being Seventh-day Adventists, our religious beliefs were central to our everyday life. Our faith taught us the importance of community, ethics, and spirituality, ingraining values in me that have stayed with me my whole life.

### How I Grew Up

### We were a middle-class family financially. My parents farmed and ran a small business to make ends meet. They always made sure we had food on the table. They taught us the value of hard work by taking us to work with them when we weren't in school. Growing up with financial challenges taught me to be resilient and resourceful from a young age.

### Character:

Growing up locally, I learned a strong work ethic and determination from seeing my parents' dedication to our family. Their hard work was an example for me, teaching me patience, gratitude, and empathy from a young age. We learned to make the most of what we had, which helped me develop humility and a deep appreciation for others' efforts.

My upbringing emphasized the importance of community and supporting each other during tough times. These values became the foundation of my character, shaping me into someone who values relationships, resilience, and helping others.

Looking back, the financial challenges my family faced not only taught me responsibility but also motivated me. They pushed me to seek opportunities for personal and academic growth, leading me to university. The lessons from my early years continue to guide me, reminding me of the importance of perseverance and gratitude as I face life's challenges and successes.

# Chapter 2

## School days a formatic years

### Preschool Life

Preschool life was the initial step of my formal education, and although memories from those years have faded with time, they remain etched in my mind as the foundation of my academic journey.

I embarked on my educational voyage in the heart of Mtaragon at Nyagacho Primary School's baby class. The year was 2005, and while my recollections of this period are hazy, I can still picture the vibrant surroundings and the bustling atmosphere of that small school. It was a time of firsts, where everything was a new and exciting adventure. The world was an open book, and I was eager to explore its pages.

Nursery followed in 2006, a year that comes into clearer focus in my memories. I vividly recall my teacher, Mrs. Jane, a kind and patient educator who introduced me to the joys of writing and drawing. While my skills were rudimentary, I eagerly practiced the art of putting pencil to paper, striving to create my first strokes and shapes. The part I cherished the most was when she would hand me my coloring book, filled with outlines of various shapes. The simple act of coloring those shapes with crayons was an enchanting experience, as it allowed me to infuse life and color into the world on paper.

If someone looked at my preschool life today, they might think it was full of challenges and hardly worth living. But for me, that wasn't the case at all. It was a normal and very enjoyable time. I remember my mother packing red porridge and a big slice of ugali for me and my younger sibling as we headed to school. My classmates had similar experiences; we all enjoyed that time.

However, it was always tough when you accidentally spilled your food on the way to school. It meant facing the rest of the day hungry. Sometimes, even if you managed to bring your food to school, you might not get to eat it. For example, if you put your food in your bag, sometimes during break time, a classmate might steal it. Imagine waiting until noon, thinking you have food, only to find out it's gone. You'd end up crying, and there was no one there to comfort you.

I can say those moments toughened me up. Despite the hardships, we made it through.

As I neared the next big step in my education and moved up to Class 1, the experience was actually quite amusing. Back then, the only requirement for entering primary school was what they called an "interview." This interview was taken very seriously by most parents. On the day of the interview, we were dressed in our best clothes and accompanied by a parent. Even the breakfast we had was special and not like the usual meals we had on other days.

I vividly remember the interview itself. We were simply given a piece of paper and asked to write the numbers from one to ten. We also had to write the alphabet from A to Z. And just like that, the interview was over. That was my rather simple entry into primary school education.

Preschool life, despite its humble beginnings and financial constraints, gifted me with invaluable lessons in contentment, the joy of play, and the importance of community values. These early experiences played a significant role in shaping my character and instilling in me the values that would continue to guide me throughout my life's journey.

### Lower Primary - Classes 1 to 3 (2008-2010)

Lower primary, covering classes 1 to 3, marked a significant phase of my early education. It was a period of transition and deeper exploration as I continued my formal schooling journey.

In 2007, I entered Class 1, guided by Mr. Simba, whose patience, dedication, and nurturing approach profoundly influenced me and positively set the tone for my early school years.

As I was moving to Class 2, political clashes forced us to relocate. We moved to Nakuru, where I was supposed to join Class 2 at Milimani Primary School. However, I was deemed too young to advance, which didn't bother me at the time. Accepting this setback felt like the start of my success in primary school life.

Later, I transferred to Nairobi Road Primary School. It was 2009, and I was in Class 2. Before the year ended, we moved back to our original home, and I completed the third term at my former school, Nyagacho Primary. This journey through lower primary was filled with rich experiences and new interactions, particularly with urban kids. Adjusting to their different games and overcoming my local accent were challenges I faced.

My favorite game was "readireadi," a spirited version of hide-and-seek. One child would hide while the others searched. The game would continue until the hidden child was found, with those discovered joining the search, creating an exciting challenge.

Life during lower primary was a mix of ease and difficulty. We found simple joys, like sneaking into orchards to steal fruits. While the thrill of indulging in pilfered fruits was great, it sometimes led to trouble with the owners, who would chase us away for the havoc we caused among the crops under the trees.

My mischievous adventures occasionally brought parental consequences. My mother, understandably, was not always pleased, leading to frequent disciplinary actions. Despite her strictness, I continued my youthful pursuits, undeterred by the prospect of discipline.

One of my responsibilities was tending to the family's livestock, mainly grazing sheep. Handling goats, known for their agility, was a challenge. I managed by tying ropes around my waist to maintain control, but the goats were crafty and often led me on merry chases, leaving me with lasting memories and a few scars.

Lower primary was a crucial time for exploration, play, and learning. It balanced the innocence of childhood with growing responsibilities and expectations. These early experiences shaped my character and prepared me for future educational and personal development stages.

### Upper Primary - Class 4 to 8 (2011-2015)

Upper primary school was a crucial phase in my educational journey, spanning from Class 4 to Class 8, covering the years 2011 to 2015. It was a time of significant change, challenges, and personal growth.

At the beginning of this phase, I had gained confidence and now had aspirations of being a leader. Excelling in academics, I saw an opportunity to lead in other ways. In Class 4, our teacher announced that we needed a class representative. Having read many books and stories about leadership, I thought it was a good position to pursue. I also considered the privileges that came with the role and decided to run for it.

When the class teacher asked who was willing to be the class representative, I raised my hand along with several others. I had a strong manifesto that I presented to my classmates, believing it set me apart. Encouraged by my friends who often urged me to be their leader, I campaigned enthusiastically. Fortunately, I received most of the votes, and the class teacher, appreciating my academic performance, also supported my candidacy. Thus, I became the class representative.

My parents were initially concerned about this role, fearing it would take time away from my studies. However, my exam results proved them wrong. I managed to serve my class effectively without any complaints.

However, after some time, I noticed that the privileges I had initially sought were no longer there. One reason I had run for the position was to avoid sweeping the classroom. My classmates, seeing this as unfair, insisted I be included in the sweeping roster. I did not resist, and as a result, I was punished like my fellow classmates whenever the classroom was dirty.

This made me long for the days when I was just a normal student. I received no special recognition; instead, I was often punished for the class's shortcomings. I tried to resign from the position several times without success. I served as class representative from Class 4 to Class 7. During this period, my grades began to decline, providing a valid reason to step down.

When I entered Class 8, there were elections for class representatives again, but I was no longer interested in the position. We had a new class teacher, and I felt no pressure to run. Moreover, it was a crucial year for final exams, and my teachers had high expectations for me, hoping I would help improve the school's mean score.

Class 8 was different. I was no longer leading in academics, as some repeaters performed better than me. However, they did not maintain their performance, while I continued to work hard. By the end of the final exams, I secured the second position in my class, with only one repeater outperforming me. I believe she had an advantage because she came from a private school.

I completed primary school by taking the KCPE exam, where I scored 362 marks, equivalent to a B+. These grades were sufficient to gain admission to a national school, fulfilling both my dream and that of my teachers. I received several presents, including an atlas and a thermos flask, which I still have.

The years of upper primary were a dynamic and formative period in my life. The challenges I faced and the transitions I underwent shaped my resilience, determination, and commitment to my education. It was a chapter of transformation, where my aspirations and hard work paved the way for a brighter future, preparing me for the high school journey that lay ahead.

### High School Years - Form 1 to Form 4 (2016-2019)

My high school journey, spanning from 2016 to 2019, marked a crucial phase in my education. The transition from primary school to high school brought a new set of challenges and opportunities. Having excelled in my primary school academics, I was eager to join my dream high school. My teachers hoped I would be admitted to a national school to motivate the students I left behind to work hard in their studies.

Unfortunately, despite my academic success, my parents informed me that while they were proud of my accomplishments and my acceptance into a national school, they couldn't afford the costs. I had been placed at Nyambaria Boys High School in Nyamira County, which my teachers were pleased with. We explored all options to ensure I could perdue my studies there, but due to financial constraints, my parents decided it was best for me to attend a more affordable public secondary school. I was admitted at Lelu Secondary School, a mixed day and boarding school located less than a kilometer from my home.

At Lelu Secondary School, I initially attended as a day student, a decision made by my parents to save on costs. Despite understanding the financial situation, I faced the same typical challenges as other students. I was involved in minor infractions, such as sneaking food into the school and selling it at a profit. I was caught once, I avoided suspension but couldn't escape punishment.

By the end of my first year, the school transitioned to a fully boarding system, and I joined as a boarder in Form 2. Adapting to boarding school life was challenging, and I faced several punishments before adjusting to the new environment. Academically, I now had no excuse for underperforming, as the boarding students had ample time for studying, unlike the day students.

Determined to succeed, I worked hard, and my academic performance began to improve. By the end of Form 4, I had proven my academic abilities. My final year was marked by numerous tours as a reward for academic success, some of which boosted my self-esteem, while others were humbling experiences. By the third term, I had demonstrated my potential to elevate my school's reputation.

In addition to academics, I actively participated in various school clubs, including the Science Congress, Music and Drama Club, and the Christian Union. However, my teachers discouraged my involvement in the Music and Drama Club and the Science Congress, fearing it would distract me from my studies. Despite this, my participation in these clubs enriched my school experience.

Lelu Secondary School also provided practical life skills. We all took part in building and construction projects, carrying bricks, sand, and cement. We even collected wood and firewood. These experiences taught us the importance of hard work and commitment for success.

I completed my secondary school studies in 2019 with a Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE), achieving a mean grade of B+ with 73 points. My subjects included Mathematics, English, Kiswahili, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, History and Government, and Christian Religious Education.

My high school years were characterized by resilience, self-discovery, and determination to overcome obstacles. The challenges I faced became stepping stones to a promising future, providing me with the confidence and motivation to embark on the next chapter of my educational journey.

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# Chapter 4.

## Academic Pursuits and Campus Life - 2019 to Present

The years from 2019 to the present have been a transformative period in my life, Faithed by my academic journey and the experiences of campus life. During this time, I made important decisions about my education and embarked on a path of self-discovery and growth.

## First Year (2019 to 2020): The Transition to University Life

Following the completion of my high school education, the next significant step was choosing a program for my tertiary studies. While I had always harbored a passion for Radiography, my perspective shifted after attending a rally where President Uhuru Kenyatta spoke at Kisii Stadium. During his address, he emphasized the importance of Bachelor of education in technology (Computer Science) in modern education and the professional world. This moment served as a turning point, motivating me to delve into this field.

After conducting extensive research and understanding the various facets of BSC (Computer Science), I made the pivotal decision to pursue this program. The curriculum encompassed a wide range of subjects, including structural design, structural analysis, drawings, water engineering and transport engineering. This choice set me on a unique and intellectually stimulating path.

My journey into higher education led me to Nyeri, where I enrolled at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. As I embarked on this new phase of my life, I encountered a fresh set of challenges and opportunities. I entered a world where fancy classrooms, state-of-the-art lecture halls, and well-equipped conference facilities became part of my daily life. However, the contrast between my background and that of many of my peers was stark. While I arrived at the university through my own efforts, other students were chauffeured in stylish modern cars, some of which were vehicles I had once dreamt of. Their attire reflected affluence and sophistication, making me feel like an outsider in the beginning.

The encounter with the different students from different tribes, different style different economical backgrounds and even different political standards made me focus in my studies in order to achieve my desired goals. This also brought beauty in the unity of diversity. I did well in my first year which gave me a green light to my second year of study.

## Second Year (2019 to 2021): Academic Growth and Hands-On Experience

In my second year as a university student, my passion for my chosen program continued to flourish. Although I encountered challenges such as a lack of course materials, I adopted a proactive approach by borrowing resources and seeking additional learning opportunities. These hurdles only fueled my determination to excel in my studies.

As I delved deeper into my coursework, I gained a deeper understanding of Computer Science. The knowledge I acquired further solidified my love for the field. Alongside my regular studies, I had the privilege of undertaking an internal attachment, which exposed me to the practical applications of BSC (Computer Science). This experience provided me with invaluable insights into how these technologies can be utilized in real-world scenarios, including structural design which included designing of structures and even drawings using different softwares i.e. AutoCAD.

My second year of university was Faithed by academic growth, hands-on learning, and an even greater appreciation for my chosen field of study. I was inspired by the potential of BSC (Computer Science) to make a significant impact in a variety of domains, and I was eager to continue my educational journey to explore these possibilities further.

Although I had high hopes in pursuing my course, it became challenging for my parents to cater for both my rent and my school fees given that there were four siblings also depending on the same sources. This forced me to take an academic leave in order to help my parents raise some amount which can cater for me in my studies. I enrolled myself in doing different businesses i.e. Tailoring and dress making, hairdressing and even selling some cooked ‘bhajias’ from door to door. This led me to do my second year examinations in the year 2021 where I passed my exams and proceeded to my third year of study.

## Third year Third Year (2022-2023) - Deepening Knowledge in BSC (Computer Science)

The third year of my university journey, spanning from 2022 to 2023, was a period of profound academic exploration and hands-on experience, further solidifying my expertise in Structural Engineering as it was my area of interest. I decided to specialize in structures and all things related to structures. This year brought with it a deepening of knowledge and an expansion of practical skills.

## External Attachment at the TheJitu Software development Company

During this pivotal year, I embarked on an external attachment at the National Construction Authority, a dynamic organization at the forefront of structural activities in the country. Here, I had the opportunity to apply my theoretical knowledge, gaining hands-on experience while forging connections with experienced professionals in the field. I obtained knowledge in both the office and field experiences.

### 1 office experiences

At the THEJITU office in Kisii County, I learnt a lot of things for example accreditation of skilled workers and site supervisors, project registration and contractor registration. In the same office I also learnt on communication skills with the clients who walk into the office day to day and also built networks with the members I interacted with both in the office and out of the office. Although in the first few days I was prone to work anxiety due to the new environment, I learnt to adjust myself and mingled with the collegues nicely. This experience brought me to different heights and potentiality including teamwork.

### 2. field experiences

During my stay in the THEJITU office, I went to different construction sites where I learnt on how to do awareness in the various construction sites i.e. The road safety awareness, the importance of sensitization activities which is always done in the construction sites.Evaluation and accreditation of construction workers.Registration and renewal of contractors’ license.Responding to general enquiries from the workers and walk in clients.Registration of construction projects.Assisting stakeholders in lodging the right complaints as relevant to the Authority by guiding them on language, scope and proper entry during complaint recording.Assisted in general office operations.

## Fourth Year (2023 - Present) - Culmination and Research

Returning to my academic institution after my attachment experience Faithed the beginning of my fourth and final year of university, where I am currently. This year is a culmination of my academic journey, a time for reflection, application, and further exploration within the field of Computer Science.

### 1. Project – effect of Styrofoam in plaster motor

In my final year, I am immersed in the most significant academic endeavor of my university career, which is the completion of my capstone project. For this project, I have chosen to focus on "effect of Styrofoam in plaster motor." This research not only signifies the application of the knowledge I have acquired throughout my years of study but also carries real-world relevance and significance.

In this project, I am tasked with utilizing BSC (Computer Science) technologies to map and monitor the erosion of coastal areas. The coastal environment is dynamic, constantly shaped by natural forces and human activities. Through the use of satellite imagery, aerial photography, and other geospatial data, I am able to analyze coastal changes over time, identifying vulnerable areas, and providing essential data for coastal management and preservation.

This project is a testament to the practical applications of BSC (Computer Science) in addressing critical environmental concerns. It is also an opportunity for me to contribute to the body of knowledge within the field and make a positive impact on coastal ecosystems and the communities that rely on them.

### 2. Continuous Learning and Knowledge Enhancement

While my final year represents the culmination of my formal education, it also signifies the beginning of a lifelong journey of continuous learning and knowledge enhancement within the field of BSC (Computer Science). As the field continues to evolve with advancements in technology, I remain committed to staying updated on the latest trends, tools, and applications.

I recognize that BSC (Computer Science) are integral to a wide range of industries, from environmental management and urban planning to agriculture and disaster response. Therefore, my focus is not limited to completing my academic journey but extends to honing my skills, networking with professionals, and participating in relevant workshops, seminars, and conferences.

My fourth year is not just an endpoint but a stepping stone to a future where I can make a meaningful contribution to the ever-expanding field of geospatial science. It is a year of academic accomplishment, personal growth, and the beginning of a career that holds the promise of making a positive impact on the world through the power of geospatial data and technology.

# Chapter 5

## Challenges and Growth - A Journey Defined by Resilience

My journey through education, from primary school to university, has been Faithed by numerous challenges that have shaped my character and driven my growth. These challenges, though formidable, have served as catalysts for personal development and unwavering determination.

### 1. Lacking of Fees and Learning Materials

Growing up in a family with limited financial resources, the challenge of affording school fees and essential learning materials was a constant companion. However, this obstacle taught me resourcefulness. I became adept at seeking out alternative ways to access books and study materials, including borrowing from peers, utilizing community resources, and finding scholarships or financial assistance when available.

### 2. Poor Background

Coming from a disadvantaged background presented its own set of challenges. My family's economic struggles made it difficult to meet even the basic needs, let alone invest in extracurricular activities or educational enrichment. Nevertheless, this background instilled in me a strong work ethic and a profound appreciation for the value of education. It fueled my determination to rise above my circumstances and pursue my academic aspirations.

### 3. Being Pulled - High School

High school brought a unique set of challenges, including the experience of being pulled. This form of bullying was a test of my resilience and character. Instead of succumbing to the pressure, I chose to stand up for myself and protect my peers from such harassment. This difficult experience taught me the importance of courage and standing up for what is right.

### 4. Pressure from Rich Students and Their Lifestyle

High school also exposed me to the contrasting lives of more affluent students. Their opulent lifestyles, often characterized by fancy cars and fashionable attire, created a sense of disparity. I learned not to be envious but rather to draw motivation from these differences. I focused on my own path, using their successes as inspiration to work harder to achieve my goals.

### 5. Failing in Some Units Due to Inadequate Preparation

Failing in certain units during my academic journey was a painful experience. However, these failures were not the end but stepping stones to improvement. They taught me the importance of meticulous preparation and time management. With each setback, I refined my approach to studies and developed a stronger commitment to continuous learning.

### 6. Poverty

The overarching challenge of poverty has been a constant companion throughout my life. It has been a motivator, a source of resilience, and a reminder of the importance of hard work. Despite the difficulties poverty brought, it never deterred me from pursuing my education and aspiring for a better future.

# Chapter 6

## Inspirations

Life is often filled with challenges, but it is also brimming with dreams and aspirations that drive us forward, providing motivation and purpose. My journey, like many others, is Faithed by a series of dreams and goals that I aim to achieve in the years ahead.

### 1. Graduating

The immediate aspiration that lies ahead is the completion of my university education. Graduating will Faith a significant milestone, a culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and a commitment to learning. It represents not only academic achievement but also the unlocking of new opportunities and the gateway to a promising career.

### 2. Getting an Internship in a Big Company

Following graduation, I aspire to secure an internship in a renowned and reputable company, particularly in the field of Computer Science. This opportunity will allow me to gain hands-on experience, apply my knowledge in a professional setting, and learn from experts in the field. It is a stepping stone to further career growth.

### 3. Getting a Job

Securing a stable and fulfilling job in my chosen field is a significant goal. This step signifies the beginning of a professional career where I can contribute to projects, make a meaningful impact, and continue to expand my knowledge and skills. It also Faiths financial independence and the ability to support myself and my family.

### 4. Doing BSC (Computer Science) Freelancing in My Free Time

In addition to my primary job, I hope to engage in freelancing in the realm of BSC (Computer Science) during my free time. Freelancing provides the opportunity to take on independent projects, work with a diverse clientele, and diversify my experience. It also offers the flexibility to explore a range of projects that align with my interests.

### 5. Building a Flat Roof, Fancy Modern Mansion House with a Swimming Pool

One of my long-held dreams is to build a luxurious, modern mansion with a flat roof and a stunning swimming pool. This aspiration is not only a symbol of personal achievement but also a testament to the dedication and hard work that have propelled me to success. The house will be a sanctuary for my family and a place to create lasting memories.

### 6. Buying a Car, My Dream Mercedes

Owning a Mercedes, which has been my dream car for years, is a personal milestone that I aspire to achieve. It represents the culmination of years of hard work and financial stability. The car will not only serve as a mode of transportation but also a symbol of personal achievement.

### 7. Getting married

Lastly, I aspire to find a life partner, getting married to a handsome and loving husband, and start a family. It is my hope to have a daughter, and together, we will create a loving and nurturing home. Family is a cornerstone of life, and it is a dream I hold close to my heart.