

VMK MAASAILAND TRAINING REPORT 2025



V I S I O N

M I N I S T R I E S K E N Y A

MORE, EFFECTIVE, FLOURISHING CHURCHES



VENUE: NAMANGA & OLGULULUI

DATE: 24TH -27TH, SEPTEMBER, 2025.

INTRODUCTION

Maasai religion, music, and cultural customs have a definite impact on the methodology of missions and relations with the people of their tribes, specifically in the areas of worship and women's ministry. Maasai tribes have specific cultural needs that require ministry different.



Dir. Ishmael facilitates the training

There are theological foundations of worship and women's ministry that must be understood in order to properly execute the process of contextualization as it applies to the Christian gospel. An analysis of the history, religion, rituals, gender roles, and music of Maasai tribes coupled with an understanding of contextualization will aid in the discovery of the implications of culture for ministry within this specific tribal setting.

The Maasais occupy quarter of Kenya. They are identified by their preference to live in Manyattas and their lives depend on their animals. The community is divided into age groups and there are committed to adulthood rituals and male and female segregations.



Olgulului –Amboseli Training –Group Photo

As the gospel reached Maasailand, the Bible Societies interpreted the bible into maasai language. However it has been difficult to reach the maasai wholly with the gospel due to the following reasons.

- i. Illiteracy is common and majority cannot read and write.
- ii. Most of the Maasai speak their own language. Few know other languages like English and Kiswahili which are common languages spoken in East Africa.
- iii. Their traditional supports early marriages and Girl Child Forced Circumcision.

- iv. Their traditional leadership system is very strong as they respect their own elders irrespective whether they are Christians or not.

To those few who have received the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, there is need for church leadership, training, evangelism, discipleship and church planting. Vision Ministry Kenya in Partnership with Soul Winning Church took church leadership trainings in Olgulului, a village in the desert of Amboseli and Namanga town Centre.

1. Training at Olgulului

Having made the necessary preparations at the office level, the VMK team set out for Olgulului-Amboseli for the training. This is a core mandate of Vision Ministries Kenya (VMK) which is in line with our mission to facilitate training for Spiritual leadership, Church Leadership and Administration and Church Planting.

The leaders training that were carried for two days started at 10.30 am every day. On the first day, the Overseer of Soul



Bro. Calvin facilitates the training

Winning Church, Pastor Patrisha Mbaria opened the seminar with the word of prayer and also read from 1

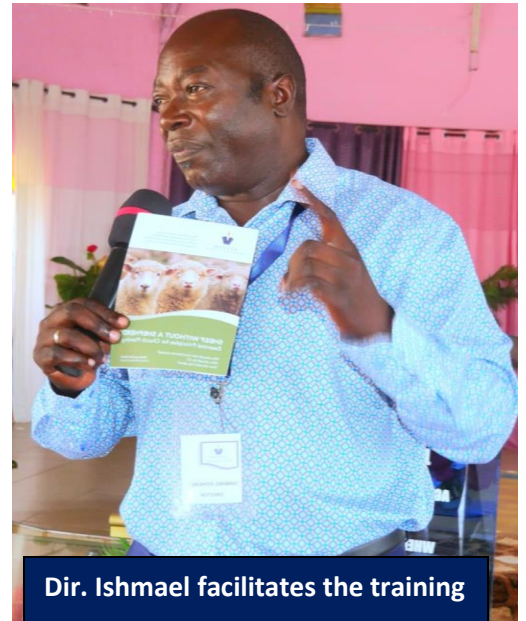
Corinthians 3:9. We are co-workers with the Lord and that all the teachings are based in Christ and will uplift the workers. She then welcomed all the leaders present.

The praise team then took over and presented worships in local dialect which saw the beginning of the seminar. It

was evident that the participants were ready for the training even though the attendance then was low.



Leaders during the training at Olgulului -Amboseli



Dir. Ishmael facilitates the training

The Jethro manual & TOT Vol3 Manual

While introducing the Jethro principle, Director Ishmael let Patrisha read from the manual in local mother tongue (Maasai). Ex.18:13-26.

Ishmael then explained the meaning and importance of delegation of duties. It is about recognizing the gifts and abilities of other individuals and giving them responsibilities that are defined and specific. Delegation contributes to unity and teamwork and eases pressure on the vision bearer. He gave an example of Moses and the advice he received from Jethro the father in law. Delegation is leadership that is positive as opposed to rulership as we see in Moses before he received advice from Jethro.



Pr. Patrisha facilitates the training

In VMK, God has called us to offload pastors so they can enjoy serving God in their Ministries, never to rule but to lead. In serving God, there is no ruling, it is about positive leadership.

Giving a cultural example of the Maasai herders, he said that the leader should be a friend to those he is leading, that he should know and understand his flock.

Positive leadership is about giving others opportunity to lead as well. He gave an example of VMK saying whole office was present in the training and everyone had their role and participating in the training. He also gave the example of the Jerusalem church warning that pastors should not take the place of God.



Leaders listening and asking questions during the Q&R session

2. Namanga Training at Soul Winning Church Namanga

After having a successful training in Amboseli, we drove to Namanga town where we were to have our trainings for another two days.

The Training in Namanga was a continuation of TOT 2 trainings that the team had had before. This was unlike Olgulului-Amboseli where we had a mixed audience of those who had started TOT training and those who were attending for the first time.



'Leaders during the training at Namanga church'

Director Ishmael reminded the leaders here that, a leader is to be led by the word of God and never to embrace any cultural practices that contradict our faith. Jesus culture supersedes all cultures. Brother Ishmael also advised the leaders not to defile themselves by engaging in political and cultural rituals which is common in Maasailand churches.

The leaders were reminded that our mission targets on training, equipping and empowering the saints in Maasailand to reach out with the gospel of Jesus Christ effectively and efficiently to Maasais living in the jungles (remote areas). The mission is to help the upcoming leaders and churches to become more effective and flourishing and train leaders and support church planting activities according to the New Testament Church Principles.

Major challenges we noticed

- Movement in this land is difficult. Especially Movement in Olgulului-Amboseli. This is a church right in the game park of Amboseli where people are few and are scarcely populated due to fear of game animals
- Water is a problem as the place is dry throughout the year.



Leaders during the facilitates the training

- Most women and children suffer neglect and walk long distance to look after animals.
- Schools are scarce and few have started to embrace education

Recommendations

1. *There is need for further training of leaders in this region. The team should implement TOT Trainings as suggested by Ishmael during the trainings.*
2. *Generally the leadership consists of people majority of who are illiterate. This is a problem with the Olgulului Church-Amboseli.*
3. *The administrative structure of Olgulului church needs to harmonize with that of Vision Ministries Kenya. We are grateful that the Church in Namanga has developed a great working structure.*
4. *Need to empower youth and children ministries in the both churches*



The congregation during the training at Soul Winning Church Namanga.