



**Speech by Hon Harriette Chiggai at the Launch of Nubian Culture
Icon at the KCB Leadership Centre, Nairobi, Kenya**

7th November 2023

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests, and fellow Nubian culture enthusiasts, good afternoon.

1. I am deeply honored and humbled to stand before you today as the guest of honor at this remarkable Nubian Culture Icon event. Today is a memorable day, as it marks not only the celebration of Nubian culture but also the official launch of the Nubian Culture Icon initiative. This initiative will serve as a beacon of recognition and preservation, celebrating the uniqueness and richness of the Nubian culture for generations to come.
2. In addition to the launch of the Nubian Culture Icon, we are also here to celebrate the inauguration of the Sabala Festival, a Nubian festival of culture. The Sabala Festival promises to be a remarkable showcase of Nubian traditions, art, music, and heritage. This festival will be a testament to the strength and resilience of the Nubian community, and it will offer a platform to share the beauty and significance of Nubian culture with the wider Kenyan community and the world.
3. Our presence here today is a testament to the importance of culture, which is the thread that weaves the beautiful mosaic of



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- our beloved Kenya. The Nubian culture is a vibrant and rich tapestry that has endured the test of time. It is a culture that reflects the values of unity, resilience, and the unyielding spirit of a people who have faced a myriad of challenges with unwavering determination.
4. Let this event be a show of what communities can achieve when they appreciate the beauty of their culture. Our unity in diversity is our strength, and it is the common heritage that binds us together as one people, one nation.
 5. I am particularly proud to acknowledge the profound role that Nubian women have played in nurturing this unique community. They continue to be the pillars of strength, the keepers of tradition, and the bearers of knowledge. Their contribution to the preservation of the Nubian culture is immeasurable, and it is vital that we honor and celebrate their invaluable efforts. I am truly truly proud of you all and the efforts you are putting in place
 6. As the President's Advisor on Women's Rights, I stand and advocate for the rights and opportunities for women and children. I am committed to being a friend and an ally to the Nubian community, supporting your journey to preserve, protect, and promote your rich heritage.



7. I urge the Nubian women to partner with the government in terms of :

- a. Advocacy and sensitization to stop vices that are plaguing our society such as gender based violence; child abuse; early marriages; FGM.
- b. Economic empowerment by forming groups around economic activities that will tap into readily available government funds such as the Hustler Fund, Women Enterprise Fund, Uwezo Fund, NGAAF, just to name a few.
- c. Healthcare rights that the Government has provided through the establishment of the Universal Health Coverage (UHC). UHC is designed to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their socioeconomic status, have access to essential healthcare services without financial hardship.
- d. Climate change and food security - By working together, we can develop and implement strategies that ensure a sustainable, resilient, and food-secure future for our communities by addressing the challenges of climate change and food security.



- e. Cultural preservation and tapping into funds available to promote talent, culture and heritage. This can involve collaborating on LP
 - f. cultural events, festivals, and historical preservation efforts.
8. I encourage each one of us to become ambassadors for the preservation of culture and the promotion of unity in diversity. Let this gathering be the first step on a journey that we undertake together, for posterity and the common heritage of all people of Kenya.

Together, let us create a brighter, more inclusive, and culturally enriched future for all of Kenya.

Congratulations on the launch of Nubian Culture Icon and the Sabala Festival!