

### **ICM Trained Pastor Killed as Raiders Strike in Kenya**

*International Christian Ministries (ICM), Kenya –April 2007* Over the past few months the Sabaot community in Kenya has been mired in clan fighting over the allocation of land. Always a difficult and tense process, allocation of land can and often is a serious process fraught with potential abuse. As a result of the latest allocation clans have given in to fierce fighting that has led to refugees fleeing the area of conflict. It has also led to killing. The following is a short describing, from Kenya, of the death of one of the pastors, a graduate of ICM Seminary.



*Suspected Sabaot Land Defense Force militiamen shot dead a pastor and critically wounded a relative, in another day of bloodletting in Mt Elgon District in Kenya. The attackers killed in cold blood Pastor Benson Juma Macherewa (pictured on the left) who was unarmed and defenseless. He became just another statistic among those Kenya's killing fields has claimed - over 140, according to the Red Cross. The fresh attacks came after an Easter weekend of prayers for victims of the senseless violence.*

*Rev. Juma*

*Rev. Mairori*

*Last night, a grieving Mrs. Alice Chepkwemoi Macherewa wept uncontrollably as she narrated the deadly attack. "The door was open and I was serving him and the family supper. I heard gunshots. They were firing straight into the house. One of the bullets hit him and then many more rained on the house." The mother of 10 and her children tried to offer first aid to her husband, who was lying in a pool of blood, fighting for air. Chepkwemoi recounted amid sobs, "It's a miracle how I and the children escaped."*

Rev. Stephen Mairori, ICM Kenya Director, (pictured on the right) has been meeting with Sabaot and government leaders to try and resolve the deadly conflict. He writes: "I know the news from Mt. Elgon has been depressing. Yesterday Benson Juma Macherewa Juma who graduated last year from ICM Mt. Elgon was killed. Some of the ICM staff from Mt. Elgon have now move to Kitale. The violence threatens to spill to Kitale."

#### **Conclusion**

Over the past five years we have seen a real movement amongst the Sabaot people to Christ. We have heard many stories of people with little to rejoice over, coming to Christ who became their joy and hope. But we must never forget that our battle is a heavenly one. We war not against flesh and blood, but against the evil one who will do anything to keep the Gospel from finding a home in the hearts of men and women. As a very real physical struggle continues on Mt. Elgon, let us go to the King and plead the case that He might intervene and bring peace that the Gospel can go forth with boldness.

*Over 24,000 people a day are being added to the church in Africa, which means roughly 400 new churches a day need 400 shepherds to train and equip these new believers. ICM is strategically place, with a large network across Africa of training centers, teachers, and material to equip pastors and church leaders. The leaders can learn on the job while they are shepherding the church. ICM is working in over 30 countries in Africa, training over 25,000 leaders who directly impact over 1,500,000 others.*

*ICM partners with other organizations to bring the best leadership material to Africa. A short list includes; A Purpose Driven Life, John Maxwell's Equip International, Walk Thru the Bible, and others.*

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