

February 6th - International Zero Tolerance Campaign on FGM in Simanjiro, Manyara

NAFGEM Tanzania in collaboration with the Simanjiro District Council commemorated the International Zero Tolerance Day in Narosoito village. Several events took place including handing over of a maize milling machine donated by the Rotary Club of Louis De Geer in Norrkoping- Sweden to 20 ex-female circumcisers for use as alternative income, parading with songs and banners with messages



against FGM and child marriages, declarations from male traditional leaders for the community to stop such practices, dances, drama and poems with anti-FGM and child marriage messages. A strong speech from the guest of Honour the District Administrative Secretary on behalf of the Honourable District Commissioner concluded the event by



reiterating the governments' position in ensuring the girl child is protected and enjoys her human rights. All parents and community members were challenges to remain vigilant in making sure such criminal practices are eliminated at all levels. The gathering included an estimated 500 (F350, M150) community members from Laangai,

Narosoito, Donyongijabe, Ilkirungrung, Irkujit and Okesumet. The audience was made of pupils from neighboring primary schools, women including 40 ex-female genital cutters, religious leaders, Maasai male traditional leaders, government officials from village/ward and district levels and representatives from the civil society organizations.





Ex-female genital cutter with a banner behind the girls joining the campaign.

Her banner reads - ' Education is a gift you can give to your child - NOT FGM and child marriage'



Anti-FGM messages through songs from the Narosito primary school - 'Girls should be protected and given the opportunity for education' well said by the children.



Public declaration by the ex-female cutters that after being trained by NAFGEM they have abandoned the service and joined the girls protection campaign. Second from left is a senior male Traditional Leader who ordered fellow community members to quit the practices with immediate effect. He declared that perpetrators shall be handled over to the Police.



Milling machine donated by the Rotary Club of Louis De Geer – Norrkoping for ex-female genital cutters of Narosoito village



Guest of honor advising the ex-female cutters to never again go back into cutting the girls and should use the milling machine properly to generate alternative income.