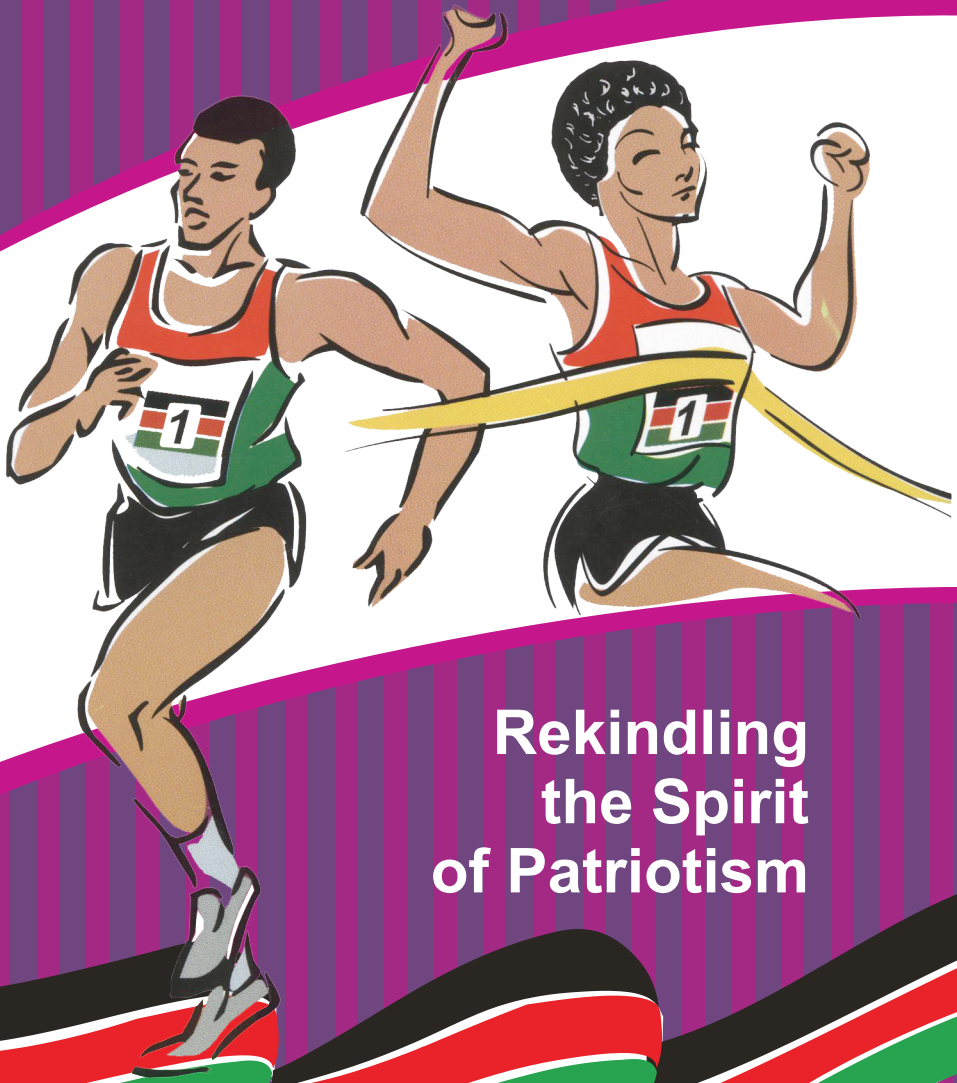




# Kenya My Country



Rekindling  
the Spirit  
of Patriotism

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# **Kenya My Country**

**Rekindling the Spirit  
of Patriotism**

## Preface

The Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission (EACC) is mandated to fight against corruption through law enforcement, prevention and public education. The Commission educates and sensitises members of the public on ethics, anti-corruption and integrity. Through the Department of Education, the Commission has initiated several programmes in the formal learning institutions in Kenya. These programmes include Adili/Integrity Clubs, integration of anti-corruption in the school curriculum and school outreach programmes aimed at giving integrity talks to students.

The Education sector is critical in the fight against corruption and therefore to the realization of Kenya Vision 2030. The moral focus of education is to train the youth to become leaders of integrity who will advocate for ethics, anti-corruption and character change in conformity with the Constitution of Kenya.

## Introduction

This brochure addresses the virtue of patriotism. Patriotism is key for a prosperous nation. However, the spirit of patriotism is destroyed by such vices as self-centredness, tribalism, greed and corruption. Corruption in particular is a clear sign of lack of patriotism.

A corrupt person steals from the very nation he or she belongs, cares only about his or her own personal benefits and has no regard for the common good. It is for this reason that the Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission (EACC) is calling on each Kenyan to re-kindle the spirit of patriotism and participate in building a better Kenya.

### What is patriotism?

Patriotism means:

- love for and devotion to one's country
- pride in one's country
- sacrifice for one's country
- the loyalty and honour that all citizen's owe to their country or nation
- allegiance, public spirit, and individual responsibility to fellow citizens
- Nationalism
- Pride in a country's culture and history

A person who loves, supports, and defends one's country is referred to as a patriot.

## How Can We Show Patriotism

As citizens of Kenya, we can show patriotism by:

- Speaking well of our country
- Obeying all laws
- Respecting those in authority
- Respecting the national flag
- Observing national days
- Honouring the words of the national anthem
- Respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of others
- Conserving national resources
- Keeping the environment clean
- Participating in national elections
- Participating in community service
- Paying taxes
- Shunning tribalism and nepotism
- Serving the country with diligence and honour
- Defending our country at all times
- Fighting corruption



Ask not what your country can do for you ask what you can do for your country.  
- John F. Kennedy

## How do we fail to show patriotism

We fail to show patriotism when we:

- Engage in corruption
- Embezzle and misappropriate public funds
- Discriminate others on the basis of colour, race, tribe, creed, gender and social status
- Abuse the rights of others
- Evade payment of taxes
- Wage war against fellow citizens
- Engage in crime
- Condone the spirit of mediocrity
- Speak ill of our country
- Fail to participate in social-economic, cultural and political development of the country



My country: When right keep it right; When wrong set it right.

## What destroys patriotism in Kenya?

- |                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| • Greed              | • Tribalism                  |
| • Corruption         | • Nepotism                   |
| • Dishonesty         | • Injustice                  |
| • Weak social values | • Self Centeredness          |
| • Ignorance          | • Silence and lack of action |



**I Love my Country Kenya**

**Kenya's National Resources**



## Symbols of National Identity

National symbols distinguish a nation from others. They represent a distinctive identity for a nation and its people and contribute to greater national and social unity.



### National Flag

The Kenyan flag is one of the most important symbols of national identity. It consists of four colours that is : black which symbolizes the colour of the majority of the people of the country, red depicts the blood that was shed during the struggle for independence, green symbolizes the natural wealth and productivity of the country and white symbolizes peace. The two crossed spears and a shield symbolize the struggle that Kenyans went through to achieve independence.

A thoughtful mind, when it sees a  
Nation's flag, sees not the flag only, but the  
Nation itself  
- Henry Ward Beecher



### The coat of Arms

The Coat of Arms of Kenya is represented by:

Two lions each holding a spear, a shield and a rooster that holds an axe.

- The lions are a symbol of protection.
- The rooster(male chicken) in the centre carrying an axe signifies a new and prosperous life.
- The agricultural products in the foreground represent the fertility of our land.

The motto of Kenya's Coat of Arms is known as Harambee. Harambee means "pulling all together". It signifies the need for Kenyans to unite while undertaking development activities.

## National Days

These are days set apart to observe or to celebrate important events and people in the history of a country. A national day may often be observed as a national holiday. Kenya's national days are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> June – Madaraka Day:** The day Kenya attained her independence.
- 12<sup>th</sup> December – Jamhuri Day:** The day Kenya became a republic.
- 20<sup>th</sup> October – Mashujaa Day:** The day Kenyans honour and commemorate heroes who championed the struggle for independence.

## The Constitution

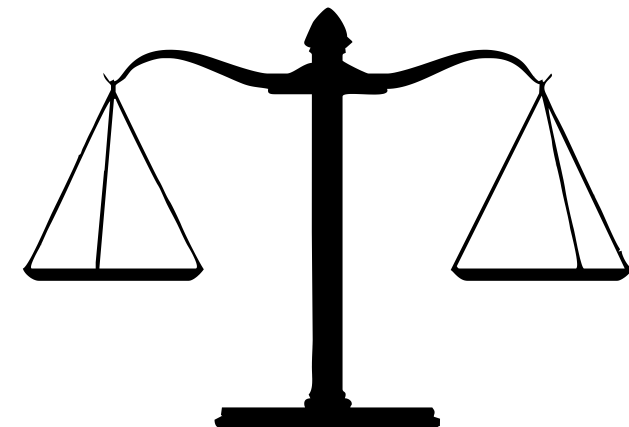
The Constitution is the supreme law of the Republic and binds all persons and all state organs at National and County Government levels.

## National and Official Language

The National Language of the Republic is Kiswahili and the official languages are Kiswahili and English.

## Public Seal

It is a symbol of authority used by the president of the Republic to signify authenticity of National documents.



## National Boundaries

National boundaries demarcate the recognized limits of a nation.



## National Anthem

A national anthem is a recognized patriotic song that reminds the people of a country: its history, traditions, values and struggle for independence. Our national anthem espouses many values that we Kenyans need to embrace. These values are patriotism, unity, peace and liberty, hardwork and service to all. It acknowledges God as the source of all blessings.

The following are the words of the Kenyan National Anthem

### (a) English

*"Oh God of all creation  
Bless this our land and nation  
Justice be our shield and defender  
May we dwell in unity  
Peace and liberty  
Plenty be found within our borders*

*Let one and all arise  
With hearts both strong and true  
Service be our earnest endeavour  
And our homeland of Kenya  
Heritage of splendour  
Firm may we stand to defend.*

*Let all with one accord  
In common bond united  
Build this our nation together  
And the glory of Kenya  
The fruit of our labour  
Fill every heart with thanksgiving."*

### (a) Kiswahili

*"Ee Mungu nguvu yetu  
Ilete Baraka kwetu  
Haki iwe ngao na mlinzi  
Natukae na undungu  
Amani na uhuru  
Raha tupate na ustawi.*

*Amkeni ndugu zetu  
Tufanye sote bidii  
Nasi tujitoe kwa nguvu  
Nchi yetu ya Kenya  
Tunayoipenda  
Tuwe tayari kuilinda.*

*Natujenge taifa letu  
Ee, ndio wajibu wetu  
Kenya istahili heshima  
Tuungane mikono  
Pamoja kazini  
Kila siku tuwe na shukrani."*

## Benefits of being patriotic

When all Kenyans embrace the spirit of patriotism our country will experience:

1. Reduced incidences of corruption
2. Improved economic growth
3. Improved tax collection
4. Quality service delivery
5. Improved security
6. Higher foreign exchange earnings
7. Retention of skilled manpower
8. Improved regional and international participation
9. Enhanced national unity and cohesion
10. Equitable distribution of national resources
11. Improved environmental conservation

## Remember!

- True patriotism springs from a belief in the dignity of the individual, freedom and equality of all people, universal brotherhood and goodwill
- The ruin of a nation begins in the homes of its people
- If the owner of a calabash calls it a worthless calabash, others will join him to use it to pack rubbish in it – African Proverb

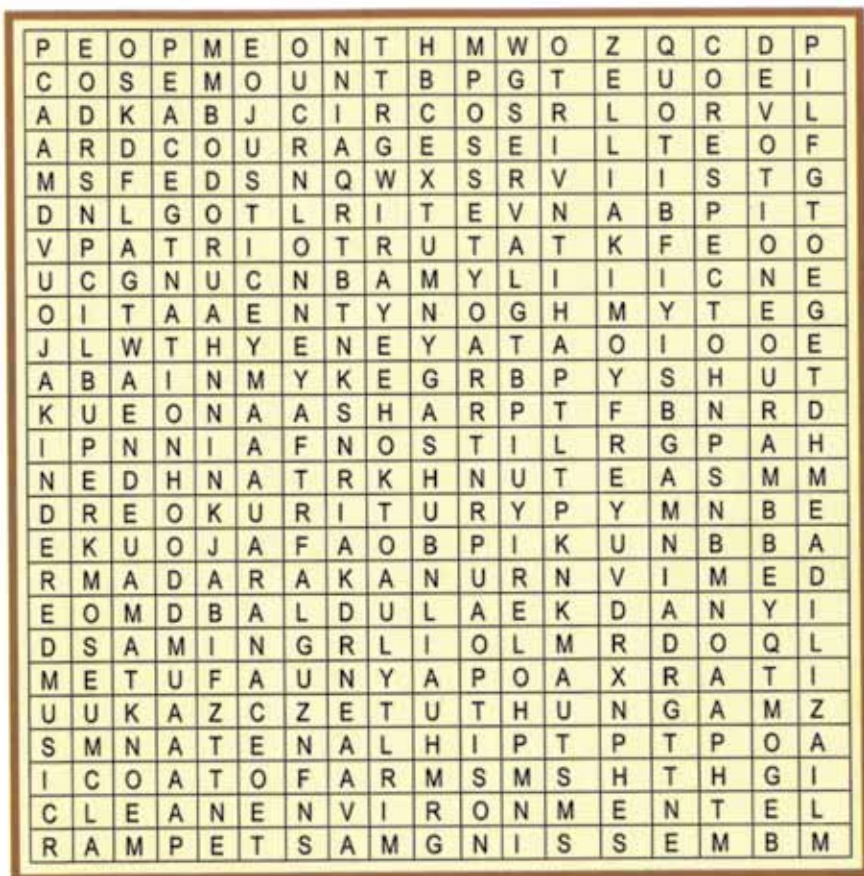


Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime  
- Adlai Stevenson



# Puzzle

Identify at least 15 words related to patriotism in the puzzle below:



A patriotic person recognizes what his country has given him and is going to give him. He pays it due honours and service, thereby supporting and defending the values it stands for...

- David Issack





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