

PHIBBIAN MUTHAMA (RIZIKI)

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 **Home:** Nairobi (Kenya)

Profession: Lead (EN-SW) Translator and Conference Interpreter| Swahili Language Specialist| Strategic Communication Professional.

Expertise: Conference Interpretation, Transcreation, and Swahili Language Advocacy

SUMMARY

I am a highly impactful Linguist, Communication, and Translation professional in facilitating regional integration through language. As an English-Swahili translator, I combine scholarly precision with creative expression to serve as a bridge for organisations, mainly the African Union. My communication background has equipped me with strong interpersonal communication skills and extensive experience in translation, interpretation, voice-over, acting, and teaching Swahili as a second language.

As a **Senior Fellow and a Swahili Advocate in Africa Youth Network in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)**, I harness scholarly precision and creative expression to bridge languages and cultures naturally and effectively. My expertise spans diplomatic interpretation, technical localization, and Creative Content adaptation. Through advocacy, I place Swahili as a vehicle towards integration and creative arts, as well as a unifying tool for Africans.

Being disciplined is key to bridging languages and cultures with accuracy and naturalness.

EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor of Arts in Communication, Linguistics, and Translation -Translation Major. *Africa International University* [05/2025 – Present

Associate Degree in Mass Communication-Radio Production Major

Multimedia University of Kenya [09/2011 – 04/2014 Field(s) of study:

Others: Public Relations | TV Productions| Scripting|

Credit

Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education

Darajani Secondary School [2006 – 2009]

Grade: C

Kenya Certificate of Primary Education

Our Lady of Mercy Shauri Moyo Primary School [– 2005]

Grade: A

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

- **Short Course:** Teaching Kiswahili as a Second Language -*Training of Trainers MS-TCDC, Arusha, Tanzania, May 2025*
- **Training with Tools:** Interpretation (English-Swahili)
Swahili Council of The United Republic of Tanzania (BAKITA), April 2025
- **Digital Trade in the context of the AfCFTA**
African Institute of Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), Nov-Dec 2024
- **Creative Writing and Disability**
US Embassy Scholarship Programme, Aug – Dec 2023
- **Certificate in Computer Packages**
Compunet Computer Training College, Feb – May 2010

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY.

KISWAHILI: C2 Listening C2 Reading C2 Writing C2 Spoken Production C2 Spoken Interaction C2
-*Native*

ENGLISH: C2 (Listening C2 Reading C2 Writing C2 Spoken Production C2 Spoken Interaction C2
-*Fluent/Professional*

CORE SKILLS

- Linguistic skills- Proficiency in both English and Swahili languages
- Translation and Interpretation skills- Accurate, Natural, and Clear rendition of both written text and real-time rendition of both English and Swahili languages.
- Interpersonal skills: Active listener, teamwork, and flexibility in diverse cultures.
- |Audio-Visual Translation and Localization.
- Public Speaking and Creative Writing • Swahili Language Teaching and Advocacy
- Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Strategic Communication
- Computer literacy and AI.
- CAT Tools: MemoQ, Trados, Smartcat, Matecat.
- Voice-Over/Dub
- Editing /Proofreading /Reviewing

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE [2015-present].

**Consultant in Translation| Interpretation| Transcription| Audio-Visual Translations|
Proofreading| Swahili Language Teaching| Voice-Acting| Content Development Acting.**

2. Translations | 2016 – Present

Delivery of high-fidelity English-Swahili translations, focusing on accuracy as well as cultural resonance.

- Perform technical and legal translations of documents, as well as doing Machine Translation using CAT tools like **Matecat, MemoQ, Trados, and Smartcat.**
- **Legal** doc for Kenya's Small Court Rules, Small Claims, Ministry chatters-*Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development*
- **Medical** Documents (Prenatal Screenings) I Feinberg, *Fiverr*
- **Literary** Translation of books -*Swahili Vision International, Kenya Literature Bureau.*

- **Trade and Economic** -(Trade)AfCFTA, ECOSOCC, AU-IBAR, AUDA-NEPAD
- **Technical** Translation-Manufacturing of Automotives-AfCFTA
- **Marketing and Communication Materials**-CREST educative community radio dramas

a. Kenya's Legal Documents

- Small Claims Rules (Kenya), (Aug-Nov, 2023).
- SCC Services Charter (Kenya), (Aug-Nov, 2023)
- Veterinary Directory Medicines (VDM) under KICD (2023).
- Legal Education Act Charter under KICD (2023).

b. Medical Translations.

- Prenatal Screening Tests: Fiverr (2025).

c. Literal Translations

- Factsheet Booklet for AfCFTA** (15th Jan, 2024).
- AfCFTA Magazine** (15th Jan, 2024).
- Noise Next Door** (*Kids' Book*) under Swahili Vision International Association, Vancouver, Canada, (Dec 2022-Jan 2023).

d. Trade and Economic Translations Projects for AU and AfCFTA

- Communique Octopus Fisheries and Octopus Value Chain Mombasa, (June,2025). **AU-IBAR:**
- Report on Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) (23rd August 2024).
- CV-TranslationsAuto Value Chain (24th June, 2024).
- Draft Agenda and Work Programme of the Senior Trade Officials (17th June, 2024).
- Brief Update on The Rationalization -AfCFTA_IPR-Div, (14th June, 2024).
- Draft Agenda of the 7th meeting of SC-TFCCT (14th June 2024).
- Draft Report of the 13th CTIS (13th June 2024).
- Draft Policy Base and Operational Guidelines (2024).
- Collection Template on Trade Flow under The GTI (2024).
- Technical Paper on Categories B and C (2024).
- Technical Analysis of Angola Tariff Offers (2024).
- Ministerial Directive 1-2021 (2024).
- Concept Note and Annotated Agenda for 11th CTIG (2024).

- i. Background Note on Annex on Cross-Border Data Transfer (April 2024).
- ii. Key Elements on Online Safety and Security (Annex IV), (April 2024).
- iii. Key Elements on Emerging and Advanced Technologies (Annex X), (April 2024).
- iv. Draft Agenda and Work Programme for Stakeholder Engagement on Draft Annexes (April 2024).
- v. Explanatory Notes on Zero Draft Annexes
 - a. Legitimate and Legal Public Interests.
 - b. Digital Identity.
 - c. Rules of Origin.
- vi. Zero Draft Annex on Cross-Border Digital Payments.
- vii. Zero Draft Annex on Financial Technology.

Protocols and Frameworks

- i. Brief on the Protocol on Women and Youth in Trade (7th Feb, 2024).
- ii. Diaspora Framework of ECOSOCC (Jan, 2024).
- iii. Report for 2024 Summit of ECOSOCC (Jan, 2024).
- iv. Report on Study on Reparations in Barbados (2023).

e. Transcreation/Adaptation/Localization and Proofreading

- i. I conduct audio-visual translations and reviews for television and film content, ensuring cultural and linguistic accuracy in TransPerfect Kenya, 2023-2025present.
- ii. Script Adaptation -Multan production (2022-2023).

1. Interpretation of English-Swahili and vice versa. [2021 – present]

- Provide interpretation services (onsite and virtual) for high-profile meetings, including Ministerial meetings,

Senior Trade Official Meetings, Committee, as well as Sub-Committee meetings for the African Continental Free Trade Area, AfCFTA [2021-present].

- Participate in major meetings such as RRI, AU-CDC [2026], IBAR [2025], AUDA- NEPAD [2023], ECOSOCC [2022-2023], ILO [2023], among others.
- Transcribe and proofread a wide range of written materials from English to Swahili and vice versa.
- Collaborate with international organizations to deliver timely language solutions.

a) Key interpretation services.

African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) 2021-present.

- i. 21st Senior Trade Official and 17th Committee of Ministers of Trade, Cairo, Egypt, 11th -16th Sep,2025.

- ii. 19th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Trade Officials, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (5th–8th Nov,2024).
- iii. Biashara Afrika & 2nd Edition of the Guided Trade Initiative, Kigali, Rwanda (9th–11th Oct,2024).
- iv. 2nd Meeting of Council of Ministers in AfCFTA, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (2nd–3rd Oct, 2023).

b) Other High-Level Organisational Meetings.

- i. WHS Regional Meeting (28th April, 2026)
- ii. Africa CDC (27th April, 2026).
- iii. African Urban Forum (8-10 April 2026)
- iv. Rights with Resources Governance Meeting, Columbia (20th-21st Jan, 2026)
- v. African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) (15th Feb, 2023).
- vi. Social and Cultural Council in the African Union (ECOSOCC) (22nd June, 2022).
- vii. ILO Meetings (2023)

c) Regular Interpretations.

- i. Heads of Competition Authority Meeting (14th Oct, 2025).
- ii. 9th Meeting of The Committee of Digital Trade (8th-11th Sep, 2025).
- iii. 11th Meeting of the Committee on the Competition Policy (18th -20th Aug, 2025).
- iv. 7th Meeting of The Regulatory Framework, (11th -15th Aug, 2025).
- v. Workshop on West Indian Ocean Networks for Small-Scale Octopus Fisheries Regional Value Chain (29th July, 2025).
- vi. Stakeholder Engagement Workshop on Recreational, Cultural and Sporting (8th July,2025).
- vii. 16th Committee of Trade in Services in AfCFTA, (9th-11th July,2025).
- viii. 15th Committee of Trade in Services, Accra, Ghana, (24th-30th March, 2025).
- ix. Draft Agenda and Work Program of the 5th Meeting of the Committee on Digital Trade for AfCFTA, Accra, Ghana (17th–18th April 2024).
- x. Joint Meeting of the Committee on Digital Trade and Trade in Services in AfCFTA (23rd–24th Sep 2024).
- xi. 2nd Meeting Automotive Taskforce (13th Sep 2024).
- xii. Senior Trade Officials Meeting, Maputo, Mozambique (25th–29th Aug 2024).
- xiii. 8th CWYT Meeting, Maputo (20th–23rd Aug 2024).
- xiv. 6th Meeting for SCCCTFT & DG (6th –8th Aug 2024).

- xv. 4th Meeting Committee Guided Trade Initiative (1st Aug 2024)
- xvi. AB & DSB Meetings (22nd –26th July 2024).
- xvii. 11th Meeting of the Dispute Settlement Body of the AfCFTA (25th–26th Jan, 2024).
- xviii. International Land Coalition (ILC), Maasai Mara, Kenya (2nd–3rd Oct, 2023).
- xix. AfCFTA – 3rd Meeting of the Committee of Women and Youth in Trade (3rd–6th April, 2023).
- xx. 9th Meeting of the Committee on Investment (22nd –24th July 2024).
- xxi. 11th Meeting of Trade on Goods (14th –15th June 2024).
- xxii. 8th Meeting of the Sub-Committee on the Rules of Origin (10th –13th June 2024).
- xxiii. Dedicated Session on Digital Payments and Financial Technology (5th–7th June 2024).
- xxiv. Documentation for the Regional Stakeholder Engagement on Copyrights and Related Rights (30th April 2024).
- xxv. 5th Meeting on Digital Trade for AfCFTA (19th April 2024).
- xxvi. Stakeholder Engagement on the Draft Annexes to the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade (15th –16th April, 2024).

CERTIFIED SWAHILI LANGUAGE TUTOR | 2020 – PRESENT

- Develop and deliver customized Swahili lessons for beginner, intermediate, and advanced learners.
- Utilize modern teaching platforms, including webinars, Zoom, and Kahoot, to create engaging learning experiences.
- Mentor individual students, providing personalized feedback to accelerate language proficiency.
- Design and implement curriculum for diverse student needs.
- Evaluate student progress and adjust teaching methods to improve learning outcomes.

PUBLISHED AUTHOR AND EDITOR. | 2019 – PRESENT

- Authoring and editing published works, including secondary school set books and poetry anthologies. .
- Write educational Swahili radio scripts for Grade 7 CBC for the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD).
- Serve in editorial roles for various publications.
- Compose and edit Swahili poetry for Grade 9 and Grade 10-12 publications.
- Collaborate with publishers and authors to develop educational materials.

ACTING | 2015 – PRESENT

- Ashley in Zari Telenovela – ***Maisha Magic and Showmax*** (Oct 2024-2025),
- Inspector Miriam in Jiji Series – ***Showmax*** (2023-2024)
- Wife (Fauzia) in Garissa Ndogo Feature Film – Xaxa Production, ***Maisha Magic East*** (2023
- Nurse in Nafsi Feature Film on ***Netflix*** (2021).
- (Mrs Ngwaruzo) in The Trap House, ***NTV*** (2021).
- Lucy in Ashiki Movie, ***Maisha Magic East*** (2016).

- Women representative in Sumu la Penzi-*Maisha Magic East* (2016).

COMMERCIAL MODEL AND CONTENT CREATION | 2016 – PRESENT

- Model for commercial campaigns, including digital Ads and billboards.
- Create engaging and culturally relevant content for digital platforms.
- Collaborate with marketing agencies to execute successful campaigns.
- Develop and deliver key messaging for various products and services.
- Analyse market trends to inform creative content strategies.

Key Projects:

Hello Tunes, ECOA Jiko Digital Ad, Copia Digital Ad, Kingdom Bank Billboard, Uber Valentine's offer digital ad (2019), 64 Door Factory digital ad (2019)

VOICE-OVER ARTIST AND DUBBING | 2016 – Present

- Provide voice acting for commercial advertisements for various brands.
- Perform voice dubbing for television shows, films, and animated content.
- Narrate educational course books and digital activities for a range of audiences.
- Maintain high-quality audio recordings for all projects.
- Adapt voice and tone to suit a variety of characters and commercial briefs.

Works:

i). **Features:** *NASA Manifestation for Bw. Raila Odinga, Africa Food Systems Forum (AGRF)*

ii). **Advertisements** for Radio and TV: *Shabiki.com, Lotto Nono, Sensodyne Toothpaste, KCB Banking*

iii). **Voice Dubbing:** *Bird and Giraffe in Panda (Animation) on StarTimes, Anna in First Lady (Telenovela) on StarTimes, Zitulele in Adulthood Drama Series on Showmax, Phumzile in Outlaws Drama Series on Showmax, Journalist in Thabo-Bester on Showmax.*

iv). **Narrations:** *CBC English Course Book for Grade 10. CBC Kiswahili Course Books for Grades 7-10, Digital Activities in Grade 10 with Oxford University Press (UOP),*

v) **Book Audio and Book analysis** for Swahili Secondary Set books, *Nguu za Jadi and Bembea ya Maisha in EDU/KBC Radio (KICD Digital platforms).*

vi) **Swahili Radio Dramas - CREST 2025-2026.**

TV HOST | 2016, 2020- 2023

- Prepared and presented broadcast content with clarity and professionalism.
 - Engaged with a live audience and guests on air.
 - Maintained an up-to-date knowledge of current affairs.
- i) Hosted Swahili lessons for remote learning on EDU TV Kenya for Kenya-Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD).
- ii) Co-hosted the Swahili Poetry segment for Punchline Africa Online TV.

RADIO PRESENTER |12/2012 – 05/2013

- Presented radio shows for MMU 99.9FM and KUFM 99.9.
- Conducted interviews with various guests and professionals.
- Operated radio broadcasting equipment and software.

PUBLICATIONS

[2022-2026]

Co-authored and co-edited an Anthology: **Mapambazuko ya Machweo na Hadithi Nyingine**, a Swahili Short Story Anthology for Kenya's Secondary Schools Set book, approved by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD).

Editors: *Phibbian Muthama, D. W. Lutomia*, Mountain Top Publishers [2022-2026]

[2022-2026] Co -authored Secondary School Playwright Teachers' Guide- **Bembea ya Maisha**, approved by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD), published by Queneex Publishers.

[2026] Grade 10-12 Swahili Poetry Composition- **Teknolojia Wewe!** Queneex Publishers-Approved by The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD).

[2026] Grade 10-12 Short Stories Composition- **Usilie Moyo Wangu na Hadithi Nyingine**, *Kenya Literature Bureau (KLB)*.

[2026] *Grade 10-12 Short Stories Composition-Nyota Series*- **Beti za Maisha**, *Kenya Literature Bureau (KLB)*.

[2024] Grade 9 Swahili Poetry Composition-**Bobeza ya Ushairi**, *Booklyst Press*.

[2023] Grade 9 Swahili Poetry-**Lipi Muhimu**, *One Planet*- Approved by The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD).

[2023] Grade 9 Swahili Poetry-**Utamu wa Ushairi**, *Kenya Literature Bureau*-Approved by The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD).

[2021] Edited a poetry book: **Mwangwi wa Maisha**, *Writers Guild Kenya*. Author: Edward Umbui.

[2019] **Dafina ya Ushairi**, *Queneex Publishers' Ltd*.

NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

PLATFORMS

[Radio 47: Seasonal interviews on Swahili language growth and literature.](#)

- TV 47: Seasonal discussions and interviews: **Growth of the Swahili language across the Globe.2022present**
- Writers Guild Kenya: **Swahili Writings Coordinator. 2020-Present**
- Radio Maisha & KTN: **Interviews and poetry recitals "Nuru ya Lugha" Show 2012-2024**
- Punchline Africa TV: **Host and Poetry Analyst on "Burudani ya Mashairi"-2016.**
- Radio France International: **The social impact of Kiswahili in Kenya-2022** • Contributed to BBC Swahili interviews-State of Kiswahili across the Globe.

AWARDS AND HONORS.

- **AfCFTA Youth Senior Fellow and Language Advocate.**

Appointed as an African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Youth Network Senior Fellow and Swahili Language Advocate-*AfCFTA Chair, Yari, Monday, Feb,2026.*

- **Swahili Influencer of the Year**

Award winner -Mwanamke Shupavu Awards, Tanzania, 2023.

- **Swahili Language and Heritage Young Female Advocate**

An award of Honor for being the first-ever female Swahili Setbook editor in Kenya, and for maintaining Swahili Heritage- Swahili Vision International (SVIA) in Vancouver, Canada, 2022

- **Best Shooting Guard**

Nairobi Basketball Association (NBA) Allstars, Kenya 2011

PROJECTS.

Juror: *Oscar's Awards Selection Committee, Kenya Film Commission (KFC) 2023- present.*

Script Writer: *Swahili Radio Scripts. Developed scripts for Grades 5, 6, and 7 CBC for the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD).*

Reviewer: *Audio-Visual Reviews Conducted Swahili translation reviews for films and series on Showmax, including Adulthood, Thabo Bester, Outlaws, Boerke and The Wife.*

Voice Artist: *CBC Course Books Narrated CBC English and Kiswahili course books for digital activities for Oxford University Press, Kenya. Grade 1-11.*

Translator: *The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Factsheet and Journal (Creating One Market)*

REFEREES

Name: TAPSOBA MAHAMADOU SANI

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HOD: languages, Linguistics, Translation, Language and Communication Centre Coordinator.

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