



**Mathare Social Justice Centre (MSJC)**  
**Social Justice Advocacy and Documentation of Rights Violations**  
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Mathare Social Justice Centre (MSJC)

**KIAMAIKO DIALOGUE ON LAND GRABBING AND EXTRA JUDICIAL KILLINGS**

Post-Event Report

August 2015

“We do not see a reason to give birth” was one of the powerful statements that came out of the *Kiamaiko Dialogue on Land Grabbing and Extra Judicial Killings*. The sentiment from many people was “why should we give birth when the police are killing our children with such impunity?”





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On July 26<sup>th</sup> 2015 while Obama was lying to Africans about bringing business to young Kenyans and blocking our roads, we were with his brother and other real Obama's of the poor who are active community members of Mathare Social Justice Centre.

Over 80 people turned up for the meeting, or for a few moments of solidarity, to come and share their experiences of extra judicial killings and land grabbing in this part of Mathare. Continuing on with the struggle for justice the Mathare Social Justice Centre (MSJC) organized this forum which followed our June 26<sup>th</sup> event: ***Mathare Youth Dialogue on Extra Judicial Killings***. This first event coincided with the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

We had set up this July meeting in Huruma Sports Grounds. This is the site where known members of Huruma Police Station had killed two young minors four months before in full view of other minors and their mothers. They still walk free, and have killed others since. This is the "black spot" of police killings in Mathare. Many many young people have been killed here. We are not going to live like this anymore.

At the meeting we shared experiences with land grabbing and extra judicial killings, and the connections between these that occur due to the collaborations between landowners, the chief, the city council and the police who threaten many youth including our members. In addition, we were happy to have Kamau from Kamukunji Human Rights Defenders come and share their struggles and successes against police violence, forced evictions and land grabbing in Kamukunji.

We also recognized the forced evictions all over the city, and the people of Deep Sea settlement in Parklands whose homes and lives are in jeopardy for this very reason. It seems Nairobi only grows by killings and displacement and the demolitions in Mathare 3C, opposite Moi Airbase, on the morning of August 20<sup>th</sup> testify to this. Residents were awoken at 5 in the morning by city council bulldozers and thousands of administrative police. Their homes and businesses were flattened.

While we spoke and shared with each other, one issue that was constantly raised was the issue of fear. People feared that if they said anything "tomorrow it would be them" and so many of them were guarded



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and refrained from talking for fear of informers. This makes us wonder whether Article 26 of the constitution which gives us the right to life means anything.

Furthermore, it was recognized that even if the police say everyone in Mathare is a thief and that is why they brought the police station here, we know that they are the real thieves who make the police station a business and keep stealing peoples children in the most violent and obscene ways.

We continue on with ongoing documentation of violations and charting the way forward together in Mathare. In addition, in the coming months we shall also be working with other Nairobi based activists on a justice campaign for the Kibagare Wetland whose destruction will affect many poor residents of the city.

We hope soon to have an “office” in a shared space in one of the containers that is at the edge of the Huruma Sports Ground. Come find us; we will be in one of the two green containers next to the chickens and rabbits and in front of the communal pool table. Feel free to donate a table a chair, constitutions, tea or even an old computer. Mostly just bring a critical and conscious solidarity.

Much appreciation to Brian Furst a law student and intern at the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) for tracking down and bringing us many constitutions on a boda boda on the day that Obama had blocked the roads. Many thanks also to Network for Pan-African Solidarity (NPAS) Toronto for the monetary contribution. Thank you to all the members of RPP, Kamukunji Human Rights Defenders, Peace Brigades International (PBI), Joan of SID, MC of Ghetto Foundation and to Marion Deniaud of the French embassy for participating and showing your solidarity. Above all thank you to the people of Mathare and lazima kazi iendelee.

We invite you to keep informed and participate in our various activities as we work towards stopping all violations in Mathare and struggling for much needed justice.



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*A luta continua  
Mathare Social Justice Centre.*