

Madhvani

Group Magazine

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KSL breaks ground on new mill

EAPS rewards long-serving staff

Aberdare wins World Tourism award

COVER PHOTO: Construction works for the new mill at Kakira Sugar Limited

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Irrigation by central pivot at Kakira Estate

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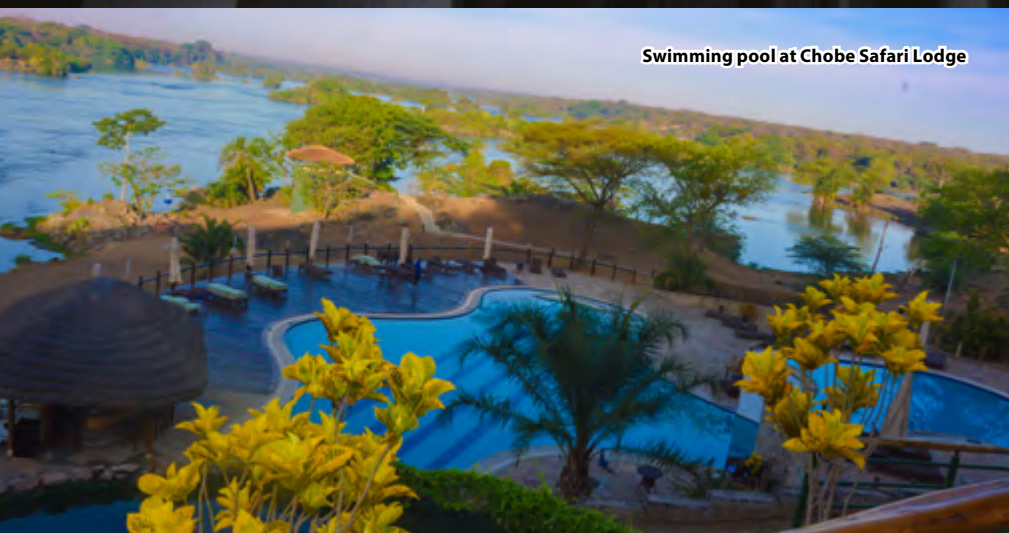
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Swimming pool at Chobe Safari Lodge

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The avenue entering Kakira estate

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Bush breakfast at Mweya Safari Lodge

Editor's Note

It is with mixed emotions that the editorial team presents this first edition of the Madhvani Group Magazine for 2021. There is a sense of relief for having come out of 2020, with all its challenges. There is also grief for friends, opportunities and dreams that did not survive the year of Covid. However, the main emotions are that of gratitude and hope; gratitude that we made it out strong and hope for better things to come. As long as there is life, there is hope.

The Madhvani Group has remained steadfast in this period, standing with its people, with its partners, with customers and with the community. At East African Packaging Solutions, for instance, employees of longstanding were rewarded at a colourful ceremony. It has always been important to the Group to find the right people and support them to their best level of productivity. Despite the social and economic challenges of Covid, the Madhvani Group also continued to reach out to several orphanages and care homes with regular support and donations. The most vulnerable members of our communities were also hit very hard by the pandemic, and required an extra hand. Organisations caring for orphans, the destitute, and the abandoned elderly were among those whom the Madhvani Group has always supported.

Besides donations of essential items, as well as the provision of wheelchairs to the physically disabled, the Madhvani Group has also reached neighbouring communities through KORD – the Kakira Outgrowers Rural Development Fund. In this issue you will read about KORD's interventions in providing safe and clean water to communities in the Greater Busoga region. To date KORD has rehabilitated 22 springs in Jinja, Luuka, Mayuge and Kamuli Districts, benefiting more than 69,000 inhabitants of the area.

Excel Construction has continued to deliver quality work in various engineering and construction works, and is currently making a way where there was none. Work is ongoing on creating access and drainage for a road through Kisiro-Bugangu swamp. Excel has also been commended for being compliant with all SOPs to protect their staff through this period.

Although international tourism may have been affected by the period of the lockdown, Marasa Uganda has continued to offer premium service to clients. There is always an affordable opportunity for Ugandans to explore the beauty of their own country. In this edition we highlight our four Ugandan safari lodges, reminding you of what makes them outstanding, and inviting you to consider seeing Uganda through a different lens. I can personally recommend a visit to the enchanting and picturesque Jinja Sailing Club, which is nestled right between the world's second largest fresh water lake and the world's longest river.

Stay grateful and stay hopeful.

Angela Kintu Rwabose
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- 4 Kakira breaks ground on new mill
- 5 Kakira bottling plant pictorial
- 6 Madhvani Group reaching out to the vulnerable communities
- 7 Joint Managing Directors visit Busoga King
- 8 Excel Construction takes on Kisiro swamp road works
- 10 KORD provides clean water solutions to communities in the Greater Busoga region
- 11 Joint Managing Directors visit Kayunga Estate
- 12 Makepasi donates wheelchairs to persons with disability
- 13 Makepasi wins URA vantage award
- 13 Liberty pays out claim at Kakira
- 14 Aberdare Country Club wins World Travel award for the fourth time
- 16 Pictorial
- 18 EAPS rewards longstanding staff members
- 20 Enjoying the full experience at the Jinja Sailing Club
- 24 Rediscover Chobe Safari Lodge, in Murchison Falls National Park
- 26 Mweya Safari Lodge - host to royalty in Queen Elizabeth National Park
- 28 Paraa Safari Lodge, the Jewel on the Nile in Murchison Falls National Park
- 30 Discovering Silverback Safari Lodge, in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park
- 31 Joining the Madhvani Group



Kakira breaks ground on new mill



Kakira Sugar Limited is in the advanced stages of construction for a new mill that will phase out the current two mills - the Pomini and the F & S - whose combined daily capacity is 7,500 TCD. The new mill, which has a capacity of 8,500 TCD, will increase the crushing efficiency and give better extraction results to produce more sugar from the sugarcane. This development is in line with core values of enhancing productivity and efficiency using latest technologies. It will also feed into sustainable use of our products, since the mill improves the moisture content in the bagasse to assist in electricity production. The commissioning of the new mill is slated for November 2021.



Kakira bottling plant in pictures

Clockwise from above: The tasting room, the pot still, the cask storage area and the blending tanks at the Kakira Sugar bottling plant.



Committed to reaching out to the vulnerable communities



Sonrise Babies Home

At the Madhvani Group, we believe our people are our most important resource. However, beyond caring for the welfare of our teams, we have always looked outward to the communities where we operate. There is a huge social burden to care for orphans of HIV/Aids and other circumstances, as well as the destitute and those marginalised by physical disability.

The Madhvani Group organises monthly and quarterly give-aways to a growing number of care homes that look after these vulnerable groups in the Greater Busoga area, and as far as Mukono. We provide donations of essential foodstuffs and some specialised requirements such as infrastructure or learning materials when the need arises.

We make regular donations to different care homes for the destitute, orphans and the disabled including Good Shepherd Fold, Sonrise Home, Amani Babies Cottage, Jinja Home for Elderly and Needy Persons, Mama Jane Children Care Home, Iganga Babies Home, Home Of Hope, St. Joseph Shining Little Star and Noah's Ark.

We also offer regular support to DROHA Uganda, a non-government organisation that takes care of children and teenage mothers through training, counselling and mentoring. We believe that empowering young people with the right information and support is the key to stronger individuals, families and societies.

The Madhvani Group also donated UGX 50 million to Gabula Royal Foundation Ltd. Joint Managing Director, Kamlesh Madhvani said the donation was intended to boost the four pillars of the foundation, which include Empowerment of the girl child and women, Development, Health and Education.



KSL staff Pascal and Susan Gimbo delivering the March donation at Good Shepherd's Fold in Buikwe District



Peter Ssebwato, Pascal Apelia and Susan Gimbo from Kakira Sugar Limited pose for a photo with student beneficiaries of DROHA during a field visit to assess their situation



Mama Jane Children Care Home



Home Of Hope

Managing Directors visit Busoga King



Joint Managing Directors Mayur and Kamlesh Madhvani with His Royal Highness Gabula Nadiope IV, the Kyabazinga of Busoga



Madhvani Group Joint Managing Directors Mayur Madhvani and Kamlesh Madhvani paid a courtesy call on the Kyabazinga of Busoga, William Gabula Nadiope IV at his Budhumbula Palace in Kamuli Municipality, Kamuli District.

The Madhvani Group's original and flagship company, Kakira Sugar Limited, is based in Jinja, Busoga. The Group therefore has a longstanding and mutually beneficial relationship with the Kingdom of Busoga at large, and with the Kyabazinga as an individual. During the meeting, the JMDs and the Kyabazinga discussed issues regarding Busoga's development, as well as how to engage the region's many youth.

As one of many initiatives to support Busoga, Kakira runs an annual vocational scholarship aimed towards skilling the youth of Busoga. The Kakira Sugar Busoga Foundation offers up to UGX 400m in scholarships to youth from the Greater Busoga region to study in specific vocational centres of excellence in the region. The scholarship supports skills development, self-employment and job creation through vocational education.

The Directors and the Kyabazinga also discussed the issue of how to return Busoga to its former glory as a food basket in the region. They toured various model farming projects at the palace, and agreed to move forward in social and business partnerships to better the region and its people.

Excel Construction delivers on Kisiro swamp road works



An aerial view of Kisiro-Bugangu swamp road construction works and the Excel Construction camp. The road will connect Bugodi-Kisiro to Bugangu



Excel Construction has undertaken various construction and renovation projects ranging from industrial, commercial, residential, civil and road works. These projects have been carried out all over the country for both private-sector and Government clients.

In addition to other ongoing projects, Access and Drainage Improvement Works for Kisiro-Bugangu Swamp in Mayuge District, valued at UGX 30.7B, is one of the major projects that is being executed by Excel Construction Limited. The earthworks and ancillary construction to create a way through the swamp was commissioned by the Uganda National Roads Authority.

In the fight against Covid-19 which has become a global pandemic, Excel developed and is implementing Covid-19 SOPs and project specific Covid-19 prevention and control plans to ensure the safety of its employees. A Covid-19 task

force was created and trained to handle Covid-19 safeguards (ranging from raising awareness, screenings, disinfection, emergency response, etc). Additionally, Excel's Management organized Covid-19 testing for all its employees in both offices and site to ensure their safety.

A total of 143 individuals have so far been tested and a total of 11 members of staff tested positive and were treated in isolation as per guidelines issued by MOH.

Uganda National Association of Building and Civil Engineering Contractors (UNABCEC) recently recognised Excel Construction Ltd's continued implementation of good HSE practice on all its projects.

Excel has worked on different projects and delivers quality and value on time using comprehensive construction management systems.

KORD provides clean water solutions



Water is essential to humanity's social and economic existence and a fundamental right for every human being. People need clean and safe for drinking, domestic use or recreational purposes. Clean and safe water can boost the country's economic growth where the general public is healthy and contribute to national development.

However, access to safe and clean is still a global challenge and a total of 2.2 billion people in the world don't have access to safe drinking water according to the 2020 UN World Water Development Report.

In Uganda the number stands at eight million people. Despite the pandemic, a lot of people have no access to clean and safe water for drinking. According to water.org, the urban poor pay 22% their income to access water to vendors.

The Sustainable Development Goal target 6.1 calls for universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water with the indicator of "safely managed drinking water services" – drinking water from an improved water source that is located on premises, available when needed, and free from faecal and priority chemical contamination.

Safe water access is still a challenge in the KORD operational area and consumption of contaminated water has had negative implications on the quality of life in the outgrowers' catchment area. Not having access to clean water is a form of deprivation that threatens life, destroys opportunities and undermines human dignity. In Uganda, national safe water coverage is estimated at 61% in rural areas, but the actual water coverage levels are considered much more lower given the hypothetical statistical procedures of deriving the coverage and the fact that most dysfunctional water sources are not accounted for.

KORD's strategy has been to adopt a viable, innovative and cost effective intervention of spring protection in order to expand access to clean water to as many households as possible. The technology is quite simple and straight forward; it encourages community contribution in order to increase project ownership by the beneficiaries.

Water quality tests and certification are carried out by National Water and Sewerage Corporation, a community water user committee is elected by the beneficiary community who draft By-Laws to govern usage of the project in partnership with the Sub County Health Department. To-date KORD has rehabilitated 22 springs in Jinja, Luuka, Mayuge and Kamuli Districts benefiting more than 69,300 inhabitants.



Women drawing water at Ikonia before KORD's intervention



Children collect safe and clean water at a spring constructed by KORD at Ikonia



Situation before intervention at Kibundaire

Joint Managing Directors visit Kayunga Estate



From left to right: Head of Outgrowers and Cane Development Andrew Baker; Joint Managing Directors Mayur Madhvani and Kamlesh Madhvani; Kakira Sugar Limited General Manager Christian Vincke; Head of Operations Trevor Macilwaine and his wife Diana

The Kayunga Sugar project was established by the Madhvani Group in 2012 as a satellite sugar growing estate for Kakira Sugar Limited. Kayunga has steadily grown to stand independent of its parent unit, and boasts several infrastructure developments



The Joint Managing Directors visited Kayunga Sugar Estate to check on the progress of the works there. They arrived at the airstrip, and toured the new workshop and satellite workshop.

JMDs Mayur Madhvani and Kamlesh Madhvani travelled with the General Manager of Kakira Sugar Limited, Christian Vincke, as well as the Andrew Baker, the Head of Outgrowers and Cane Development. They were received by Trevor Macilwaine, who the Head of Operations at Kayunga.

A meeting was held with some supervisors and staff at the newly completed Workshop, which began with introductions. After introductions, the Directors commended the team on the successful completion of the workshop, and asked that everyone be committed to looking after the property and the machines and be proud of the work they were doing.

The Directors also emphasised the importance of clean cane quality to the overall production process, and commended the Kayunga team on all the improvements.

They communicated that plans were underway to install centre pivot irrigation to mitigate the issues caused by the unpredictable weather. In the past 18 months alone the weather has swung wildly from drought to flooding.

The Directors concluded by saying they had high expectations of Kayunga, but they were confident that the team was capable of meeting them.

Vincke assured the Kayunga team that when they face challenges, there was support from Kakira Sugar Limited. He, however, commended them on becoming self-sufficient in meeting their targets.

On behalf of the Kayunga Sugar staff, the Deputy Estate Manager, Luke Dratele, thanked the Directors for visiting, because it was an encouraging sign that they were concerned about Kayunga. He said that with support from the management, everyone was working hard to get Kayunga to the next level.

Makepasi resumes wheelchair donations to PWDs



The recipients pose for a group photo outside the Makepasi offices

Although gatherings were prohibited during the Covid lockdown, the need for the wheelchairs from persons with disability still remained. As soon as Makepasi was able to resume, wheelchair donations were organised once again in line with the Makepasi policy. In the most recent donation, Makepasi Match gave three wheelchairs and Mr Pratap Madhvani and family donated the remaining three. The following people received the donation.

Mutesi Zainabu from Iganga who became disabled due to Polio at the age of four. She needed a tricycle for mobility.

Nangoma Jane is 71 years old from Kamuli Road. She is a widow with five grandchildren. Her only son passed away and left the grandchildren in her care. She became disabled at the age of thirty years due to an unknown illness and she is HIV positive. She depends on her farm to take care of her family and needed a tricycle for movement.

Nabirye Pelusi aged 57 stays with her family and works as a tailor. Her disability was due to polio. She received a tricycle and also requested to be employed at Makepasi.

Nakawooya Sylvia aged 20 is from Mpumudde. She became disabled at the age of fourteen after being ill for an entire month. She is currently working with Makepasi and received a tricycle to ease her movement to and from work.



Kasowole Jane is thirty-eight years old from Kamuli. She became disabled at the age of four due to polio. She is a mother of two children. She received a tricycle and also requested for a job with Makepasi.

Nalubega Rebecca is 47 years old from Kyankwanzi. She works as a tailor. Her disability was due to suffering polio when she was one year old. She needed a tricycle.

Makepasi Match and Mr Pratap Madhvani and family donate wheelchairs three times a year and Mary Masesa who is the PM at Makepasi is the official co-ordinator. Priority is given to children, orphans and widows. Where possible we also offer employment to PWDs. To be on the list she can be emailed at makepasi@infocom.co.ug or contacted at Makepasi.



Makepasi General Manager K. Subramanian and Financial Controller Daxesh Upadhyay receiving the award

Makepasi gets URA award

Despite the Covid -19 pandemic and its challenges that affected business, Makepasi exhibited a high degree of tax compliance winning itself the Uganda Revenue Authority's Vantage Award Non-individual, Eastern Region - Financial Year 2019-20.

During the 15th Taxpayers Appreciation Awards Ceremony that was organized by Uganda Revenue Authority recently at Mestil Hotel Kampala, the top 25 taxpayers by region and district for the financial year 2019/2020 were recognised.

With respect to small and medium enterprises, Makepasi Match Limited emerged the Vantage Award Winner for the topmost taxpayer in the Eastern region of Uganda.

URA Vantage award is one of the awards which recognises about eight compliant taxpayers countrywide by looking at the four country regions namely the Central, Western, Northern and Eastern. They are termed as the 'Taxation's Rising Star' under the small and medium taxpayers bracket.

Makepasi was represented by its General Manager Mr. K. Subramanian and Financial Controller Daxesh Upadhyay.

Liberty pays claim at Kakira



L to R: Business Development Manager Richard Muganzi, Sales Consultant Timothy Marie and Sales Administrator Josephine Namalwa present a dummy cheque to Taban Moris

The mark of a good insurer is speedy settlements of claims. This was the case for Taban Moris, an employee of Kakira Sugar Limited, took up an accidental disability policy with Liberty Life Assurance Uganda Ltd in 2016.

Taban suffered a work-related injury, and Liberty fulfilled its obligation of paying this claim. Taban is now able to adjust to his new life with a non-functional hand.

Accidental Disability Plan provides a lump sum payment on the accidental loss of life or accidental impairment of the policyholder. This policy covers a person between 18 and 65 years of age. Other conditions covered in this policy due to an accident include; permanent loss of sight in both eyes, permanent loss of hearing in both ears, permanent loss of use of two limbs, permanent loss of speech and major burns.

Liberty Life Assurance Uganda Limited was established in 2006 and is a specialist life insurance company and Uganda's largest life insurer. Liberty Life Assurance provides group and individual/personal risk insurance solutions for life changing events. At Liberty we believe that in times of unfortunate events, the last thing our customers should worry about is finances.

At Individual level, Liberty Life Assurance offers a range of products and solutions to meet the life changing risk events. Solutions offer cover for unforeseen events and this will give you peace of mind knowing that you have the best insurance plan for unplanned events. The products include the Funeral Plan, which provides a lump sum to cover the cost of a funeral. There is an option to cover the policyholder, one spouse and a maximum of six children with a choice to add parents and parents in law as well as extended family members.

The Education Protector plan provides a lump sum on the occurrence of a listed risk event to help provide for your child's education when you can no longer do so.



Aberdare Country Club named Africa's Leading Green Hotel for the 4th time

Despite the unprecedented challenges that came along with the Covid-19 pandemic affecting the tourism industry, Aberdare Country Club has demonstrated a remarkable resilience as it won for the fourth time the 27th Annual World Travel Awards as Africa's Leading Green Hotel, 2020.

Aberdare Country Club won the first award in 2013 and now winning it for three consecutive years, 2020, 2019 and 2018. Aberdare Country Club is only a two and a half hour drive northeast from Nairobi, it is nestled on a slope of Mweiga Hill in the Aberdare Highlands in the Great Rift Valley. Aberdare Country Club is considered a heritage property in Kenya and it is built within its own 1,300 acre Wild life sanctuary. The sanctuary is inhabited by impalas, zebras, giraffes and the more reclusive leopards.

Each of the rooms at Aberdare Country Club has a seating area and a fireplace. The private bathrooms are equipped with a bath or a shower. The hotel has barbecue facilities and views of the garden, and guests can enjoy a meal at the restaurant or a drink at the bar. Free WiFi is featured and free private parking is available on site.

Guests can relax by the pool side or take a stroll through the lush gardens. Aberdare Country Club also features a health club and guests can play a game of tennis or a round of golf at the 9-hole course within the Game Sanctuary.



A seating area and fireplace in one of the rooms at Aberdare Country Club



Conference hall





1. *Kakira Sugar Limited General Manager Christian Vincke, Works Manager Chris Strathern, Finance Director Satish Sawhney, Project Manager Ravi Bhatnagar and representatives from the British High Commission: Mr. Alex Crook, Regional Energy and Climate Lead, Mr. Tom Sengalama, Climate and Natural Resource Adviser, and Ms. Lydia Nandawula, Programme Manager during a visit to KSL*
2. *Joint Managing Director Mayur Madhvani, Madhvani Group Director Jim Kabeho, KSL General Manager Christian Vincke and Finance Director Satish Sawhney during a visit of Ms Grace Choda, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Industry*
3. *Ms. Samara Madhvani, granddaughter of Mr. Pratap M. Madhvani and daughter of Mr. Roni P. Madhvani with Sam Wignall, George Goldberg and KSL Works Manager Chris Strathern during a visit to Kakira*
4. *BIDCO CEO, Mr. Anoop Sharma and BIDCO CFO Mr. Matthew Kok on a visit to East African Packaging Solutions*
5. *Joint Managing Director Mayur Madhvani and Company Secretary Madhvani Group K. P. Eswar with Mr. Amama Mbabazi, former Prime Minister of Uganda, and Jacqueline Mbabazi during a visit to Kakira*
6. *A delegation from the Immigration Office poses for a group photo during their visit to Kakira*
7. *Joint Managing Director Kamlesh Madhvani, Mrs. Sheila Madhvani and Executive Director Dipti Mohanty on a visit to Mwera Tea Estate*
8. *Kamlesh Madhvani and a team from KSL hand over a cheque of UGX 50 million to Isaac Imaka of the Gabula Royal Foundation. The money is a contribution to the efforts of the Kyabazinga of Busoga to develop the Kingdom*



EAPS rewards loyal staff



Mwine Jim Kabeho speaking to the employees during the award ceremony

Every five years, the management at East African Packaging Solutions organises an event to reward and recognise long-serving and exemplary staff. This arrangement was agreed with the workers union and has been faithfully implemented ever since.

Madhvani Group Executive Director, Mwine Jim Kabeho, was the chief guest at the occasion. Coincidentally, he was also once the General Manager of the packaging company in 1992, when it operated as Mulbox Limited.

Kabeho and other guests started off the day with a tour of the EAPS facility. He commended the management for all the changes and expansion since the time he was last there. "It has grown from producing 200 tonnes a year in those days to a remarkable 3,000 tonnes a month," Kabeho noted.

He also noted the expansion and diversification, as well as the cleanliness and orderliness of the factory and its surroundings. He especially noted the adherence to all social distancing SOPs and encouraged the workers to stay diligent and safe. Kabeho commended EAPS for being at the forefront of marketing Uganda's products to the world, such as fruits and vegetables and flowers.

For his part, EAPS Chief Executive Officer Madhu Kabra congratulated the staff, saying that EAPS was committed to retaining a loyal family of effective workers.



"It is also our intention to ensure a good working environment and improved livelihoods of all our dedicated staff," Kabra said. "We appreciate your hard work because without the team, none of our achievements would be possible."

Managers of the different sections thanked the team for their contribution in placing EAPS at the top of the packaging field. Each awardee received a gift from an assortment including smartphones, TV sets, mattresses, cement, iron sheets and others.

The following staff members were awarded: Allan Mugabe, Andrew Wandera, David Muwumba, Ema Onek, Eve Lakot, Francis Emielu, Fred Turyahabwe, Hellen Nakisuyi, Henry Yamba, Joel Mukasa, Michael Wampula, Osman Jingo, Paul Mutebe, Rachel Akwii, Richard Olega, Sylvia Anyokot, Timothy Mukhoma and Tony Kakula.



Some of the employees set to be awarded at the event



Kabra and Kabeho hand over a sofa set to one of the awardees; below, an employee receives roofing iron sheets



Our people are our wealth - value them

By Susan Gimbo
PRO and Secretary to JMDs

"Our people are our wealth." This is a statement always on the lips of the founder of the Madhvani Group, Muljibhai Madhvani (1894-1958).

It is, therefore, important for any company to ensure the wellbeing and productivity of their human resource component. Employees are essential in the business world, it takes a team to get a business off the ground and business owners with most talented employees tend to have the most success.

Treating employees like people and always rewarding them ensures that you will get the best out of them, as observed in Madhvani Group hence the business growth and company developments.

Finding and attracting the right talent takes more than good luck and therefore credit to the Madhvani Group which has kept on the legacy for more than 91 years of excellence and employee satisfaction and hence the great history of employing over 1,000 people with consistency in management and very result oriented. One of the ways to attract top talent is to treat your employees well.

Businesses will reap many benefits when they show how much they care about the team and this is evident in the Madhvani Group companies where employee satisfaction is key. Credit goes to the Madhvani Group for their culture of excellence, and improving the lives of vulnerable groups and the Nation's economy.

Enjoy the full Jinja Sailing Club experience



Jinja Sailing Club is a favoured destination for exclusive weddings and events, and plays host to meetings, conferences and team building activities. The calm lakeside atmosphere and the fresh lake breeze provide the perfect backdrop for everything from intimate candlelit dinners to private business meetings. The dedicated children's play area and pool ensure that the little ones are not left out.

According to Jinja Sailing Club Manager, Himanshu Kumar, there is something for everyone. "Our guests are varied, but will always leave satisfied. This is a family-friendly atmosphere that everyone can enjoy."

Aside from the joys of dining, playing and relaxing by the lake, there is an added service that the Jinja Sailing Club offers to expand the customer experience; and the hint is in its name. Jinja Sailing Club is tucked away in a unique location, just on the confluence between the waters of the world's second largest fresh water lake and the world's longest river. Guests to the club are invited to enjoy a one-of-a-kind sailing adventure on Lake Victoria and the River Nile.

Jinja Sailing Club offers two boating options on which guests can experience the waters which make the Club a prime entertainment destination. At the Jinja Sailing Club, the ambiance and cuisine offered on land can be safely and comfortably extended out on the water.

It is safety first, as you are assisted to correctly put on the life jacket and sign a consent form to begin your trip. The Captain of the boat not only ensures your safety, but also gives you valuable information about the lake that he grew up on.

As a mother, one of my concerns was for the safety of children, but as we took the lakeside trip, my children remained safe and entertained at all times. There is no doubt that the boat trip can be a shared family experience.

He assured us there was no need to fear hippos or crocodiles because the water is too deep for them to launch an attack from, although they are found in rocky or shallow areas of the water. But not to worry, there is still plenty of wildlife to see, especially the birds of Lake Victoria. It is a bird watching

The Jinja Sailing Club has been a feature of the former industrial hub of Uganda for many years. Taken over and revamped by the tourism arm of the Madhvani Group, the iconic lakeside location has continued to offer great ambiance and good food. However, the Jinja Sailing Club also invites you to take a special journey to the Source of the Nile





Top and bottom, breakfast on the boat. Left, the mouth-watering pizza from the wood-fired clay oven at Jinja Sailing Club



reasons: to try and eat their eggs and to get any leftover dead fish floating by the shores.

Hassan soon points out to us the boundary differentiating the waters of the Nile and the Lake. It is a sight to be seen, not written about, and I hope you will be tempted to see it for yourself. There is a spot marking the zero point, which is where the official 6,400 km journey of the Nile to Egypt begins. It takes the water 90 days to travel from this point to where the river ends.

Right on the source of the Nile sits a quaint gift shop, where you can buy souvenirs of your trip to Jinja. When I say it is sitting on the water, that is exactly what I mean. As you stand in the shop, you see the waters flowing underneath it through the wooden floorboards. When you take a picture there, you are practically standing above the Source of the Nile.

There are three main trip options available – the Lake Victoria excursion, Source of the Nile Cruise and the Sunset Cruise. The Lake Victoria Excursion is the most family friendly option, and can last from one to three hours. You can dock on an island for lunch and swimming and return at your leisure, among other activities. However, for the more romantic at heart, the Sunset Cruise is perfect.

Boating is available from 9:00am to sunset, depending on your requirements. Drinks and meals of your choice can be organised on request, and eaten at your convenience. Just a simple call ahead will book your affordable and unique boating trip. Come and make new memories with Jinja Sailing Club.

paradise, with cormorants, kingfisher, weaver birds, egrets, snake birds and many others showing off their fishing skills and spreading their wings to dry on the steep shore.

Captain Hassan manoeuvred the boat skilfully back and forth, stopping and turning to show us the different sights. Having grown up by the lake, you can see that he understands the movement of the water, and any fears you have will be put to rest.

I did not consider myself a bird watcher, but with so many beautiful and colourful birds, and a knowledgeable guide to explain their ways to us, I found that I enjoyed the experience and I learnt many new things. You know the yellow legged birds that ride on the backs of cattle and buffalo eating ticks? Well, they have a river-dwelling cousin that depends entirely on eating fish. The cormorant apparently can eat 3kg of fish a day.

You will also see the monitor lizards basking lazily. They hang around the nests and holes of the waterside birds for two



Above, The chef does a live cooking display for guests. Below, the captain steers the Suntracker boat for an excellent view of the sunset on the Nile





Viewing deck at Chobe Safari Lodge, overlooking the Nile

Marasa Africa is where the unforgettable happens. Rediscover each of our four Uganda safari lodges, and the unique aspects of our country that can be enjoyed on location. Each of the four can be found in a national park giving visitors a chance to experience and rediscover the Pearl of Africa

Chobe Safari Lodge

Five star elegance perched above the banks of the River Nile

Chobe Safari Lodge is a five star property located along the Nile River in Murchison Falls National Park, Uganda's largest national park. It is three and half hours drive from Kampala.

The amazing panoramic views and the sounds of the River Nile's magnificent rapids coupled with wildlife, birds, flora and fauna, set a scene for adventure that will impress the visitors making Chobe Safari Lodge the perfect retreat for any discerning traveller.

This area of Murchison Falls National Park is ideal for fishing, and will revive this newly refurbished lodge to become one of the best fishing destinations in Africa.

Chobe Safari Lodge was originally constructed in the 1950s and at that time was one of the jewels in Uganda's crown of tourism destinations.

Following decades of being abandoned, the newly refurbished and restored Chobe Safari Lodge now exudes elegance and energy once again. Each category of accommodation narrates a tale of comfort and luxury for the discerning visitor.

The luxury property boasts unrivalled architecture and interior design. Chobe Safari Lodge features 36 elegant guest rooms, 21 luxury tents, 4 suites and a Presidential Cottage. The River Nile is the main focus from an architect's perspective, and so all the rooms and luxury tents have balconies and terraces facing the magnificent sweeping views. Even the 3-tier swimming pool has panoramic views of the River Nile.

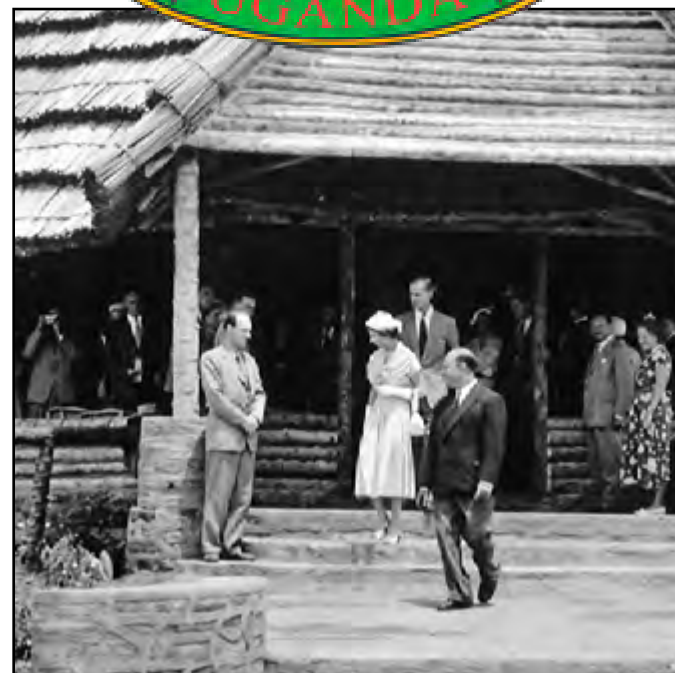
The state of the art conference block can host up to 100 guests and is fully equipped for all business requirements, making a corporate event at Chobe Safari Lodge an unforgettable experience.



Mweya Safari Lodge - host to royalty

Your unforgettable experience
in the heart of the Queen Elizabeth National Park

At Mweya Safari Lodge, nature and history meet on a knoll overlooking the Kazinga Channel. Mweya Safari Lodge has twice played host to Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, and her husband Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, who has recently died, on the 9th of April, only two months before his 100th birthday. (10.6.1921 - 9.4.2021)



Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip at Mweya Safari Lodge during their first visit in 1954



HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, arrives in Uganda in November 2007

In 1954, Kazinga National Park was renamed Queen Elizabeth National Park, to commemorate a visit by the newly crowned Queen Elizabeth II to Uganda. The Queen, accompanied by Prince Philip, had come to Uganda to commission the Owen Falls Dam in Jinja. During their stay they visited Mweya Safari Lodge.

The Queen and Prince Philip would next return to Uganda for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), which Uganda hosted in November, 2007. During that visit, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, revisited Mweya Safari Lodge and officially opened the second VVIP Cottage.



Signing of the Mweya Lodge Visitors Book on the terrace of the Queen's Cottage - 21.11.07



HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, inaugurating the Queens Cottage at Mweya Lodge

Did you know?

Queen Elizabeth National Park is one of Uganda's oldest parks, having been officially gazetted in 1952. The park was initially known as Kazinga National Park, named for the Kazinga Channel, which is one of the dominant natural features of the Park. The Kazinga Channel is a 32-kilometre long natural channel that links Lake Edward and Lake George, and it is home to one of the world's largest concentrations of hippos and Nile crocodiles.

Located on a peninsula within the heart of the Queen Elizabeth National Park, Mweya Safari Lodge offers visitors an unforgettable experience. The Lodge is surrounded by the magical Rwenzori Mountains aptly described as the 'Mountains of the Moon'. To the east, lie the guardians of the birthplace of mankind, the Great Rift Valley hills, separated from the Mountains of the Moon by the meandering Kazinga Channel.

Mweya Safari Lodge offers visitors a spectacular experience of luxury in the wilderness with a range of activities and attractions, including game drives and luxury boat trips. Within the Lodge each room has a breathtaking view of the Kazinga Channel. You can watch warthogs grazing the grass outside, as well as the odd curious hippo, while enjoying quality international cuisine.

With an abundance of game, and 619 different species of birds available to be seen, Mweya Safari Lodge is the perfect place to start your journey of discovery.

Paraa Safari Lodge

your perfect blend of comfort,
relaxation and adventure



Paraa Safari Lodge was established in 1954 in Murchison Falls National Park. The lodge is located in the north west of Uganda overlooking one of nature's best kept secrets, the River Nile, on its journey from its source at Lake Victoria to join Lake Albert – here it is suddenly channelled into a gorge only six meters wide, and cascades 43 meters below.

The earth literally trembles at Murchison Falls - one of the world's most powerful flows of natural water. Paraa Safari Lodge offers a unique blend of comfort, relaxation and adventure. Each of the rooms is a haven of style and serenity, complete with balcony and private bathroom.

The wildlife biodiversity in Murchison Falls National Park contains the most astonishing number of species – 76 types of mammals and 451 different birds.

The River Nile, on its journey from Murchison Falls, attracts a whole host of different wildlife such as crocodiles, hippos and water birds. Other animals include lion, warthogs, buffalo, rare aquatic sitatunga antelope, giant forest hog, Uganda kob, topi, waterbuck, elephant and leopard. In total there are about 76 mammal species and 451 bird species.

The national park plays host to many unique attractions and adventures. Suggested activities include a safari drive and boat ride to the bottom of Murchison Falls. You can also take a nature walk to the top of Murchison Falls.



Visitors can enjoy the luxury accommodation and spa, or take a boat trip right up to the majestic Murchison Falls



Silverback Lodge

The ultimate mountain gorilla experience in East Africa



Silverback Lodge is named for the adult dominant male gorillas, which have grey or whitish hair on their back.

Silverback Lodge is the latest addition to the Marasa Africa properties. It is located in the Buhoma sector of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park in western Uganda. Only a 5 minute walk to the national park, the lodge boasts sweeping views of the valley and forests that surround it.

Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is a sanctuary for colobus monkeys, chimpanzees, and many birds such as hornbills and turacos. It is most notable for the 400 Bwindi gorillas, half of the world's population of the endangered mountain gorillas.

Silverback Lodge is perched high above the valley overlooking the beautiful flora and fauna. Bird watching and primate viewing are possible right from the front door of your room.

The lodge has beautiful gardens, perfect for relaxing and enjoying the magnificent landscape of the Bwindi forest after a long day's hike.

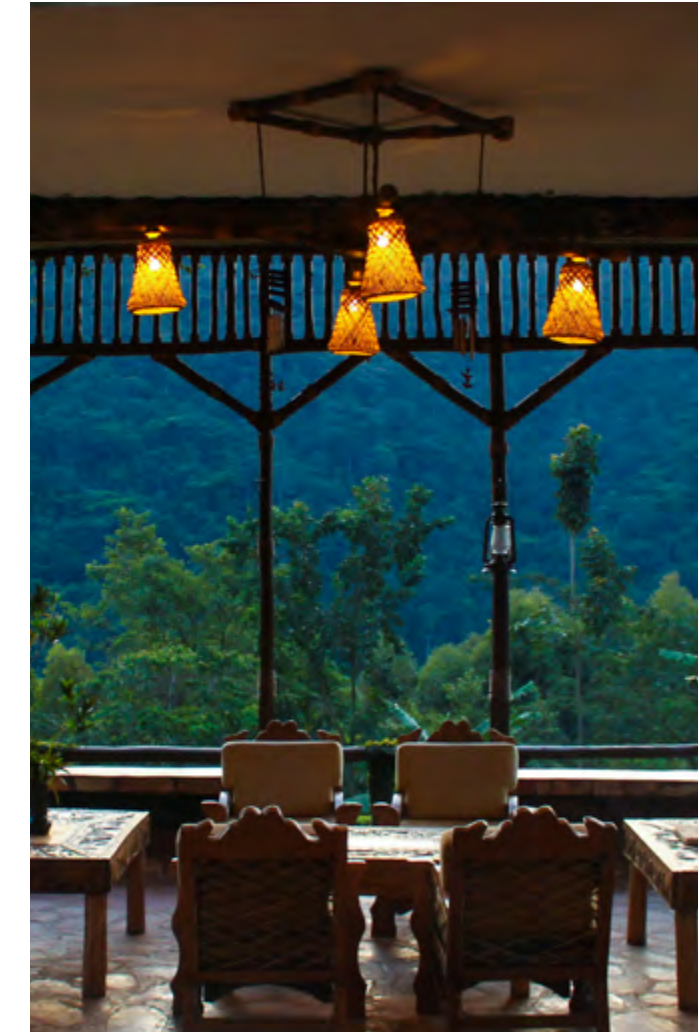
Silverback is the largest lodge in the area and will remain one of the best value properties in the region, whilst keeping the Marasa Africa standards of comfort and hospitality.

Activities suggested at Silverback Lodge include

- Gorilla trekking
- Bird watching
- 6 varying trails for hiking
- Day and night trips to Queen Elizabeth National Park.
- The Batwa Trail
- Biking



Silverback Lodge offers sweeping, unparalleled views of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, bringing the mystery of the wild right to your doorstep



Joining the Madhvani Group



Thiloshni Perumal
Blender cum Quality Controller

Thiloshni, who is originally from South Africa, has worked in the alcohol manufacturing industry for over 10 years. Her experience has been in quality control and production/operations management for Diageo, a leading international alcohol producer. A graduate of biotechnology, she carries an additional degree in quality management. She finds Kakira to be a friendly and safe work environment and is happy to be working in a brand new facility equipped with the latest technology.



Raj Ghosh
Manager - Jinja Sailing Club

Raj Ghosh is the new Manager for the Jinja Sailing Club. With 17 years of experience in the hospitality industry in Mumbai and Dubai, Raj believes in always being ready to create the best possible experience for the customer through quick thinking and a spirit of excellence. This is his first assignment in Africa, and he has been impressed by the beauty of his workstation and the politeness of the people. Raj is looking forward to using his strengths to bring the best out of his team.



Patrick Pillay
Manager - Bottling

Patrick Pillay is the new Plant Manager for the Bottling Plant. Patrick has over 30 years' experience in Engineering and Operations, working in United Kingdom and South Africa. He honed his skills with one of the World's leading Alcohol Manufacturing companies, Diageo which is a valuable partner of Kakira Distillery. A strong believer in the power of positive thinking in the workplace, Patrick always brings a positive energy and motivation to those around him. He loves to travel the world with his family and is excited to be part of the Madhvani Group.



Caleb Richard Jones
Manager - Aberdare Country Club

Caleb Richard Jones is the new Manager for the Aberdare Country Club, and its sister property, The Ark. Caleb has 35 years experience in the tourism development and hotel management industry, from building new hotels and lodges to managing island hospitality outlets. While he has worked across Africa in Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Nigeria, this is his first time in Kenya. He was attracted by the new location and its unique placement. Despite the challenges presented by Covid lockdowns, Caleb is confident of an upward turn and keen to make his mark.



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