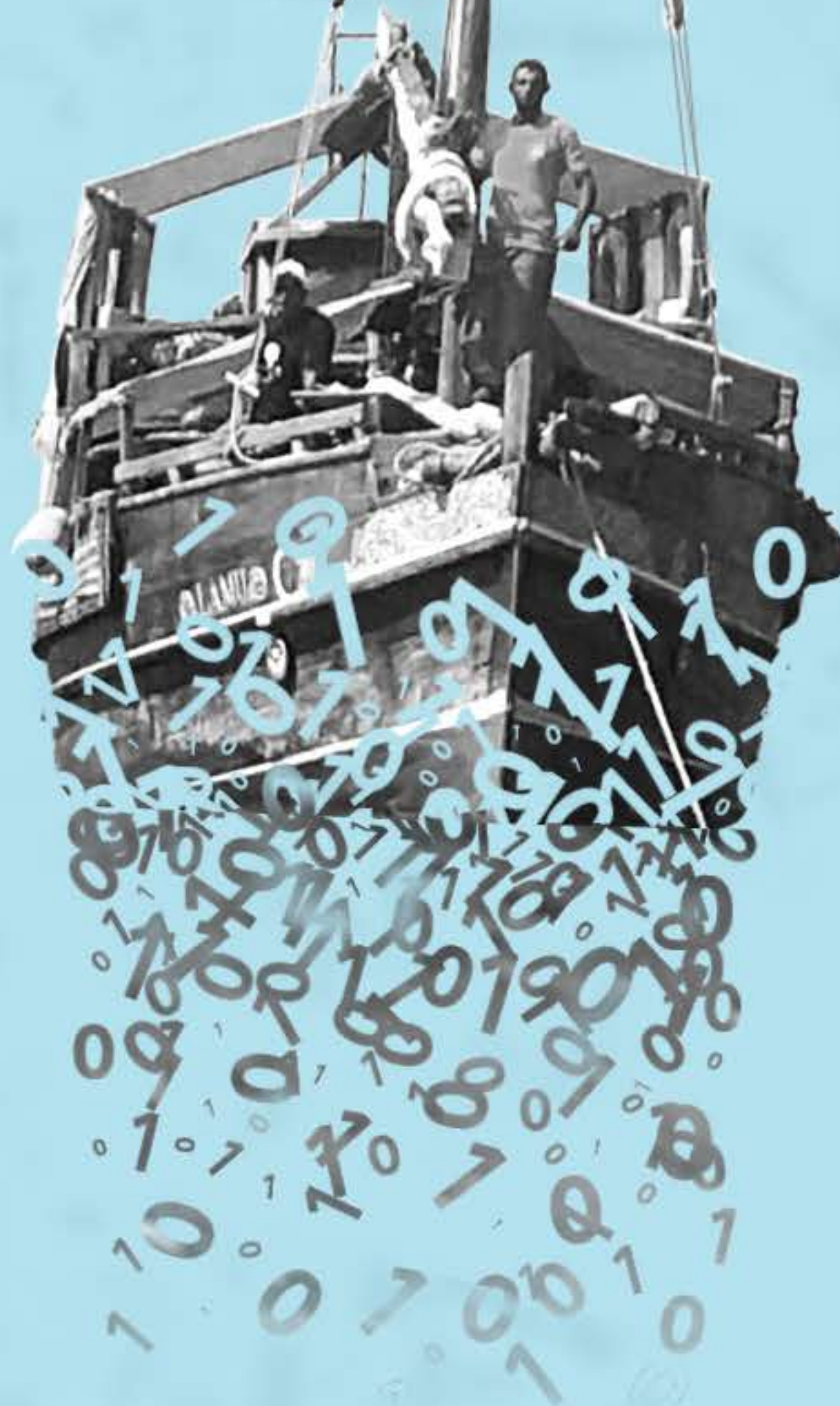


# WEBINAR

## HIISTORIYA: PRESERVING AFRICAN HERITAGE IN A SOCIAL DISTANCING WORLD



## PROGRAMME

JUNE 25

7-9 PM (EAT)

REGISTER: [HIISTORIYA.COM](https://hiistoriya.com)



hiistoriya





## SUMMARY

The aim of this webinar to provide a window for individuals, communities, institutions, agencies, and governments working in Swahili heritage preservation to explore and discuss how culture and heritage is being preserved digitally in a time where experiencing culture and heritage has moved beyond being physically present in space and time.

We have curated speakers who are working on projects and initiatives that innovatively apply digital technology and media for heritage preservation in Africa. We hope to take stock of lessons learnt from these projects to change the way we create, consume and distribute traditional knowledge and Swahili heritage and also further catalyse efforts to preserve Swahili Heritage in the digital age.

The first half of the webinar will include presentations of preservation projects and experiences of existing digitisation projects in Africa. The second half will focus on contextualising the lessons learnt on "Preserving African Heritage in a Social Distancing World". It will include a session with an open dialogue with the select contributors to discuss the opportunities for the integration of digital technologies in Swahili heritage preservation.

## OBJECTIVES

**Provide a platform** for dialogue between research institutions, governments and conservation agencies on innovative strategies that improve access to African culture and heritage during the digital age

**Promote the delivery** of the principles of universal access and inclusive knowledge that benefits local communities

**Improve public participation** in heritage preservation on the East African Coast

**Inspire practitioners** and agencies working on the East African



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THURSDAY, 25TH JUNE, 2020 | 7PM-9PM (EAT)

ZOOM (REGISTER AT [WWW.HIISTORIYA.COM](http://WWW.HIISTORIYA.COM))

## PROGRAMME

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

### BUILDING A VIRTUAL WORLD: DOCUMENTATION AND MAPPING OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES

#### Virtual Tours of Heritage Sites - Mapping Victoria Falls UNESCO World Heritage Site

**Tawanda Kanhema** (10 minutes)

Digital Strategist and Photographer

#### 3D-Modelling of Architectural Monuments and the Documentation of Cultural Heritage Sites

**Prof. (em) Dr. Heinz Ruther** (10 minutes)

Principal Investigator, Zamani Project, University of Cape Town

**Q&A** (5 minutes)

### BRINGING MUSEUMS HOME: DIGITAL HERITAGE VISUALISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL MUSEUM EXHIBITS

#### Community Participation in Digital Archiving and Visualisation of Cultural Artefacts and Sites

**Chao Tayiana** (10 minutes)

Founder, African Digital Heritage

**Q&A** (5 minutes)

**BREAK** (10 minutes)

### SHARING OUR NARRATIVES: CONTENT DISSEMINATION AND STORYTELLING THROUGH DIGITAL MEDIA

#### Promoting the Swahili Language in a Digital Classroom

**Doreen Bateyunga** (10 minutes)

Pre-Production Coordinator, Ubongo Learning

#### The Art of Storytelling to Celebrate and Spotlight the Positive Aspects of our History

**Mwihaki Muraguri** (10 minutes)

Founder, Paukwa

**Q&A** (5 minutes)

### BARAZA: SHARING AND PRESERVING SWAHILI HERITAGE IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Open dialogue session with Swahili cultural heritage conservation professionals, content creators and scholars. (30 minutes total - 2 mins/contributor)



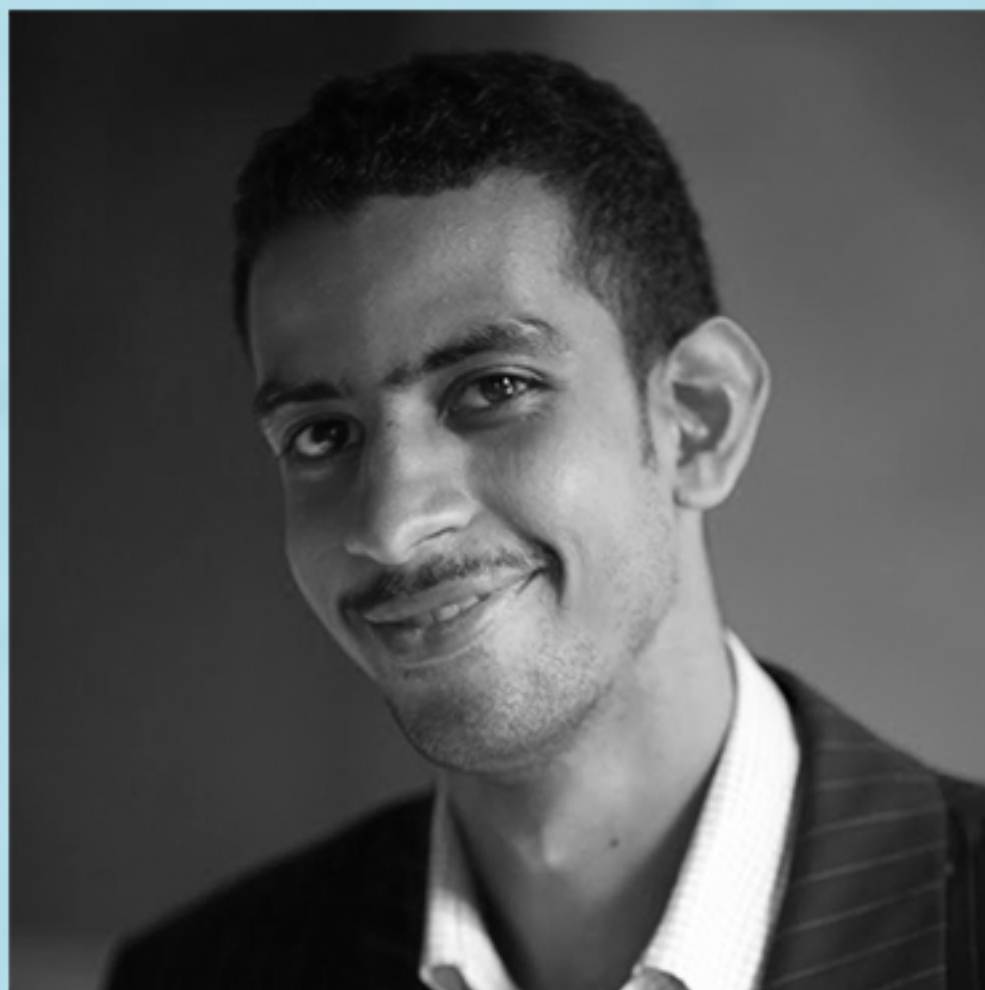


**NASRA O. BWANA**

Digital Curator and Researcher

## MODERATORS

Nasra Omar Bwana, a digital curator and researcher utilising media and visual storytelling to revitalise discourse on Swahili history and culture amongst the youth, on the digital platforms Swahiligal and Hiistoriya. Hiistoriya is a digital platform that seeks to conserve and promote the culture and history of the East African coast. Nasra is a director of Halal Safaris Africa Ltd and a digital strategist at Turkish Radio Television Network (TRT). She previously worked at the Centre for Urban Research and Innovation at the University of Nairobi as a researcher and project manager in initiatives that explored innovative methodologies that would be more effective and responsive to urban challenges in Africa's built environment and future urban settlements.



**AHMED MAAWY**

Techpreneur and Game Developer

Ahmed is a techpreneur and game developer currently VP of Engineering at Streamlytics, a company that uses data science to provide transparency on what consumers are watching and listening to across streaming platforms, and is also one of the Directors at AAA Platforms, a consulting company that develops digital solutions through youth trained in the Coast of Kenya. Previously, Ahmed has worked for the Al Jazeera Media Network as Head of Corporate Products, where he took lead in Product Management initiatives around AI & MetaData Enrichment for Media Assets, working with teams from Microsoft and Azure, and was part of the pioneer team behind the AJ+: One of Al Jazeera Network's most successful digital storytelling projects. He also founded SwahiliBox and MakersHub in Mombasa, Kenya and had worked with Ushahidi and iHub in the past.

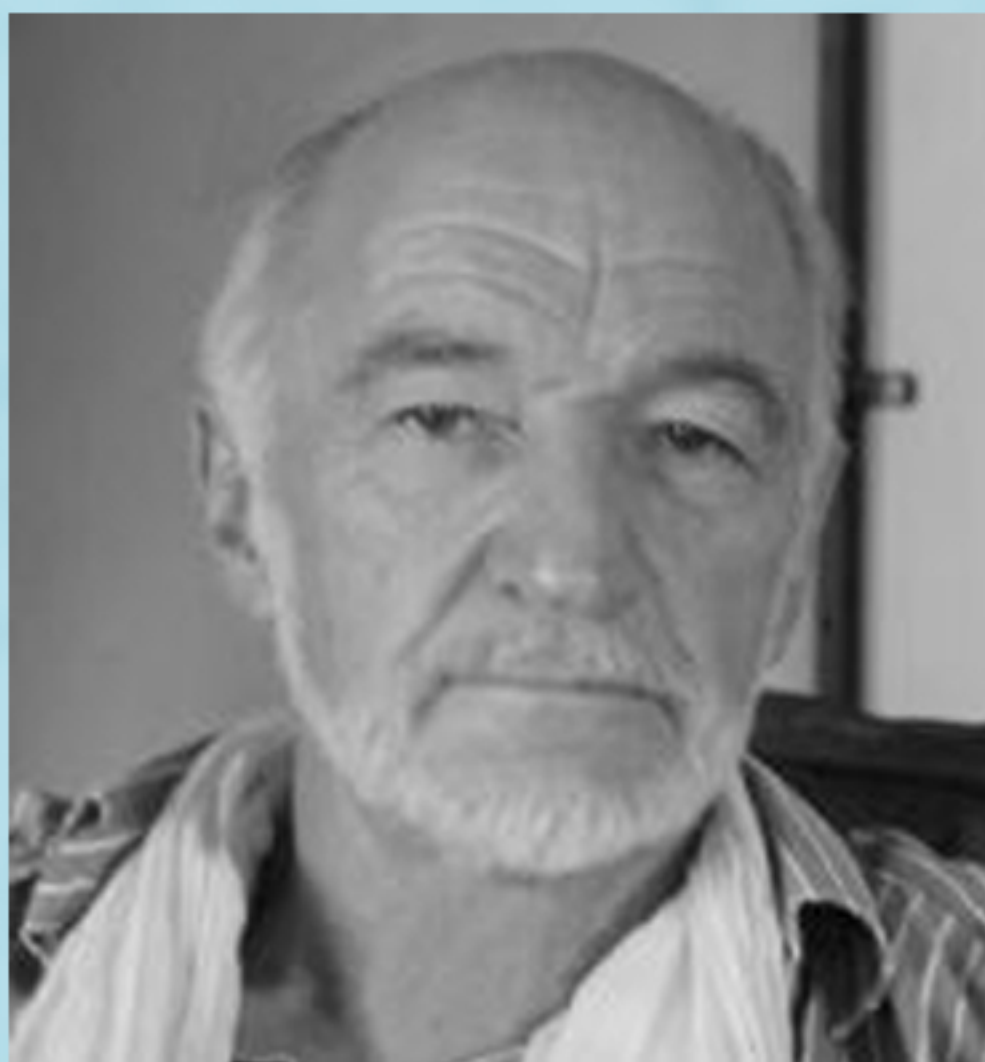


## SPEAKERS



**TAWANDA KANHEMA**  
**DIGITAL STRATEGIST AND**  
**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Zimbabwe  
[unmappedplanet.com](http://unmappedplanet.com)

Tawanda Kanhema is a Zimbabwean photographer and digital strategist based in Berkeley, California. He single-handedly mapped 500 miles of Zimbabwe for Google Street View as a volunteer using his own resources. After noting that Zimbabwe was not represented on Google Street View, in 2009 he volunteered to carry the Street View gear across 2,000 mi (3,200 km) of Zimbabwe so that it would be more complete and representative. Kanhema studied documentary film-making and journalism at University of California, Berkeley. He worked as Project Manager for both Al Jazeera Media Network and Mozilla in Silicon Valley. At Al Jazeera, he was part of the core team of the groundbreaking digital news platform AJ+ that innovated on the creation of online news products and coverage of current events. Kanhema is interested in connecting people and building communities, developing media products, digital product strategy, media design & innovation.



**PROF. (EM) DR. HEINZ**  
**RÜTHER**  
**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR,**  
**ZAMANI PROJECT,**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN**  
South Africa  
[zamaniproject.org](http://zamaniproject.org)

Heinz Rüther, Professor (em) for Geomatics at the University of Cape Town obtained his PhD in Photogrammetry at the University of Cape Town in 1982. Professor Rüther has worked on photogrammetric and surveying projects in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and especially Africa. His present special research interest lies in the area of digital photogrammetric and laser scanning for 3D-modelling of architectural monuments and the documentation of Cultural Heritage sites. He founded the "African Cultural Heritage Sites and Landscapes Database" Research Group at the University of Cape Town, now known as the Zamani Project for which he is its Principal Investigator. The Project seeks to increase awareness and knowledge of tangible cultural heritage in Africa and internationally by creating metrically accurate digital representations of historical sites. The Zamani Project documented more than 60 heritage sites with more than 250 individual monuments. Among these are the Rock Churches of Lalibela, the Fortresses and Castles of Ghana, the rock-hewn monuments of Petra in Jordan, the Valley of the Queens in Luxor and temples and pagodas in Bagan, Myanmar and in Meridigiriya and Polunnuaruwa, Sri Lanka.



## SPEAKERS



**CHAO TAYIANA**  
**FOUNDER**  
AFRICAN DIGITAL HERITAGE  
**Kenya**  
[africandigitalheritage.com](http://africandigitalheritage.com)

Chao Tayiana is a digital heritage specialist and digital humanities scholar. Her work primarily focuses on the application of technology in the preservation, engagement and dissemination of African heritage and culture. She is the founder of African Digital Heritage an organisation which seeks to research and strengthen the digital capacity of African cultural institutions. She is also a co-founder at the Museum of British Colonialism where she leads digital engagement and documentation. She holds an MSc in International Heritage Visualisation (2016 -2017) from the University of Glasgow/Glasgow School of Art where she graduated with a distinction. She is a recipient of the Google Anita Borg Scholarship for women in technology (2016) and a founding member of the Digital Humanities network in Africa.



**DOREEN BATEYUNGA**  
**PRE-PRODUCTION COORDINATOR**  
UBONGO LEARNING  
**Tanzania**  
[ubongo.org](http://ubongo.org)

Doreen Bateyunga is currently working at Ubongo Learning, a social enterprise that aims at delivering effective and localized learning content to African families at low cost & massive scale through edutainment. As the Pre-production Coordinator, she leads her team in creating entertaining and educational content for young children, Ubongo Kids. Ubongo Kids is a kids' educational cartoon that follows the problem-solving adventures of five friends who love learning science, technology, engineering, math (STEM), and life skills, and use their new knowledge to solve problems and mysteries in Kokotoa Village. The show has grown from Tanzania's first homegrown cartoon, to a Pan-African series on TV in 5 languages and 33 countries. Doreen holds a B.A in International Relations from the University of San Diego and an M.A from University College London (UCL). She credits her uncommon experience in education for her mission of wanting to afford the same quality of learning to as many children as possible in Africa. Her past work has included fighting for girls' right to education in Tanzania and bridging the digital gender gap through sparking and sustaining an interest in STEM in young girls.



## SPEAKERS



### **MWIHAKI MURIGARI**

**FOUNDER,  
PAUKWA**

**Kenya**

[paukwa.or.ke](http://paukwa.or.ke)

Mwihaki Muraguri's passion is storytelling, which led to the establishment of Paukwa House Ltd, a firm dedicated to bringing to using the art of storytelling to celebrate and spotlight the positive aspects of Kenyan history and contemporary life. Paukwa projects and activities include their online platforms, podcasts, that provide storytelling training, photo and film documentation services for clients, curating and delivering positive content through digital media channels. Muraguri has served in various institutions across the private and non-profit sector including AMREF, the KCB Foundation, and the Rockefeller Foundation.





Hiistoriya is a digital platform that seeks to conserve and promote the culture and history of the East African coast. It focuses on researching, collating and disseminating history and cultural heritage and while linking it to present-day practice. It works towards decolonising and digitising history and cultural heritage. Safeguarding cultural heritage and history and providing a safe space to challenge the stories of today that have been shaped by a distorted view from the past.



Halal Safaris is a travel company whose mission is to provide tailored luxury safaris and tourism services in Africa. The travel company organizes special exclusive heritage trips to learn about the history and culture of different countries while also exploring rich nature and popular cultural destinations in the region. Halal Safaris is committed to responsible and sustainable tourism and works with partners to implement some of its Corporate Social Responsibility activities, including the preservation of heritage and culture.





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