

gospel creativity global voice leverage permanence



reconciliation



Africa

MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique is a developing nation in southern Africa. The Portuguese colonized the area from the 1700s until the Mozambicans ousted them in 1975. Struggling with its newfound independence, the country erupted into civil war between 1977 and 1992. After a peace treaty, Mozambique remains a stable but impoverished country where illiteracy, malaria and despair are as common as stories of hope and renewal.



story

THE YAO

The Yao live in the remote highlands of northern Mozambique. Oppressed by the slave trade operated by Muslim Arabs 200 hundred years ago, the Yao converted to Islam in hopes of weakening the trade and exportation of humans. Today, the Yao are folk Muslims who believe in the basic tenets of Islam yet operate under the entrenched assumptions of fatalism and African animism. As subsistence farmers, the Yao live lives that are beautiful but racked by poverty and suffering.



vision

FILM AS DEVELOPMENT

For years technology has improved the lives of Africans. Water-wells, insecticide-laced mosquito nets and cellphones have all made positive impacts in Africa. Film is the next technological step. In a shrinking world, film gives Africans a bigger audience and a bigger voice. Getting cameras into the hands of global storytellers is an essential component of holistic development.

KUJILANA

Kujilana means reconciliation in Yao. The Kujilana Project believes that film specifically offers Africans a unique medium with which to reconcile themselves to the developed world. The global diffusion of 21st-century technology will empower Africans in a new way: by giving them ownership of their own image.

Post-colonial Africa has been defined by disease, poverty and civil war, but now the coupling of African initiative with foreign aid is cultivating renewal through empowerment. Responsibility rests not only with despotic rulers and ex-imperialist powers but also with Western journalism. Subscribing to the worn principle *if it bleeds, it leads*, Western media has presented a two-dimensional Africa, defined by smoke, flies, blood and swollen bellies. Harsh realities exist in Africa, but in environments riddled with conflict, hunger, powerlessness and despair, there are stories of survival and hope. The Kujilana Project aims to reconcile the chronically negative images emanating from Africa with the stories of hope.

This summer we embark to one of Africa's last frontiers, northern Mozambique, to volunteer at a local resource center. Over the course of six weeks we will document development on every level: relationally, agriculturally and artistically. We will return with a joint-documentary, filmed by American and African hands, that celebrates the common denominators among us all: stories, struggle and hope.



THE HOLTONS have lived out three of their ten-year commitment to the Yao people in Northern Mozambique. Through their non-profit Malo Ga Kujilana (MGK), the Holtons cultivate holistic renewal through agricultural development and empowerment. In their own words:

We live among our friends the Yao to help create networks of people that generate ripples of reconciliation throughout the social fabric. The projects generated through MGK provide the context where resources and hope can merge. We believe the basis of redeeming synergy is found in loving our neighbor.

The Holtons and others will serve as hosts, translators, mentors and culture gurus for the Kujilana Project.

STORIES INSPIRE.
FILM
EMPOWERS.



AFRICA



STORY



VISION

CREATIVE TEAM



MARIBETH BROWNING is a journalism student at Samford University. She divides her time between photography, ancient Greek and antique stores.



TYLER JONES is a Harding political science student by day, 1970's film student by night. He takes his coffee with one cream and one sugar.



NICK MICHAEL copes with his English major at Harding University. He is a lover of language, a spinner of yarns and a collector of visas.



KELSEY SHERROD is working towards a career in cultural anthropology at Harding University. She prefers futures over pasts and people over presents.

BUDGET

production (CAMERAS, mics, etc)	\$4000
processing (laptop, hard drive)	+ \$4000
post-production (software, PR)	\$2000
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	\$10,000

CONTACT

If there's one thing we've learned it's that development isn't free. If you're interested in empowering us to empower others, mail checks payable to Covenant Fellowship Church to:

**ATTN: KUJILANA
COVENANT FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
PO BOX 8126
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or with questions, ideas, or interest tag us at

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