



MUST

STUDENTS'

MAGAZINE

2024/25 | 4TH ISSUE



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Editorial Note



FAVOURITE QUOTE

"A MAN WHO DOES NOT EAT OUT THINKS HIS MOTHER IS A BEST COOK"

It is with immense joy and gratitude that I welcome you to yet another thrilling edition of the MUST Students' Magazine, a student-centred publication featuring achievements, historic moments and inspiring stories born from passion, innovation, and the vibrant spirit of creativity that defines our university, MUST, Where excellence reigns!

First and foremost, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) administration for their unwavering support and direction throughout this journey. Your continued investment in student-led initiatives like this magazine speaks volumes about your commitment to nurturing holistic development in us.

To our remarkable lecturers, thank you for imparting your wisdom, guiding our academic pursuits, and challenging us to think critically, innovative and communicate effectively. As a student pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Language, Communication and culture yet the director of publications, I am particularly grateful for the opportunity to put theory into practice, crafting narratives, editing contributions, and shaping content that speaks to our diverse student body.

Sincere appreciation goes to my fellow MUST Students Representative Council (MSRC) members for your cooperation, insights, and constant advocacy on behalf of students. Your leadership has been instrumental in helping this publication reflect the real voices and concerns of the student community.

To my fellow students, thank you for your contributions, creativity, and continued hard work. You are the lifeblood of this magazine, and it is your stories, achievements, and talents that we proudly showcase.

A special salute goes to my incredible publications team. Your dedication, unity, and unwavering commitment made this edition possible. From brainstorming ideas to late-night edits, you have proven that collaboration truly breeds excellence.

Dear reader, as you flip through these pages, prepare to be inspired, informed, and entertained. This magazine is more than just a collection of articles, it's a vibrant tapestry of student life, a celebration of our culture, intellect, and innovation. Enjoy the ride!

With gratitude and excitement,

CHIKUMBUTSO CONSTANTINE MWALE

**Bachelor of Arts in Language, Communication and Culture
Malawi University of Science and Technology**

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

MUST STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

2024/25

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Kude Appointed CSA Vice President

By Williams Mhango

Alexander M. Kude, the first SRC- President re-elected at MUST had on September 9, 2024, appointed as the Deputy Country Representative for Malawi by the Commonwealth Students Association (CSA).

In his new position, Kude will play a substantial role in connecting with student groups, promoting CSA's initiatives, and helping young people across Malawi.

His responsibilities include acting as a link between CSA and local institutions, searching for organizations with similar goals, and building meaningful partnerships that support students' development, welfare and leadership.

"This appointment marks a new chapter for me. I've always been committed to standing up for students and making sure their voices are included where decisions are made, not just here at MUST, but across Malawi. This position now will even take me across borders," explained Kude in an interview.

Alexander Kude is in his fifth-year, studying a Bachelor of Engineering in Polymer and Textile Engineering (Hons), and his appointment as the Deputy Country Representative is an epitome of MUST's commitment to nurturing its students not only academically, but also leadership wise.

GET TO KNOW YOUR SRC



Martin, AD re-elect

Born on January 26, 2000, in Malawi's Northern Region, Martin Chimlomo's journey is one of quiet leadership and unwavering dedication to academic excellence. From an early age, Martin displayed a natural inclination for leadership and service, a path that would define his educational journey and inspire many.

Martin began his academic path at Moyale Full Primary School, where his commitment to education quickly stood out. He continued his studies at Moyale Community Day Secondary School, where he not only excelled academically but also emerged as a trusted leader. While in form three, Martin was elected Head Boy, a role that allowed him to serve and represent his peers with integrity and maturity beyond his age.

After completing his secondary education, he earned a place at the prestigious MUST, where he is currently pursuing a degree in Water Quality and Management. His time at MUST has been marked by both academic dedication and impactful student leadership.

In his second year, Martin was elected Director of Academic Affairs within the Students' Representative Council (SRC), a position that entrusted him with representing and advocating for the academic interests of his fellow students. His passion for education and ability to connect with others quickly gained him recognition beyond his university. That same year, he was elected Chairperson of the Public Universities Academic Directorate Forum, a national platform uniting academic directors from all public universities in Malawi. This remarkable achievement made him a voice for student leadership across Malawi's public universities.

Now in his third year at MUST, Martin has been re-elected as Director of Academic Affairs, a testament to the trust and respect he continues to earn from his peers. His story is a reflection of resilience, vision, and a deep commitment to education and service.

"I like academic leadership. Here at MUST, I'm particularly inspired by the values of 'Excellence, Commitment, Umunthu and Professionalism.' I'm looking forward to contributing to Malawi's academic excellence at high levels in years to come," explained Martin.

Martin Chimlomo stands as a beacon of youth leadership in Malawi, proof that with determination, service, and integrity, the future belongs to those who dare to lead.



BIT FRESH GRADUATES LAUNCH A SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT FIRM

By Shadrek Mweso

Just a month after graduating from MUST, three Business Information Technology (BIT) graduates have launched an innovative software development company called Optimum Systems Limited.

Vincent Kaotche, Chawangwa Kamanga, and Shadrek Kasera, all of whom graduated with credits, had been involved in various ICT projects and competitions during their time at MUST.

These includes participation in the 2022 UNESCO India Africa hackathon held from November 22 to 25 in India.

Already registered, Optimum Systems Limited Company offers Custom Web Systems, Mobile Apps, AI Solutions, Data Analytics, and Web hosting services.

In an interview, Kasera, the firm’s Business Operations Manager, said the idea to open the company began while in their third year, particularly after they were exposed to business courses like Economics, Accounting, Corporate Finance, and Business Entrepreneurship.

“These courses opened our eyes to the potential of combining business principles with software development skills to address real-world problems,” said Kasera.

He said lecturers from the Computer Science and Information Technology Department and the head, Dr Bennett Kankuzi, were also a huge motivation in this inspiring journey.

According to Kasera their ambition is to see Optimum Systems Limited becoming a leader in system development, recognized for delivering innovative and reliable solutions while championing Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies such as AI.

This development highlights MUST’s commitment to nurturing its students to become key leaders in the actualization of MW2063 by offering groundbreaking innovations that facilitate the industrialization of Malawi’s economic sectors.





A proud pose with the guests after the pages came to life

WQM GRADUATE LAUNCHES A TRANSFORMATIVE BOOK

By Paul Shagant

On March 14, 2025, Grace Mwakhwawa, a fresh graduate in Water Quality and Management from MUST and currently working with the Southern Region Water Board, unveiled her enlightening book titled *Embracing the Supremacy of Personal Growth*.

The launch took place in the Library Auditorium at the MUST main campus and was honored by the presence of Dr. Atikonda Mtenje-Mkochi, the Executive Dean of the Bingu School of Culture and Heritage at MUST, who represented Vice Chancellor Professor Address Malata as the Guest of Honour. Other distinguished attendees included the book reviewer, Sir Mwayi Chiumia, and Pastor Roy Joseni.

Grace shared her enthusiasm about the launch, reflecting on her journey to becoming an author of a book that combines real-life experiences with practical growth strategies, providing readers with a useful guide to unlocking their personal potential.

"This book serves as a practical roadmap for cultivating personal growth and development. It highlights grit, resilience, and positive networking as essential elements for personal advancement. It is a '360 guide' that encourages readers to foster a relentless desire for self-improvement," Grace stated.



Sir Mwayi Chiumia commended the book for its insightful content, urging students to read it for wisdom and personal transformation.

The event featured an engaging author's conversation with Shadrek Mweso, along with presentations by Dr. Atikonda Mtenje-Mkochi and Innocent Mandali, complemented by musical and poetic performances from the MUST Writers' Guild.

Grace's book launch is a testament to the rich talent MUST students and graduates hold beyond the knowledge acquired in classrooms.

HUAWEI FLIES CHISOMO TO CHINA

By *Charlie Mtambalika*

On June 20, 2024, through its Seeds for Future program, Huawei flew Chisomo Jackson Kambalame, a third-year MUST Computer Systems and Security student to China to appreciate advanced technologies and Chinese culture.

This prestigious opportunity was awarded to her alongside Rejoice Banda from University of Malawi for their exceptional performance at the Huawei's 2023 Tech4Good competition which held in Lilongwe.

According to Chisomo, the competition whose focus was on creating solution-driven ideas using emerging technologies brought at least five students from each public university in Malawi who competed at national level, and only two of them were awarded the trip.

Reflecting on this honor, Chisomo shared: "It was early this year when I received a message from the Seeds for the Future program notifying me that I had been awarded a digital trip to China because of my performance at last year's competition in Lilongwe. It has been a life-changing experience."

While in China, Chisomo had the rare privilege of visiting Huawei's iconic headquarters and production plant, where she witnessed the intricate process of smartphone manufacturing before exploring the state-of-the-art Smart City Center, where emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) are being used to monitor and drive national development activities.

Expressing her awe, Chisomo remarked, "I was amazed at how developed countries like China conduct their day-to-day activities with such discipline and efficiency."

She encouraged her fellow students to actively participate in international competitions, highlighting how such opportunities broaden perspectives and open doors to life-changing experiences.

"Never look down on yourself; act on every innovative idea that comes to mind. Success is not about age—it's about intellectual ability and determination", she advised.

Chisomo's journey is a testament to the potential of Malawian students to shine on the global stage. Her success not only elevates MUST's reputation but also serves as an inspiration for young innovators to dream big and pursue their goals with unwavering confidence.



Chisomo: Enjoying her stay in China



"Never look down on yourself". Advised Chisomo.



Girls at the symposium, changing the game

GALANTAS HOLD ENGINEERING SYMPOSIUM

By Takondwa Sembo

MUST final-year engineering students (galantas) on 12 April 2025 held an Engineering Symposium at Lotus Hotel in Blantyre.

Themed "Engineering Tomorrow: Innovation for a Sustainable and Smart Future," the event brought together students, academics, industry leaders, and thinkers to celebrate innovation and promote collaboration between academia and the industry.

A highlight of the event was the exhibition of the students' projects, where three outstanding innovations secured funding and six others earned prestigious awards for excellence and impact.

Delivering the keynote address, Eng. Ammiel Champiti, CEO of the Roads Authority, challenged the students to embrace entrepreneurship after graduation.

"You don't need to wait to be employed. If you have knowledge and a strong vision, start something. Be specific, do your homework, and stay open to learning from those who have walked the path before you," he advised.

Peter Ngwira, a MUST alumnus and CEO of Nyasa Engineering Consultancy Limited, shared his journey from lecture halls to executive leadership, urging students to think beyond academia

"Don't just think of projects as academic work. Think bigger—think solutions that can solve real problems and make money," he explained.

Mtondera Vitu-Faith Manda, the symposium's organizing chairperson and a final-year manufacturing engineering student, reflected on the event's success.



Students locked in at Galantas Symposium

"This symposium has changed our mindset. We now see engineering not just as theory, but as a powerful tool to innovate, create, and lead," she said.

The symposium attracted sponsorship from leading companies, including EGENCO, Nyasa Engineering Consultancy, Old Mutual, NOCMA, Illovo, and Cimag Media, demonstrating strong industry support for the next generation of engineers.

The symposium affirmed that the future of engineering in Malawi is not only bright, but driven by youths who are ready to build, innovate, and lead.

CAROLINE MTAFYA A.K.A EDICKEL REIGNS: MUST RISING STAR & UMP CYPHER AWARD WINNER

By Promise Mandala

When the beat dropped and the spotlight hit, one voice cut through with clarity, confidence, and conviction. Edickel Reigns, real name Caroline Mtafya. Representing MUST, she did not just deliver a verse but a message that captured the hearts of the nation and earned her the Best Verse (Female) award at the 2025 UMP Cypher Awards.

Streaming live on YouTube, the UMP Cypher Awards brought together young talent from thirteen universities and colleges across Malawi, yet among the fierce competition, it was Edickel Reigns who stood out.

In an interview with MUST Students' Publications, Reigns explained that through her verse, she wanted to make a statement of independence and self-worth.

"It wasn't just about the rhythm. I wanted to show that no matter what others say, you can rise. You can stand tall. You don't need validation to be powerful." She said.

Reigns' performance was not just technically brilliant but emotionally charged and deeply personal. As the only female in her cypher group, she acknowledged the pressure, but denied shrinking back. Her courage became her fuel, transforming what could have been fear into fierce determination.

"I was nervous. But I told myself, you belong here just as much as anyone else," she reflected.

Her words resonated especially with young women across Malawi, many of whom saw themselves reflected in her boldness and vulnerability.

"She gave us a voice. She showed us that it's okay to take up space," one female viewer commented online.

While music is her passion, Reigns is quick to remind others that education remains a top priority.

"Chase your dreams, yes. But don't forget your books. It's not always about choosing one over the other. Just stay focused and you can do both," she explained.

Marie Thom, spokesperson for Chitoliro Productions—the team behind the UMP Cypher Awards—called Reigns' performance a shining example of the event's mission.

"We aim to uncover hidden gems across Malawi, and Edickel is one of them. Her talent, bravery, and authenticity represent everything this platform stands for," she explained.

For MUST, Reigns' victory is a moment of pride, reinforcing the university's growing reputation as a hub of creativity and talent. But for Reigns, it's more than a trophy—it's the beginning of something greater.

And as the beat goes on, one thing is certain, Edickel Reigns is not just here to participate but to lead, to inspire, and to reign.



Edickel Reigns with her awards



MUST students after a cleanup exercise

MUST STUDENTS UNDER QS IMPACT COUNCIL CLEAN GOLIATI MARKET

By *Patience Chinkhunda*

On 19 October 2024, MUST students under the QS Impact Council organization conducted a community clean-up exercise at Goliati Market in Thyolo.

QS Impact Council is a global charity initiative that empowers young leaders by equipping them with the skills to drive impactful actions through strategic collaborations with universities, organizations, and communities.

The aim is to inspire and support young individuals in making meaningful differences in their communities, aligning with the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The cleaning exercise demonstrated QS Impact's commitment to community engagement, environmental sustainability, and aligning with the SDGs.

MUST's QS Impact Council President, Gomezgani Msowoya, commended the initiative, emphasizing its potential for impactful projects and collective action for meaningful change.

"We have laid a solid foundation, and united, we will create impactful projects, aligning with QS Impact's mission," he said.

The clean-up activity showcased QS Impact's dedication to community engagement, environmental sustainability, youth empowerment, and the SDGs.

MUST students' involvement in such initiatives embodies the university's value of openness to diversity and collaboration for impactful actions in communities.

COSTUME PARTY KICKS OFF STUDENTS' SOCIAL WEEKEND



Students dressed to impress

By Williams Mhango

The much-anticipated Students' Social Weekend, which ran from 20 to 23 March, kicked off in unforgettable style with a lively and colourful costume party. Students came dressed in their wildest and most creative outfits, from male students dressed as pregnant women with full bellies that looked like they could give birth in a few minutes, traditional wear, pop culture icons, and everything in between. The crazy costumes on display lit up the campus, turning the day into a playful and energetic celebration.

But it was not just about the costumes, it was about the feeling. The party gave students a moment to breathe, to unwind from the pressure of academics, and to simply enjoy being together. The music was loud, the laughter was everywhere, and the joy was undeniable.

As the event was buzzing with excitement, one student's file bag caught attention. On it was the phrase, "Kuthamangisa ma file", a widely known expression among students. It refers to the challenging academic routine of university life, from attending classes and working on assignments to juggling group discussions and racing against unmerciful due dates. It's a reminder of the demanding routine that students face, and yet, for this weekend, it was all about taking a break and relaxing.

The costume party set the mood for the rest of the weekend, and from the energy on that first day, it was clear that students were ready to make every moment count.



'It's not mine!' — 'No, it's yours, and you know'



Catch him if you can... he's late for everything!



Students enjoying the open space



Energy and smiles on the dance floor

FROM BOOKS TO BEATS: ZEZE SPICES UP THE SOCIAL WEEKEND

By Williams Mhango

The social weekend at MUST, held from 7 to 9 February 2025, featured an exciting intercollege tour show, with a crowd-pulling performance by Zeze Kingston that had students buzzing with energy. As night fell, the energy was electric. Zeze Kingston and his 50 Billion Gang hit the stage, and the crowd was instantly hyped. Students were singing and chanting, “Zeze! We wanna party!”, echoing his favourite phrase as the excitement built up. The music was great, the vibe was lively, and everyone was enjoying the night, leaving behind the usual university stresses.

For all students, the night was a chance to come together, celebrate, and make lasting memories. But for the final-year students, this party was something special. The final-year students danced, marking the end of their time as university students. This was their 8 of 8 and 10 of 10 moment, a final opportunity to celebrate everything they had worked for over the last four and five years, respectively. Both groups were there to embrace everything they had achieved and make the most of their last celebration as students before moving on to the next chapter of life.

Entertainment Director Wilson Chiwale, known by his stage name Termino, described the weekend as a fitting celebration of student life.

“We wanted to create something that brings everyone together, something that’s both fun and meaningful,” he said.

Judging by the energy and turnout, the weekend lived up to that goal, leaving students with lasting memories and a shared sense of joy.

Zeze Kingston was not alone during the performance, though. He was joined by a company of notable musicians, including Malinga, the hitmaker behind the popular track “Pasapezeke fanta pa bill yanga.” True to his style, Zeze kept the crowd pumped, feeding off the energy and shouting back his signature line, “Zeze! We wanna party!”, as the night turned into one to remember.



Zeze: “Iwe umati”



Kingston hugs top-fan on stage



MEMORY WINS YOUTH DIGITAL INNOVATION CHALLENGE AWARD

By **Shadrek Mweso**

Fourth-year Biomedical Engineering student at MUST, Memory Mbawala, has won an award in the 2024 Digital Innovation Challenge.

The challenge was organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports as part of this year's celebration of the International Youth Day, which was themed "From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development."

In an interview, Mbawala said that she learnt about the challenge from a call-for-proposal flyer the Ministry sent through the MUST Institute of Industrial Research and Innovation (MIIRI).

"Mr Nelson Mwenifumbo, an Innovation Manager, shared a flyer about the challenge on a WhatsApp forum. The call urged us, Malawian youths, to share our innovation by providing its summary, including objectives, target audience, impact, scalability, and supporting materials like visuals or videos. I decided to try my luck," said Mbawala.

She submitted her web-based medical application 'DocinPocket' which targets the elderly and people with disabilities, especially those who have been diagnosed with chronic illnesses.

"The application, basically, is like a doctor in one's pocket which aims at helping people with mobility challenges, including elderly people, with services like symptoms checker, natural remedies, medicine, and dosage. It also features the location of the nearest health centre and contact details of some well-trained medical personnel," explained Mbawala.

For coming second, Mbawala was awarded a K2 million cheque and a trophy. The award ceremony was held at Mgodhi Primary School in Machinga during this year's International Youth Day commemorations on October 11, 2024.

The first prize of K2.5 million went to Martin Chirwa of Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR).

Mbawala's award highlights MUST commitment to nurturing its students in coming up with impactful innovative technologies that offer solutions to both existing and emerging challenges.



GALANTAS , FINALES HOLD FAIRWELL DINNER

By Jonathan Phiri

On March 15, 2025, fifth-year (galantas) and fourth-year (finales) students from MUST gathered for a momentous farewell dinner at the Amaryllis Hotel in Blantyre.

The event created a warm and inspiring atmosphere, uniting students, staff, and sponsors, and truly reflecting a sense of unity and achievement.

The evening featured enlightening speeches and testimonials from esteemed guests, including Mr. Patrick Kambadza, Managing Director of Blithe Construction Limited, who was the guest of honor; Mr. Alfred Chinombo, the MUST University Registrar; Mr. Pemphero Mphande, the CEO of 265 Dates; Mr. Nohaata Seven, the co-founder of PayChangu and Changu Food; and Mr. Austin Mbotwa, a representative of Standard Bank. Other notable individuals in attendance included Dr. Duncan Batizani, the MUST Assistant Registrar-Academics, and Mr. Henry Chipbaka, the MUST warden.

All speeches were not only congratulatory but also inspirational, encouraging students to embrace diligence, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit.

"It's not easy out there if you lack hard work and creativity. As a MUST graduate, we expect you to embody these qualities. I challenge you to think outside the box, create your own valuable products, and increase your bank balance until it matches the digits of your Airtel number," advised Mr. Kambadza.

Evalisto Chizeka, the Chairperson of the organizing committee and a fifth-year Biomedical Engineering student, said the event was a great success and thanked MUST and all sponsors for the support.

During the event, some students received awards in various categories, recognizing their social, academic, and leadership excellence.

The following day, brimming with excitement, the students took the celebration to Cape Maclear in Mangochi, where they enjoyed swimming and the breathtaking lake scenery.

This event not only marked the end of the students' 'trans-mbembembe' at MUST but also served as a heartfelt tribute to their successful journey at the university, where excellence is a constant pursuit.

MUST CLASS OF 2025 FINALE – GALANTA
DINNER IN PICTURE'S







MUST CLASS OF 2025

FINALE – GALANTA

DINNER AWARDS

AWARD	WINNER
SOCIAL AWARDS	
1. Most Beautiful	Prisca Namukopwe
2. Most Handsome	Hillary Mazibuko
3. Couple of the Year	Martha Dzanjalimodz and Jim Chimbuto
4. Miss Enjoyment of the Year	Mtondera Manda
5. Mr Enjoyment of the Year	Chifuniro Kapota
6. Drunkard of the Year (Female)	Temwanani Pensulo
7. Drunkard of the Year (Male)	Joe Phiri
8. Stoner of the Year	Brian Chabuka
9. Entrepreneur of the Year	Charles Kamwendo
10. Swaz of Year	Tiwonge Michelle Gausi
11. Duo/Group of the Year (Female)	Monalisa Chimtolo & Chikondi Masache
12. Duo / Group of the Year(Male)	Hamza Nkhumbwa, Hillary Mazibuko, Clever Chipembere and Peter Simbeye
13. Most Sociable of the year (Female)	Leticia Andrew
14. Most Sociable of the Year (Male)	Alexander Kude
15. Campus Celebrity of the Year(Female)	Leticia Kanthiti
16. Campus celebrity of the Year (Male)	Capital Mangochi
17. Best Artist of the Year	Gift Mwale (Cynique Mw)
18. Most Energetic of the Year (Female)	Temwanani Pensulo
19. Most Energetic of the Year (Male)	Trevor Jim
20. Prayer warrior of the Year	Praise Phiri
ACADEMIC AWARDS	
1. Bookworm of the Year	Sheilavia Thompson
2. Academic Giant of the Year (Female)	Prisca Namukopwe
3. Academic Giant of the Year (Male)	Trevor Jim
4. Most Innovative Student (Female)	Mtondera Manda
5. Most Innovative Student (Male)	Bernard Kalambo
6. Leadership Excellence Award (Female)	Leticia Andrew
7. Leadership Excellence Award (Male)	Alexander Kude



Precious, Jonas and Prof. Martha Sullivan during the presentation

IKSP STUDENTS PRESENT A PAPER IN SINGAPORE

By *Chimwemwe John Mlauzi*

Jonas Nyasulu and Precious Mbeya, both third-year students pursuing a Bachelor of Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP) at MUST, had the distinct honour of presenting a paper on behalf of their class at the 19th International Conference on Design Principles and Practices, held from 25–27 February 2025 in Singapore.

Hosted by Lasalle College of the Arts, a leading institution under the Singapore University of the Arts, the conference brought together students, academics, and professionals from around the world.

The event was a melting pot of ideas, innovation, and cultural exchange, all centered around the transformative power of design in society.

Together, they presented a paper titled "Public Health Murals as Practice-Based Learning: Design Makes a Positive Impact on Women's Health in Malawi," co-authored with Professor Martha Sullivan of Virginia Tech, USA.

"The paper draws from the Mother and Baby Care Mural Project at Thyolo District Hospital, where their class collectively restored over 20 deteriorated murals and refreshed critical health messages bridging language barriers through imagery and enhancing community awareness.

In an interview after their return, the students expressed deep appreciation for everyone who made the journey possible.

We are immensely grateful to Professor Martha Sullivan for her unwavering mentorship, from the early stages of the mural project to the final presentation in Singapore," they said. "Our heartfelt thanks also go to Mr. C. Ngwale, Dr. Eva Chikabadwa, and Dr. Atikonda Mtenjemkochi, Executive Dean of the Bingu School of Culture and Heritage, for their steadfast support and belief in us."

Reflecting on what the experience meant to them, they added, "This journey was not just ours it belonged to every student who contributed to the murals at Thyolo, and to every member of our academic community who believes in the power of Indigenous Knowledge and creative expression. We are proud to have carried the spirit of Malawi onto the global stage."

Their participation in this international conference was more than an academic milestone it was a profound experience that broadened their worldview and deepened their commitment to using design as a tool for community development.





Clever enjoying his time in China

PASSION FOR CHINESE LANGUAGE AWARDS
CHIPEMBERE A TRIP TO CHINA

By Charlie Mtambalika & Promise Mandala

Clever Chipembere, a fourth-year student at MUST, has recently returned from China, where he attended the prestigious Chinese Bridge competition, a renowned language proficiency event.

Chipembere, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Language, Communication, and Culture, spent a week in China from August 29 to September 4, 2024. He was chosen as an observer after securing second place in the national competition in Malawi.

During his time in China, Chipembere gained invaluable insights into both the Chinese language and culture.

“I was captivated by the historical and cultural significance of landmarks like the Great Wall and Pingtan Lake, which I had the opportunity to visit. I also observed that the Chinese people deeply value their cultural heritage, unlike us in Malawi, where Western influences have affected our traditions,” he shared.

Chipembere was inspired by the competitors’ mastery of the Chinese language and learned various techniques to enhance his own oral skills.

“To achieve fluency, it’s crucial to engage with native speakers. To improve my Chinese, I need to immerse myself in environments where I can practice with them,” he explained.

His experience in China has motivated Chipembere to intensify his practice of the Chinese language.

He hopes to apply the insights he gained from the competition to his studies and future endeavors.

Mr. Ouyang Yi, a Chinese lecturer at MUST commended his student’s initiative.

“I always encourage my students to foster self-motivation in their academic journeys, including learning Chinese. Consistent practice is essential as it prepares them for unforeseen challenges. Immersing themselves in Chinese culture and language not only deepens their understanding but also opens up new career opportunities. By embracing such experiences, students gain a competitive advantage, unlock new possibilities, and develop a broader worldview, ultimately fostering meaningful global connections,” he stated.

Chipembere’s participation in the Chinese Bridge competition highlights the increasing interest in Chinese language and culture among MUST students.

His experience stands as a testament to the benefits of cultural exchange programs and underscores the importance of language proficiency in our interconnected world.





Syton (C), explaining his innovation

MPHAKA DEVELOPS A FLOOD MONITORING, EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

By *Shadrek Mweso*

Syton C. Mphaka, a third-year student in Meteorology and Climate Science, has developed a flood monitoring and early warning system that responds to changes in water levels of nearby water bodies.

This system incorporates electronic elements such as water level sensors and an Arduino microcontroller, which processes variations in water levels, and has the capacity of calling and sending warning SMS messages globally to users who have a mobile application integrated with it.

For those living nearby without access to phones, an alarm is in place to emit an alert sound.

In an interview, Mphaka shared that the inspiration for this innovative system stemmed from the devastating effects of Cyclone Fredy in 2023.

“After witnessing videos of people drowning, homes collapsing while families slept, and the destruction of livestock, crops, and infrastructure without any warning system, I developed this system in the same year. Unfortunately, it remains stagnant due to funding challenges,” Mphaka explained.

Mphaka innovation showcases his creativity and ability to transform theoretical knowledge into problem-tailored solutions that have enabling ability to the realisation of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).





INNOCENT MANDILI: MALAWI'S YOUNG INSPIRING INNOVATOR

By Charlie Mtambalika

Innocent Mandili, a first-year student in Manufacturing at MUST, is making national and international waves as one of Malawi's most promising young innovators. From his base at Chitedze Research Station in Lilongwe, Mandili's company, MI Technologies and Innovations, is pioneering solutions in organic fertilizer production and clean energy—offering a youthful, homegrown response to some of Malawi's most pressing agricultural and energy challenges.

Mandili's innovation journey began in 2018 with the Mobile Biogas System (2018–2020), a groundbreaking project that enabled users to cook while generating electricity using locally available materials. This project earned him early recognition from platforms such as the Agri-tech Challenge, World Vision, Mhub, and the Ministry of Education.

But it was in 2024 that Innocent truly cemented his place in the spotlight. His latest invention—the Thermo EI Stove—uses eco-friendly briquettes made from sugarcane rind, maize husks, and paper waste to cook food and generate electricity simultaneously. The stove not only addresses environmental concerns but also meets practical energy needs in off-grid communities.

His innovation has since attracted a long list of prestigious awards and recognitions, including:

1. 1st Place Winner of the 2024 CEANGAL Project Award (SADC Region), hosted by Atlantic Technological University of Ireland
2. 2024 ICT Association of Malawi – Agritech Innovation Award
3. 2025 Recognition from the Japanese Embassy and Japanese Companies for sustainable rural technology
4. 2025 IUCC Innovation and Excellence Award
5. 2020 SADC Top 3 in Agritech Innovation
6. 2024 Top 100 Global Innovators Award



Innocent shaking hands with Minister of Agriculture



In addition to accolades, Innocent has secured support from major partners including Nxgen Labs, UNDP Malawi, World Bank, and the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS). He has received endorsements from high-profile figures such as Prof. Chomora Mikeka, Director of Science and Technology in the Ministry of Education, and Hon. Agnes Nyalonje Kambauwa Wilima, Minister of Education.

His story has been featured on major platforms including DW Africa TV, Hope Channels Malawi, and MBC TV, further solidifying his status as a role model for aspiring young innovators.

Innocent is not resting on his laurels. While balancing academics at MUST, he continues to expand MI Technologies' footprint, now introducing innovations like feed choppers, granulating machines, and branded organic fertilizer bags to communities in Malawi's Southern Region.

"Each award is a reminder that God is guiding this mission. Every success is a testimony of prayer, persistence, and purpose," Innocent reflects.

Born and raised in Phalombe, Innocent Mandili's journey from humble beginnings to global recognition is more than inspirational—it's transformational. As a MUST student, he exemplifies how youth, faith, and innovation can work hand in hand to change the future of Malawi.

With his company's motto, "Driving progress, empowering change," Mandili continues to shine as a beacon of what's possible when passion meets purpose.
<http://www.mitechnologymw.com>





MUST SCIE40 Club

MUST SCIE40 INNOVATION CLUB WINS VACAMR PROJECT LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION

By Shadrek Mweso

Science for All Innovation Club (SCIE40) at MUST has won the logo design competition which was organized by NIHR Global Health Research Group on Vaccines to Control Respiratory Pathogens and Antimicrobial Resistance across Africa (VacAMR).

VacAMR organized this competition in collaboration with Malawi-Liverpool Wellcome, KEMRI-Wellcome, Kenya; Navrongo Health Research Centre, Ghana; Nigeria Centre for Disease Control; Nigerian Institute for Medical Research, and Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques en Cote d'Ivoire with the aim of involving university students in drafting out a well-designed logo for its project.

The project seeks to transform the public health approach to controlling respiratory pathogens and antimicrobial resistance across Africa through vaccine and non-vaccine-based multimodal interventions.

MUST SCIE40 came first, Nigeria second, and Kenya third in the competition.

Other students' clubs from Malawi that participated in the competition include those from Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHS SCIE40), Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS SCIE40), and University of Malawi (UNIMA SCIE40).

For winning and participating in the competition, MUST SCIE40 as whole has been awarded a cash prize of K700,000, while Mphatso Misinde, a third-year Computer Systems and Security student who was the lead logo designer for MUST SCIE40, has been individually awarded a cash prize of US\$200 (about K340,000) for displaying outstanding abilities in logo designing.



Softlink
Photography

Meet Talandila Gowelo
enrolled at MUST to pursue
Bachelor of Science in
Immunology



Meet Gift Mwale enrolled at MUST to pursue Bachelor of Science in Water Quality and Management

Sub-Saharan Africa LEAP Digital Talent Study



Nyasha and her team

NYASHA AND HER TEAM SHINE AT LEAP DIGITAL TALENT CAMP IN CHINA

By Shadrek Mweso

A third-year Bachelor of Business Information Technology (BIT) student, Nyasha Chinthu, at MUST was part of a team of five students from tertiary institutions in Malawi which represented Malawi in the Huawei Sub-Saharan Africa LEAP Digital Talent Study Camp in China.

Held from 16th to 24th November 2024 in Shenzhen, China, the digital training camp was aimed at equipping young students from Sub-Saharan Africa with advanced digital skills and fostering innovation.

The program featured ICT technical courses such as 5G technologies, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Web3, Digital Power, cloud computing, and a leadership workshop.

Ultimately, the event culminated in the Tech4Good competition, where participants from different Sub-Saharan countries formed teams to create technology-driven solutions to pressing societal challenges.

Chinthu and her fellow Malawian students from Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS), University of Malawi (UNIMA), Mzuzu University (Mzuni) and National College of Information Technology (NACIT) formed a team called Malawi Rising Flames which developed an innovative agriculture solution called Smart-Soil which proposes an eco-friendly soil nutrient detection system which leverages AI and Internet of Things (IoT) to recommend fertilizer insights.

Out of 24 teams representing over 18 countries across Sub-Saharan Africa, the Malawi Rising Flames team's creativity and technical prowess earned them a spot in the Tech4Good semi-finals, where they competed against standout teams from South Africa, Mauritius and Kenya, and subsequently won the "Top 2 Projects" award alongside South Africa. This achievement qualifies the Malawi Rising Flames for the Global Competition, which will, again, take place in China next year.

In an interview, Chinthu acknowledged MUST for giving her the opportunity to participate in such an insightful camp.

"It was such an honor to be selected to represent MUST in such an eye-opening digital talent camp. I am so grateful to MUST for the opportunity, and I can't wait to use the insights gained from a portfolio of great minds to making positive impact in Malawi and beyond", said Chinthu.

Nyasha and her team's outstanding win in the Tech4Good competition at LEAP Digital Talent Study Camp highlights that as Malawians we can go a step further to being technology solutions creators in the global arena.



"It was such an honor to represent MUST" -Chinthu (R)

Art of an Artist



Pencil Artist since 2022.
Vincent Sibande





SRC RELIGIOUS DIRECTORATE, CHAPLAINCY OFFICE ARRANGE PRAYER, FASTING SESSION

By *Charlie Mtambalika*

On October 24, 2024, the SRC Religious Directorate in conjunction with the office of Chaplaincy Services at MUST held an interfaith prayer and fasting session in the university's main auditorium.

The event whose aim was to seek God's wisdom, protection and mercy ahead of end-of-semester exams, brought together schools, students, and staff from diverse religious backgrounds.

MUST Vice Chancellor, Professor Address Malata, attended the service and led the congregation in worship and prayer for academic success and student well-being.

Director of Religious Affairs Daniel Chima emphasized the importance of trusting in God and fostering inclusivity among all religious groups.

"Despite that we all primarily came for school and indeed affiliated to distinct religious organisations, it is important that we, sometimes, come together and seek God's blessings upon our everything we do here at MUST," said Chima.

He further outlined upcoming initiatives, including a gospel show, crusade and "OneHeart" launch to support students in need.

The session featured performances by Future Adventist Men singing group.

One of the participants at the service, a second-year BSc in Food Science and Technology student, Matthews Kunjira, praised the event, citing its significance in building spiritual confidence.

The prayer and fasting session showcased MUST's commitment to nurturing a supportive environment that prioritises spiritual well-being alongside academic excellence.



Students singing choruses.



CSO members pausing with their patron Mr. Juan

MUST CSO HOLDS ‘PILGRIMS OF HOPE’ FAREWELL DINNER

By Christella Macumi



Leticia Andrew: Galanta Representative

On the 8th of March, 2025, the MUST Catholic Student Organization(CSO) celebrated their graduating members with a delightful farewell dinner party at Nalipiri Eco Resort in Mulanje.

The dinner was themed “Pilgrims of Hope” after The Catholic Church 2025 Jubilee Year to honour the 46 graduating students as they embark on their new journey of faith, transformation and professional success.

The event which began with a prayer and opening remarks from CSO Chairperson, Emmanuel Phondiwa and CSO patron, Mr. Juan, was full of and warmth with uplifting speeches, artistic performances, delicious food and shared memories.



Emmanuel Phondiwa: MUST CSO 2025 Chairperson

Representatives of the Galanta and finale classes gave heart-warming speeches expressing gratitude to the CSO family and words of encouragement to their fellow students. This was followed by unique musical and dance performances by Chisomo and Charles and Mr. Spas that brought the entire room to dance, sing and laugh.

Innocent Mandili presented on his journey of innovation, inspiring the audience to believe and work towards their dreams and passions.

The guest of Honour, Mike Pendame delivered a brutally honest and powerful speech, emphasizing the importance of a heart of servitude as he said “ to live well is to work well and to work well is to serve.”



Pendame also urged us to ‘stay in our lanes’ by committing to the growth in our individual paths of life and not comparing ourselves to others.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the certifications and awards to each graduating member in recognition of their dedication and unique contributions the CSO.

The Dinner Party was a true testament to the thriving community fostered by the MUST CSO as they expressed their appreciation for the graduating members who played a big role in the growth of this community.

THE VOICELESS

By *Racheal Makowa*

My body is weary
Its no more a temple of God
Rather a gold mine
Whose resources have been harnessed
Valueless! Tattered in all its highs and lows

My throat is now dry
It no more struggles to call for help
Mine is a soul that accepted hell
For my voice goes no further than these walls
Voiceless now is an adjective that defines me

My mind is now unstable
You call it depression or all those fancy names
you got
But this man who was to be my second God
Keeps eating my treasured forbidden fruit

My mind wrecks a thousand times, every time
he does it
So, tell me how can I have a stable mind
For the last time he ate out of me
I swear I almost died!
And just the thought oof death
Made me smile....

LOYALTY

By *Favour Ambie Matope*

As it rises from the east
And sets in the west,
it catches my eye,
A loyal companion, steadfast and true,
Following it throughout, through dawn's dew.

And as it dips low,
and daylight fades,
My heart remains, in love's shades,
A constant devotion,
one time cannot erase,
A bond strengthened,
by each passing day's pace.

Just as I'm drawn to it,
in endless, loving ways,
My heart beats for you,
in the same, devoted ways.
I call it loyalty.

A KIND OF DEATH

By *Nnikiwe Soko*

She dies in pieces, not all at once,
A slow erosion beneath the sun.
Not by blade or bullet or fall--

But by whispers, and hungry stares, by nothing at all.

she has insults carved into her skin,
'Lil slut,' they sneer as they pass and grin.
Their eyes judge, their mouths water and conspire,

Fueling a death that is already on fire.
Men touch what's left with hands of stone,
Breaking a body already disowned.
her bruises bloom like violent art,
They say she was already scared, from the start.

Her soul is willing, her will is weak,
Her body screams, but she cannot speak.
Each night she drowns in another's sweat,
the devils forsaken.

What's left of her hides in the dark,
A flicker of flame, a dying spark.
The streets call her, but not by name,
She's just a pawn in a man's game

This is a kind of death, you see,
Not quick, not clean, not meant to be.
It's the rot that eats from the inside out,
The silence of screams you'll never shout.

A kind of death that wears a face,
But leaves no body, leaves no trace.
A kind of death no one will mourn,
and every day it is reborn.

ALWAYS

By *Danie Junior*

I wanna love you in every caresway ,
Thoughtful to blend and not to break
One always beside you, always
For hours on end.

I wanna be your getaway from bitter sad
days with loving memories.
Safer to stay, always compassionate .
Visioned we'd live past every hassle
Leaning on each other's backs tirelessly.
Carrying each other's weights always

FRUSTRATION*By Ropafadzo Kwindani*

Skeletons in your closet
 Monsters under your bed
 Sentiments so absurd
 Disruptive illusions in your head.

Life seems meaningless
 You speculate you don't have worth
 Everything seems hopeless
 Nothing makes sense
 Friends lose touch
 One by one, they disperse into thin air
 You already didn't have much
 But even the closest ones don't care
 You're not alone

You peep at your health
 And maybe it's not something that gives you mirth
 It's an untidy mess
 And each day, it gets worse
 You want to cry, scream or wail
 And maybe suicide is your best option
 Then your mind says, "It's not time"
 So, don't you jump off the wall.
 Lift your eyes to the father
 That's where your hope comes from
 He is a loving and caring father,
 An ever-present friend in every storm

So, if you are feeling lonely
 And life is not throwing out its best,
 Remember, there is someone who loves you dearly

IF LOVE WAS EASY*By Memory Kapalamula*

If love was as easy as making music
 We'd compose a sonata
 Its rhythm steady
 Soft as the morning breeze
 So we'd whine in sync, with ease

If love was as easy as walking downtown
 We'd accelerate softly as a skater
 Our helmets on
 Facing it head-on, we'd skip every bump with ease

If love was as easy as reading a book
 We'd turn every page gently
 Sipping every word
 No plot twists
 No suspense
 Just a beautiful story
 Of our entwined souls

But love is a winding road
 With twists and turns
 Uncertain falls
 Just like music
 Crescendo here
 Decrescendo there

But why not pick up our violins
 And strike them harsh tones?
 With perfect cadences
 Syncopated sways
 Just us
 Our own symphony of butterflies

A LADY WITH LIMITED EYES*By Memory kapalamula*

He told you you're the best
 And that was after a taste
 Like a tiger, he quenched his thirst
 Little did you know deep down, you he detests

From this day your love got intense
 That you almost lost your true sense
 So you proudly undress to impress
 Not knowing you're settling for less

Days matured into years
 And all you could yield was tears
 You realised you settled on lies
 Am sorry, my lady with limited eyes

NAMONDWE*By Paul Shagant*

Mkati chete kukumbuka zilumika ziwiri
 zapitazo
 Wanga mtima usadaleme ndiwadzikoli mnyozo
 Madalitso amvula tikuwaona m'diso
 lachiyembekezo
 Chisadatembunuke chilengedwe mkudzetsa
 wazowawa midzozo

Mtambo wakuda udatigweradi tilimkafe
 Kumwamba kutayasama mkulavula chimvumbi
 kwatonsefe
 Mamulumuzana atagundana Mitu adamutcha
 Namondweyu fulede asadafe
 Ndisaname Namondweyu adatigwiritsa
 mpweya anthufe.

Mwadzidzi adabweradi ngati Mbala
 Kutisokoneza ife mkusowa kothawira
 Abale wopita ali balala ife mkusowa wogwira
 Mabala osapola, Misozi yosakata ndiyo
 Namondweyu adatisiyira.

Pano maso ali kwa atate poti ndiye mchiritsi
 Inde talema koma Fisi adakana msatsi
 Ife Kumaula toto poti yonse idatha mitsitsi
 Mzeru zitatithera yekhayo chisumphu ndiye
 mdziwitsi.

A Life Cut Short: Poems in Loving Memory of Asimenye

God Knows

By Kondwani Kelvin Mkandawire, DOSA

She bore a name the wind could carry gently across the hills—

Asimenye—

a whispered truth,

an invocation to the unknown,

"God knows,"

as if her very breath was borrowed from eternity and her footsteps counted by divinity itself.

She walked the earth with the hunger of promise—not the kind that merely dreams, but the kind that builds, that charts the flow of chemicals, that calculates combustion and compassion in equal measure.

She was a fifth-year chemical engineering student, but more than that—she was a fifth movement in a symphony unfinished, a crescendo silenced too soon.

MUST knew her not only as a scholar, but as a fire kindled in many corners. She ran, leapt, fought in the court of basketball, not just to win, but to remind the world that strength can wear grace and that resilience can dribble through adversity. She was not only a player on the team, she was the pulse that quickened when the buzzer sounded, the sweat that spelled determination on polished wood.

In the quiet corridors of student democracy, her voice bore weight without shouting. She, the commissioner, was not made of noise but of presence—steadfast, like the firm line of ink on a ballot paper, like justice waiting patiently in line. The MUST Students' Electoral Commission knew her as its unshakable pillar, a steward of fairness in youth's fragile republic.

But deeper still, beneath the equations, the rebounds, and the rolled-out ballots, there was a sanctuary—her heart, where hymns found refuge, where prayer was breath, and God, her compass. SCOM was her haven, and she, a flame in its lampstand, casting faith not in noise, but in the quiet service of the soul.

She had just stepped across the threshold of completion—her final semester behind her, the world opening its gates, and she stood poised like a bud on the verge of bloom, petals trembling with the scent of tomorrow.

But then—
the hill,
Midima, ancient and watching,
became a theatre of panic.
Bees, like shards of fear,
descended,
and in the wild flailing of bodies and breath,
Asimenye ran.
She ran not from life,
but toward safety—
as one might run for shelter
when the storm cracks open the sky.

Yet fate, that elusive sculptor,
etched her name in sorrow that day.
The earth caught her in its brutal embrace,
and the air grew heavy with silence.
We ask why,
but perhaps only her name holds the answer—
God knows.

And so we gathered—
in Karonga's clay-bound cradle,
where the songs of mourning met the echoes of her laughter.
Eulogies rose like smoke,
curling toward the heavens,
carrying our ache, our disbelief,
our memories wrapped in metaphors.

She was the budding flower—
not yet open,
but already beautiful.
The sun had only just warmed her skin,
and already the dusk came too quickly.

Yet let it be said:
Asimenye lived.
Fully.
Deeply.
Faithfully.
And though the book of her life closed too soon,
the pages remain warm
with the fingerprints of brilliance,
and the margin notes of hope.
Asimenye—
you are not forgotten.
You are the song we hum
when we look to the hills and remember
that promise and loss
can sit together like sisters
in the same garden.

Sleep, flower of the North.
God knows.
And we, too, will remember.

A Life Cut Short: Poems in Loving Memory of Asimenye

FOR ASIMENYE MZUMA

By *Memory Kapalamula*

Within halls of excellence she grew,
A soul of purpose, so rare, so true.
Galanta wa Chemi, her head held high.
Dreams like flames blazing up to the sky.

Asimenye Mzuma, your name still rings,
In every game, your legacy still echoes
and sings.
Sneakers worn, medals won,
A flower blooming in every run.

I see our last VC's trophy, we lifted
weights, fierce and strong.
You took gold, and I followed with
bronze, trailing along.
In fields of athletics, with joy, you drew
me in.
Like every win was our twin win.

Beyond school and games, you bore a
faithful heart,
An evangelist, so true, so pure from the
start.
Carrying God's name without shame,
A warrior in both spirit and name.

Yet like the morning dew, you slipped
away,
So premature, your flame gave way.
Just a blink before your graduation gown,
Oh Asimenye, I break each time I say
your name aloud.

But fierce like a soldier, still you fought.
First in God's own race, you won the lot.
Your death, a thorn deep in our flesh.
Fly high, dear Asimenye, forever in our
hearts.

In Memoriam: Asimenye Mzuma

*Tragically taken from us by a fatal bee attack, Asimenye's
memory lives on through these poems.*

Dedicated to all students who are no longer with us

May their souls continue to rest in peace

MITIMA YOSWEKA

By *MUST Writers Guild*

Ndi mitima yosweka,
dzanja langa kumwamba ndikweza ,
kuti wotonthoza atseke mtsinje watitsekulirawu .
Imfa yosawona kukhuthara, kuwala kosatha pa iwe.
Sitingakwanitse wathu mtima kuwugwira
Chisoni chikugwa wathu mtima.
Ndi mitima yosweka,misozi ili mmasaya,
tiperekeza mfumu yathu kumalo ampumulowo.
Chisumphi wanu mwana landirani.
Ikakhaledi yotsogolera ife kumadzi odikhawo.
Haaa! Asimenye nkhongono zathu wafoola.
Adalakwinji iwe imfa, potizulira wachisodzera ?
Njiru yanji iyi wationetsa posawalora maloto ake
kukaphukira
Wakufa sadziwika inde, koma apa pokha watikhapo.

Mnkhongono zazizira, zikakhala mphamvu tiribe
Pokhala wathu kalirore pakhani yazalusos ndiuyu
waswekayu
Tidzanyadiranji ife pamawa,
Nanga adzatisula mndani mnchikhalidwe chathu
Akakhala Asimenye nyenyezi adatipatsa olengayo
ndi iyi yathothoka

Ntiziduswa yathu mitima yasala
Nsozi wochitisa mutu ching'ala wachucha
Polingalira anakubala obetchera lako tsogolo
Pomvera chisoni ako maloto unavundika mwali
Takongwa pounikira kuwawa unakumva
Zathu zikhatho tsinde la Saya tachilikiza
Poti yako milomo yachigonjeso nyimbo unapeka
Pogugudira utoto mvura theka la khumi.

Ngwanjiru satana mwadzidzi wadula nsonga
Simunalingalire kuti chathu chiyembekezo chinali
zokoma zipatso mwaieye
Yathu mitima yalema poti yake ntchito pachabe wagwira
Kuyimba sukulu kwazisanu zilumika
Mkatimo nthombozi kulimba nazo.
Mphuno salota imfa imkadikira ili tsiku
Kuti lidzasomphole chanthete chiyembekezo Cha make.
Ndi Anu mawu mbuye mudatsindika pathu sipadziko.
Ndi chikhulupiro ngakhale yathu mitima ndiyosweka
koma kuseri kwathambo tidzaonananso.

Mizimu wako ukawuuse mumtendere wabata Asimenye

JOY IN SPORTS



MUST THROUGH SRC HOLD 3RD VC TROPHY EDITION

By Williams Mhango

From March 21 to 23, 2025, MUST, through SRC, held the third edition of the Vice Chancellor's (VC) Trophy at its sports complex in Thyolo.

The tournament brought together student-athletes from across the university in a vibrant showcase of talent, teamwork, and determination.

The three-day event featured a diverse range of sporting disciplines including football, basketball, netball, volleyball, cricket, weightlifting (both men and women), bawo, draught, chess, and pool. The variety reflected MUST's commitment to promoting physical activity and developing well-rounded students through inclusive sporting opportunities as the saying goes 'work with no play made john a dull boy'.

This year's tournament was proudly sponsored by Smile Life Insurance Company, First Capital Bank, and Reunion Insurance Company, partners whose support was instrumental in the event's success.

In football, Hall one emerged as the overall champions after a gripping final match against Camp, who took second place. The football games, alongside all other disciplines, were played with passion and integrity, embodying the spirit of fair play that the Vice Chancellor's Trophy stands for.

In an interview, the SRC Sports Director, Francis Mwenyenkulu said he had the honor of coordinating and organizing the entire tournament.

"From scheduling and logistics to ensuring fairness in officiating, I worked closely with student leaders, referees, and staff to create a smooth and engaging competition for all. It was an honour for me," he said.

Speaking, on behalf of the University management, at the award ceremony that happened in the MUST auditorium, the warden, Mr. Henry Chipbaka commended the SRC for successfully organizing the event and assured the students of the University's continued commitment to supporting such events in future.

Fairness, inclusivity, and sportsmanship remained the cornerstones of this year's tournament, exemplifying the SRC professionalism and commitment to coordinating and organising such events with excellence.

Beyond the medals and trophies, the 2025 Vice Chancellor's Trophy served as a reminder of the power of sport to unite, uplift, and inspire. It was a moment of pride not only for the athletes but for the entire MUST community, as we celebrate excellence both on and off the field-- a true epitome of a decade of excellence.

SPORTS IN PICTURE'S



INHALER

By Witness Pangani

"No! this ought to be a dream and I need to wake up." He was hitting himself on his chest in disbelief. To everyone he counter passed, he was a mad man. In the midst of foggy autumn, he counted himself as unlucky man in the world where everyone seemed happy. Life had been so predictable since his tenderness, filled with routine and stability, but on this particular day, the world got shattered into million pieces.

He walked in. Zig then zag as if his nerves were also carrying the fragility. Without knowing where he was going, all the way negotiating to nobody just to himself while saying his inner prayers. He walked slowly with his mind two-folded of either making his beautiful twins orphans or stand and let them see a pitiful dad out of him. He was not a man who could resolve an issue with a self-slaughter like that, after all, his life had already been hardened off with series of hard times. This time he was ready to copy the end of Judas Iscariot as he was not ready to be in a handcuff and rot behind the bars.

"This will not be my fault; they will reason with me in my absentia." His ego encouraged him.

He was trying to reload an internet page that had already denied him over a thousand times since the sun was peeking through the curtains. Mwiswa wanted just a single chance to access his cryptocurrency account, wanting to withdraw the money he had invested.

"Yes, it's better I return the money, otherwise this I... He continued speaking to himself. The ringing of his handset disturbed his trying but still he could not ignore a call from Ndanda, the guy who persuaded him to join the trade as he just called it CDC.

"Hello brother man, I wanted also to ask you the same thing, I can't access the interface since morning. "Oh...! What, bro...?" From that call Mwiswa knew that he had two options; either to be an inmate or the late.

Mwiswa was a reliable agent, and people trusted him a lot. He was being given money by different people to import fairly used Japanese cars, and he was one of the prosperous young men in his neighborhood. Despite that he was a degree holder, which he obtained from the University of Malawi half a decade ago, he was satisfied with his business, and he never thought of a white collar job. After being won over by his best friend into starting cryptocurrency trading, he had to invest all the millions of kwacha that some customers wired him to import some modern rides in the following shipping turn. He planned to make more profits in a month, as it was calculated by his best friend on which he never placed a mark of doubt. In the first week, he made more profits, and he could foresee himself reaching the target in less than a month. What he was seeing on this fateful Saturday was beyond imagination. He could not believe what he was seeing. The same link he could tap just once and run his online currency exchange was now void.

After sitting under a thick tree with his stomach hissing due to gases that occupied empty spaces in his intestines, he thought that he should return home and spend the last hours of his life with his family. He was planning to write a suicide note in the twilight. As Mwiswa sat alone in his dimly lit apartment due to the usual blackouts, he was contemplating his darkest thoughts. A knock suddenly echoed through the metal gate. Surprised, he rose from his chair and cautiously made his way to the door. Opening slowly, he thought it was Ndanda, but he found himself face-to-face with an old man dressed in tattered clothes.

"Excuse me, young man," the old man said softly.

"I could not help but to take a turn for a glass of water. May I come in?" Mwiswa hesitated for a moment but then stepped aside, allowing the stranger to enter. The old man shivering slightly, clearly affected by the cold outside. Mwiswa offered him a seat and a cup of tea instead of his request.

As they sat together, the old man shared stories of his own trials and tribulations, highlighting unexpected turns life can take.

"Is my face dictating to everyone the battles in me?" Mwisu asked himself when the unexpected visitor tried to encourage him. He spoke of resilience, hope and power of trust. His words stuck chord within Mwisu, stirring a glimmer of optimism in his heart.

"Do you support Bullets or Wanderers or You are a Silver striker?" The old man asked while trying to change the topic.

"Red is the Love," Mwisu answered energetically showing that he supports Nyasa Big Bullets football club. "Let's meet tomorrow at the stadium and watch the derby together son, I always like stand D3, you will find me there."

With a bit renewed determination, Mwisu thanked the old man for his wisdom and bid him farewell. As he closed the door he promised to meet the old man at the Kamudzu stadium for the Blantyre derby even though it was high time he went for a live match. He did not want to try again loading the page. In fact, he was given a little peace and hope from the unexpected encounter and believed that something good would happen and he went on to switch off the gadget. When the time was clocking 2:30 PM, the following day, he was already seated on the stand D3 with duo missions of relieving his heart and meeting the grandfather who saved him from his dark decisions. Trying to scan through the noisy supporters he never saw the old man; no one on the stand was older like his target. He found himself jumping up and down when the officiator pointed the penalty kick spot after the team's wonder kid, in the penalty box. The game that was entertaining now was no more as the Nomads were now protesting the referee's decision. Things became bad when the men in uniform used tear gas to disperse the angry supporters. Everyone had to run for their lives, even Mwisu who, in the past twenty-four hours, nearly took his life registered the highest sprinting scores. Within seconds he was now among the audience watching slow runners, people blessed with muscles and big bellies coming out of the stadium others with one shoe and many with their shirts and trousers torn, almost dangling their hindquarters in an open air.

"Oh! She must be still inside," Mwisu remembered that a young girl stood at the top corner of the stand with inhaler in her hand, so he was running back to see if she was out and safe. Taking a risk, he climbed a wall as the exit gate was still congested.

"I need to save her, she can't make it out on her own," he said to himself. He got in successfully and was now running up and down looking for the young girl. From a far he saw an orange inhaler at the edge of the stand, as he tried to pick it he heard a whistling breath and looking down the drain the young girl was unconscious in it.

Mwisu carried her on his back and was now making his way out of the gate, despite a rain of stones and bottles that were still being thrown into the stadium by the angry Nomads' supporters. He was soon in the highway going to the queen Elizabeth Hospital for the sake of the little angel. With awesome energy that came to him he was at the hospital and requested the doctors to assist his patient.

"So, the old man did not show up for the game?" He asked himself as he sat in the waiting space as a guardian to a patient in intensive care unit.

"Mr. Mwisu Mpote!" he walked towards the reception with curiosity as he heard his name.

"She is my daughter, we were here together she went out to buy some sweets, I think she was following the supporters who were matching and singing in the highway." Mwisu was told all this from a gentleman that smelled glory from everything on him. When Mwisu explain how he rescued the daughter the father promised to bless Mwisu for the unequalled help he did on the child.

The following morning Mwisu received money from the doctor, as he promised to thank him accordingly. His bank account was transacted with money amounting twice to what the online currency trade had robbed him. Mwisu cried, tears of joy running down his cheeks. He explained everything he had passed through in the past two days to his wife. She was also in tears thinking that she nearly lost her husband. Mwisu told his wife about the old man and how he found his way to the stadium.

MY NOISY NEIGHBOUR

By Mayamiko Thawani

At the start of April, a new family moved in the next door. It hadn't been long since Mara and her family had moved out. Mara was my best friend and partner in crime. We did everything together. But with her gone, I barely had anyone to talk to, and it didn't help that I hardly got time with my older sister, Cleo. I missed her terribly. What happened to her was Something I could never forget.

As the new neighbours moved in, I saw their furniture being hauled into the house. That is when I noticed a boy of my age standing near the truck. He looked shy and upset, and when I tried to call out to him, he bolted into the house. Later that afternoon, Mom and I went over to introduce ourselves. He didn't say a word to me, just avoided my gaze, and mumbled under his breath. As I wandered through their hallway, I noticed a torn photo of five people, but only three were present. I asked him about it, and his mood immediately shifted. He snapped at me. From that day on, his mission seemed to be making my life miserable.

Over the next few weeks, things got worse. Once, Zack came over to hang out, and Ace—yes, I later learned his name soaked us with water. When we told the adults, no one cared. No one helped. It was as if we were invisible.

When I turned sixteen, Mom threw a party and invited the whole neighbourhood, even Ace. Things were going fine until I took a break under the orange tree. Suddenly, red paint exploded over me. Everyone laughed. Humiliated, I ran inside and locked myself into. I didn't come out for days, not until all the paint was finally washed out. It took three months. When Minnie and Cody visited me, Cody asked, "When are you coming back to school?"

"Maybe tomorrow," I replied, but I wasn't sure. I didn't want to face anyone. I forced a smile, and we talked a bit before they left.

Unfortunately, Mom had had enough of my "melodrama," as she called it, and sent me back to school. I tried sneaking around campus to avoid Ace and his little gang. During cheer practice, I was assigned to check the supplies for Friday's game. After finishing, I spotted Ace walking toward me with that smug grin.

"It's good to see you again, Miss Cupid. But next time, maybe use cards, not red paint," he mocked.

I snapped. I ran at him and shoved him to the ground. He looked startled and angry, but I wasn't done. I twisted his right arm and fled. I didn't look back. I sprinted several blocks before accidentally bumping into someone. I did not stop. I just ran home. Later, I noticed a dark jacket clutched in my hand. It must've belonged to the stranger I collided with.

The next day, Ace wasn't at school. But when I got home, I saw him smirking, wearing a sling and a ridiculous badge.

"Oh no, did something happen to you?" I grinned.

"Don't worry. It'll heal real soon," he said and walked off. It was peaceful without him. For a while.

One afternoon, Annie and I were rehearsing dance routines when a tall guy walked into the gym, a basketball in hand. He started shooting hoops smooth, focused, and seriously good. Before I could talk to him, Annie's mom picked us up. That night, I kept thinking about him. I hoped I would see him again on Monday.

The next morning, Mom dropped the bomb: I had to help Ace catch up with schoolwork since he was “injured.” Great. Just great.

Ace’s little sister, Alice, let me in. His room was... fine. But it reminded me of Mara, and I hated that. When Ace walked in shirtless and soaked, I immediately threw a towel at him.

“Hey! Watch it. Remember, you did this to me,” he teased.

“Just put on a shirt,” I mumbled, annoyed.

“Are these bad boys distracting you?,” he grinned.

I blushed so hard. As I reached for his chemistry book, I slipped and landed right on his chest. I froze. His eyes were ice blue. My heart thumped.

“You can get off now. You’re kinda heavy,” he muttered.

Heavy?! Me?! A walking model?!

I stormed out, cheeks burning.

Ace’s behaviour shifted after that, but I didn’t have time to care. My girls and I were planning a beach hangout. I searched the house for my favourite bag, but it was missing. Frustrated, I stood outside, and then him again.

“Why the upset look?” Ace asked.

“I don’t have time to argue,” I snapped. Then I saw him. A charming, muscular brown guy with golden eyes, surrounded by girls. Our eyes locked, just for a second. It felt like fate.

It got dark fast. Mia’s mom insisted we stay at their beach house. Eight of us, plus Mia’s Italian cousins Aliza and Tom. We had to pair up for rooms. Mia and Cody got their own, but Ace and Zack kept arguing. Sallie wanted to room with Ace, but he refused. Finally, Tom suggested a pick-and-draw game. I prayed Zack would win, but Ace did. Great.

We moved to the dining area for games. Then came the beers. And truth or dare. One drink if you failed. Everyone started getting drunk except Ace and me. Eventually, the game dissolved, and we all stumbled off to bed.

I reached the room first. Ace wasn’t there yet. I sipped some leftover drink and lost track of time.

(Ace’s Point of View)

When I walked in, she was blabbering nonsense. Drunk. I got on the bed to sleep, but suddenly she approached me, eyes gleaming with mischief. I sat up fast, preparing for the worst, but she just collapsed her lips brushing mine.

I froze.

She leaned in again, wanting more. I gently pushed her back. I wanted her. God, I wanted her. But she was drunk. I laid her on the bed and took the couch. Why did I feel this way toward her? We were enemies... weren’t we?

The next morning, she was gone. I found her with Cody at the beach. As I approached, Cody stood and left. I sat beside her. She looked troubled.

“Can we talk about last night?” she asked.

I turned to her, anxious. Did she forget? Was she pretending? Then—pinch!

“Ow! What the hell?”

She grinned and pinched me again. This time, I caught her wrist, but she broke free, pinning me under a beach shade. I tapped out in surrender, but I had plans for revenge. Before I could act, her phone rang. She answered it. When she hung up, her expression changed.

I pulled her into a hug. She started crying. My lips found hers soft, unsure. She pulled back. “What did you do?” she whispered, embarrassed.

“Sorry. I don’t know what came over me.”

Then she kissed me hard, passionately. I kissed her back. We lost ourselves in it. I finally pulled away, panting. My phone buzzed everyone else had left.

“We should go,” I said. She nodded. I grabbed her hand as we ran back to the house.

As we reached the beach house, a voice called out.

“Chloe! Let’s go, I was waiting for you.”

“You didn’t have to,” she replied.

But he grabbed her hand. Something inside me snapped. I pulled her away, helped her onto my bike, and sped off before she could say a word.

The ride back was tense. At home, Mom and Alice were waiting. I helped Chloe off the bike and rushed inside. She looked flustered. So was I.

Mom sat me down and explained: Dad was coming to visit. He had remarried after leaving us and had twin daughters now. My older sister Alexis was struggling with his new wife and was coming back home too.

It brought back everything. I remembered walking in on Dad with a girl barely older than Alexis. That was the day our family shattered. A year later, he left for good.

That’s why we moved.

Mom tried to stay strong, but I knew better. I went to my room, head spinning. I took some meds to calm down, but my thoughts wouldn’t settle. Then Mom knocked.

“Chloe’s waiting...”

Vote of Thanks

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With profound gratitude,

The Editorial Team