

Please give me a brief background about yourself.

I was born in Kenya, but lived in several countries including Italy, Malawi, Ghana, Ethiopia, Zambia and South Africa due to the nature of job my parents worked in. I studied at St Mary's (Nairobi), Bishop Mackenzie (Lilongwe), St Andrews School (Turi), A Levels in Clifton College (Bristol), Undergraduate at Oxford Brookes University (Oxford) and my Masters at Syracuse University (USA). I have travelled the world seen the beautiful thread that binds us. I am now dedicated to the spiritual path while navigating the world.

How did you get into the field?

I started off my undergraduate studies in pre-medicine - Human Biology. In my second year, I lived with some architecture students and was fascinated by their work. I always helped and followed what they were doing and then realised; I wanted to be an architect!

What must one study to get here?

You must at least attain a Bachelors Degree in Architecture. Architecture is a technical art, therefore a background of the arts through art and physics is very helpful.

What does it take to succeed in the industry?

It takes a lot of work, dedication and sacrifice. But most of all, it takes good human relations. This is because projects come from people, and people work with those they respect and like.

Can you please outline a day in your shoes?

I wake up at 4.20am, and carry out Amrit Vela meditation for half an hour until 5.00am. Half an hour later, I practice knowledge meditation. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, I run for an hour at Arboretum. I am done by 8.00am,

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**Motto: Although we are individuals,
together we make a universal and
interdependent whole.**



and by 9.00am, I am at my desk working on my projects. After noon, I am either at the office working with administrative commitments, designing, going for meetings or conducting site visits. At 6.30pm, depending on the day, I am either Raja Yoga Centre teaching or at Hatha Yoga at SSDS Hall. 8.00pm is my dinner time, followed by some

relaxation time, and by 9.30pm, I am in bed.

Is architecture a calling or a job?

It can certainly be a job, but if you are going to excel it has to be a calling.

What are the challenges in the field?

Like any other business, establishing yourself and gaining recognition is a challenge. However, if you produce quality work and have good human relations, it will work out. Architecture in Kenya is also now stepping up its game, and so competition is increasing and quality assurance is necessary. This is a challenge that is good for everybody!

What are the perks and the pressures of the job?

The perks of the job is that you get to meet and interact with a large field of people; from labourers to engineers as well as clients. Each undertaken project has unique conditions requirements, people to meet and challenges, so it is never a dull moment! You can also get to travel and see new and exciting places. As for the pressures- time!

What words of wisdom would you share with those interested in the field?

First do an internship at an architectural office and see what it actually is like before jumping into the field.

What is a common misconception of your job?

That you must be a Math wiz! Another misconception is that we only do drawings! We do a great deal more!

Is it a profession that can sustain one and one's family?

Yes!