

The Himalayan Times

Title : AFRICA COMES TO NEPAL

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Location : KATHMANDU

Article Date : 05/20/2011

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KATHMANDU: Movie enthusiasts have a chance to watch movies from the African continent at the Nepal-Africa Film Festival 2011 from May 23-25 at the Russian Culture Centre, Kamal Pokhari. This festival is a project of two undergraduate students — Catherine Apalat from Uganda and Yvonne Otieno from Kenya — who are in Nepal volunteering under the Fredkorspet Norway programme for which College of Journalism and Mass Communication (CJMC) is the media partner in Nepal.

Nine films from six African countries will be screened — *Hassan and Marquos* (Egypt), *Suvi* (Zambia), *Cry Freedom* (South Africa), *Osutua* (Kenya), *Congo River* (Congo) *Tough Choices* (Kenya) *Down This Road I Walk* (Uganda) and *Hearts in Pieces* (Uganda).

In Search of Riyal will represent Nepal.

The show timings are 11:00 am and 5:00 pm. Tickets are priced from Rs 100-1,000 and available at Alliance Francaise, Teku, Universal Peace Federation, Naxal and CJMC, Balkumari.



Three-day
Nepal-Africa
film fest from
May 23

In an email interview Otieno talks about their project with *THT*

What kind of films being screened at the festival?

The festival is themed as 'Seeing Africa through the African lens' and the nine films will showcase different African cultures and traditions as well as contemporary issues in the form of real life stories, documentaries and drama.

What can Nepal audience expect from the festival?

The audience can expect an exciting journey through Africa. Some of the films are thought provoking while some are adventurous. Then there are a few that will stir up emotions. All in all it will be as exciting and learning experience for all.

What is the purpose of organising this festival?

Africa's diverse culture and natural heritage have many untold beautiful sto-

ries... yet its people, culture and natural landscapes are less talked about. The hardships of the people in the sub-Saharan states and their struggle for life is so inspiring that thousands of books can be written about it. However, very few people have the true perspective about Africa. Nepalis have only learnt about the disasters, civil wars, food scarcity, starvation from Africa. And we believe it is time to bring information from that part of the world to inform and educate people about the rich culture and resources in Africa. Along with creating awareness about the continent's life and culture, the festival also aims at building better understanding of the continent among Nepalis. We hope the festival will be a starting point in promoting intercultural relations between African countries and Nepal so that we can have a Nepal Film Festival an African countries. —HNS