



Prof Julia Auma Ojiambo

Profile

Name: Hon. Prof. Julia Auma Ojiambo.

Address: P.O Box 43950 Code: 00100 G.P.O

NAIROBI - KENYA.

Date of Birth: 29 th November 1936

Marital Status: Widow – Four Children and Four Grandchildren.

Religion: Christian

1. EDUCATION

1973 - Ph. D (Human Nutrition) *Nairobi / McGill Universities joint*

Faculty of Medicine.

1969 - M. Sc Public Health (Nutrition)

Harvard University USA.

1965 - Academic Postgraduate Diploma. (Applied Human Nutrition.) *London University* – England.

1959 - Diploma in Education.

Royal College Nairobi .

2. AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIP

- **1968 –1972** WHO fellowship at Harvard and at McGill Universities.

After graduating with a Master of Science degree in Human Nutrition at Harvard School of Public Health, enrolled in a Predoctoral Degree Programme at McGill University Canada to research and increase skills in Laboratory techniques and in advanced nutrition research techniques.

- **1962– 1965** UNICEF / FAO fellowship to study Community Nutrition

Programmes at London University.

- **1966 – 1968** Deans Research Grant award at Nairobi University for

Research in Nutrition status of pregnant and lactating mothers.

- **1976** FAO, Ceres Gold Medal Winner for Distinguished

Service in Rural Programmes and in Advancement of Women.

3. RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Ph.D Research – Thesis on Transmethylation activity in the liver of rats fed on a Milk- Yeast-Barley Diet. The diet was being used in Pre- school feeding program at Karai in Kiambu. It was fed to Albino rats for six weeks continuously and they rat's livers analyzed against those of control rats, to biochemically determine the metabolic changes.

- Masters Research - Dietary iron Deficiency in pregnant and lactating mothers. Clinical levels of anemia were diagnosed in categories of women e.g. on traditional diets controlled by traditional food taboos.

- Undergraduate dissertation- Dietary habits of the Abasiamia of Busia-District.

- As a Research Assistant - and Food Analyst under Prof. Jelliffe at the Teaching Hospital Mulago, in

Kampala, I developed a Protein-rich biscuit that was used in the treatment of Kwashiorkor in the infantile Malnutrition unit and the whole of East Africa.

4.WORK EXPERIENCE.

a) CURRENT:

2003 - A Member of Parliament . (Nominated

by the ruling Party NARC)

1993 to date - National **Chairperson** of the Labour Party of Kenya.

2000 to date - A Member of the **Coordinating Committee of the Ruling Coalition** NARC Party.

2003 - A Member of the **Public Accounts**

Committee , (A parliamentary select Committee.)

2003 - A Member of the Parliamentary Women

Association- Kenya.

2003 - A Life member of Commonwealth

Parliamentary Association- Kenya.

2003 - A member of Inter- Parliamentary Union.

(IPU) - Kenya

2000to date - Founding Professor of the proposed

Scientific and Technological Applied

Research and Training for women –

START UNIVERSITY.

b) UNIVERSITIES TEACHING AND RESEARCH.

1988 to date I continue to work in the field of Human Nutrition at Postgraduate level teaching / research for both local and International Universities.

1965 – 1974 As associate Professor, I have taught and carried out research and supervised both undergraduate and postgraduate students at Universities in Kenya and outside Kenya.

1965 - 1973

Was the 1st African woman to be appointed at the then Royal College (University of Nairobi) to teach in the faculty of Education. Moved up the academic ladder from a Tutorial fellow, to a lecturer, to a senior lecturer / Associate Professor, grade at the University of Nairobi by 1973.

- I lectured in **Human Nutrition to Pre-Clinical Medical students**, and also, to the post graduate Nursing Programme Students both in the Faculty of Medicine, at the University of Nairobi.

Initiated a Science Degree Programme in Human Nutrition at the University of Nairobi in the Department of Home Science, and in collaboration with the Faculty of Science, Veterinary Science and Biochemistry.

Successfully taught and supervised Nutrition Degrees Programme i.e.

B. Sc (Nutrition) and M. Sc (Nutrition) University of Nairobi Department of Home Science. (*Students went on to complete some of their Ph. D Degree studies a broad and are Senior Officers and Scholars in their Countries of origin i.e. Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia.*)

On several occasion and in the absence of Head of Department, **I acted as the academic Head of the Department of Home Science.**

As an Alumni of the Harvard University School of Public Health, I

Continue to date; to supervise Harvard student's interests abroad those who come to Kenya, for their elective terms in their various aspects of social sciences. Particularly Nutritional Sciences, Public Health, Gender Studies as well as political empowerment for women.

1962 As a Research Assistant and Food Analyst under Prof. Jelliffe at the Teaching Hospital Mulago, in Kampala, I developed a Protein-rich biscuit that was used in the treatment of Kwashiorkor in the infantile Malnutrition unit.

c) *A WARDEN*

1965 – 1968 Became the 1st African woman warden of the University Women's Halls of Residence when I was appointed a lecturer and given the responsibility to control the Womens' Students Halls of residence at the University.

1968 I then left to join the Harvard University for my Master of Science Programmes. (As a WHO Fellow).

d) *MINISTERIAL EXPERIENCE.*

1975 – 2000 - (a) As an Assistant Minister in charge of Women issues, I ***Initiated the International Year of Women*** and, planned the Kenya Government Programme of participation in the UN–Women World Conferences at Mexico, Jerusalem, Copenhagen, Nairobi and also , ***participated as an advisor*** in the preparation for the Dakar, Beijing, and the Beijing + 5 Conferences.

As a Deputy leader of the Government Delegation at Copenhagen, I initiated, the resolution to bring the – Decade U.N World Women Conference to Nairobi in 1985. I spearheaded a campaign, supported by African Region delegates, which saw Kenya elected to host the 1985 women conference.

1980 - While in Copenhagen Denmark, successfully negotiated for the Establishment of ***Kenya Institute of Special Education (KISE) with the support of*** Danish Government.

1979 – 1983 - Assistant Minister for Education.

1974 –1979 - Assistant Minister for Housing and Social

Services.

(b) Prepared a Policy on the Establishment of the Women's Bureau in the Ministry of Housing and Social Services.

(c) As an Assistant Minister in charge of Human Settlements, ***I prepared and steered the highly competitive negotiations at the Habitat I (one) Conference in Vancouver Canada that brought the UN-Habitat Headquarters to Kenya.***

e) *PARLIAMENTARY EXPERIENCE.*

1991 –1992 - ***Chairperson*** , Presidential Committee for the Review of salaries, allowances and

amenities for the National Assembly Ministers, Assistant Ministers and Members of Parliament.

1974 – 1983 - Elected Member of Parliament for Busia Central Constituency for two consecutive terms. 1974-1979 and 1979-1983.

1978 – 1984 - Elected Secretary of Western Province Parliamentary Group (PG).

1978 - Leader of the Parliamentary Delegation to the 1 st World Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development – Colombo , Sri Lanka . Subsequently moved a successful motion in Parliament that saw the establishment of a bill to create the National Population Council.

f) **POLITICAL EXPERIENCE**

2003 - Member of the Ruling Coalition NARC Coordinating Committee.

2000 to date - Currently the Elected National Chairperson – Labour Party of Kenya .

1989 – 1997 - Appointed the National Director for Women and Youth

Programme at KANU Secretariat.

g) PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE .

1999-2002 Executive Director – International Centre for Health Development and Research (ICHDR)

1995 – 1998 Commissioner – Vice Chairperson of the Commission .

To Review Local Authorities and to recommend the Decentralization of Nairobi and the creation of new cities at Mombasa , Kisumu, Eldoret and Nakuru. (The Omamo Commission.)

1986 – 1988 Commissioner on the Higher Education Commission.

1985 – 1988 Chairperson – Pests Control Products Board

(A Government Parastatal)

1985 – 1988 Member , Presidential Working Party on Education and manpower Training. (The Kamunge Commission).

h) SOCIAL WELFARE EXPERIENCE.

1980 to date *Trustee and Chairperson of the Donations Committee* of the National Fund for the Disabled People of Kenya.

1979 Founder , of the *Milk Goat Project for Kenya* in collaboration with FAO Rome and utilizing the funds acquired from the sale of the Gold Ceres Medal award, I bought and imported to Kenya exotic breed of goats: Anglo Nubians, Toggenbeighs and Bedouin. Milk goats are now part of Kenya 's Livestock herds and contributing to improved poverty index and nutrition of Kenya .

1961 – 1962 a) *Welfare Officer in charge of Women, Children and Nursery School activities* for the East African Railways and Harbors in Kenya, Uganda, Zanzibar and Tanganyika.

b) *Initiated* a Programme for vocational Training in Food Science and small scale Hotel Management for YWCA Nairobi and Kampala .

i) SECONDARY SCHOOL AND COLLEGE TEACHING EXPERIENCE.

1961 – 1962 *Training Officer* , Young Women's Christian Association, Nairobi and Kampala Uganda .

1959 – 1960 *High School teacher* at:

1. Butere girls High School
2. Gayaza Girls High School in Uganda .
3. Kamusinga Boys Secondary School .

1956 – 1958 *Upgrading Teachers Training Programme* at Vihiga Women's College and Siriba Teachers College , (Programme of refresher course and upgrading from

P4 -P3 and P3 – P2.)

j) CONSULTANCY EXPERIENCE.

2000/2001 ILO/IPEC Management Training Programme : Produced training manuals and used them for training workers, and trainers of workers in the area of children in difficult situation.

1985 International Labour Organization, Training for Non–traditional skills and Occupations for Women in Kenya.

1979 – 1984 *Director of a UNFPA supported project* on Health and Family Planning project for Busia

District.

1972 FAO, Programme for Better Family Life – Prepared village polytechnic syllabuses.

5. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS ROLES .

1996 As the leader of the Kenya Government delegation to the 1985 conference, I accompanied H.E Ms. Margaret Kenyatta to present ***the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies report of the Third World Conference on Women, to the Secretary General of the United Nations, in New York.***

1985 Leader , Kenya Government Delegation to the United Nations End of Decade for Women Conference, held in Nairobi.

1981 Attended the United Nations General Assembly Conference, in New York as a member of the Kenya Delegation.

1980 Deputy Leader , Government of Kenya Delegation to the United Nations Mid–Decade World Conference on women, held in Copenhagen – Denmark.

1980 Leader , Kenya Government Delegation to the World Women's Leaders Conference, held in Jerusalem, Israel.

1979 Leader , Kenya Government Delegation to the Commonwealth Ministers of Education Conference, Colombo , Sri Lanka .

1978 Deputy Leader , Kenyan Government Delegation to the United Nations Conference on ***Agrarian Reform and Rural Development*** , Rome Italy.

1977 Member, Kenyan Government Delegation to the Commonwealth Heads of States and Governments Conference, held in London U.K.

1976 Member, Kenyan Government Delegation to the UNCTAD, Nairobi.

1976 Deputy Leader, Kenyan Government Delegation to the Habitat I (one) Conference, held in Vancouver, Canada and negotiated for Habitat Headquarters to come to Nairobi.

1976 Member, Kenyan Government Delegation to the Commonwealth Heads of States and Governments Conference, held in Kinston, Jamaica.

1975 Leader , Kenya Government Delegation to the African Region Preparatory Conference for the

Habitat I (one) conference, held in Cairo, Egypt.

1966 Leader, Kenya Women's Delegation to the 50 th Anniversary celebration of the USSR, held in Moscow.

1961–1963 Attended the World Conference on Nutrition , held in Edinburgh, Scotland U.K.

6. CLUBS AND SOCIETIES.

1995 to date Life Member , Kenya Nutrition Association.

1984 to date Life Member , Centre for the Advancement of Women and Children (CAWAC).

1981 to date Director of the Advancement of Women and Children.

1979 Trustee , Kenya Books Foundation.

1978 Life Member , Kenya India Friendship Society.

1974 Patron , Parents and Friends of the Handicapped.

1965 Life Member , Young Women's Christian Organization.

1965 Life Member , Home Economics Association of Kenya .

1952 Life Member , Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organisation (MYWO) and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of M.Y.W.O.

7. PUBLICATIONS.

• SCIENTIFIC PAPERS .

1974 – 1999 Over 100 papers written and presented on the

Social, Political and Economic aspects of gender,

development, health and education of women and youth

in Kenya, at various fora all over the world.

1998 OJIAMBO J.A. and BULINDA G.

RURAL AGEING in publication: ***Proceedings of***

African Gerontological Society – AGES

International 12 th 17 th April 1999 Nairobi – Kenya.

1972 OJIAMBO J.A. ELLIOT J.I. ROSSI G.S.

Nutritional Value of MYB Mixture, East African

Medical Journal Vol. 49. No. 6.

1967 OJIAMBO J.A

A Background Study of the Dietary Habits of the *Abasamia*

of Busia District, Western Kenya. A Preliminary Study,

1965 – 1966, ***Nutrition London XXI, No. 216,221 Great***

Britain .

1966 OJIAMBO J.A

Nutritional 'Problems in Kenya: A Report on a Seminar on Problems of Nutrition in developing countries' ***organized by the German Foundation for Developing Countries in conjunction with FAO, and in co-operation with Justus Leibig University Giessen. Held in Berlin and Giessen, March 10 th April, 1966.***

b) BOOKS PUBLISHED .

1996 Text book for schools and colleges on Home Science

Lake Publishers'- Kisumu.

1984 *A chapter in the book.*

African assessment (A Decade of Family Planning Progress)

In the Draper Fund Report, Library of Congress Catalogue.

No. 84-60874 ISSN 0191-3905 Vol. 13, June, 1984.

1982 OJIAMBO J.A.

A chapter in the book, in the Ageing 2000 (A challenge To Society) **by Philip Selby Malchechter** .

1978 OJIAMBO J.A.

BOOK : Trees of Kenya

Kenya Literature Bureau.

1973 OJIAMBO J.A.

Phd. THESIS

Transmethylation Activity in the Liver of Rats fed on a Milk Yeast- Barley Diet.

University of Nairobi Ph. D. Thesis.

c) SOCIAL PAPERS

1981 OJIAMBO J.A.

Population and Development in Africa,

Inter Parliamentary Union Population 1/81/3,

June 19 th 1981.

1980 OJIAMBO J.A. and SIBOGE G.J.

Grassroots Initiatives Strategy (A Case for the Harambee Approach to development).

d) BOOK REVIEWS.

1972 WHO Chronicle 1972

'NUTRITION'

East African Medical Journal, Vol. 49. No. 1972 .

1972 Report of FAO/WHO

Experts Group Requirements of Ascorbic Acid,

Vitamin D , Vitamin B 12, Folic Acid and Iron,

East African Medical Journal, Vol. No. 10, October, 1972.

1966 A Report by UNICEF on the Children of the

Developing Countries, 1964, ***East African Medical Journal,***

1966.

8. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Zambia, Congo, Zaire, Nigeria, Gambia, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, United Kingdom, France, Italy, West Germany, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Sweden, Australia, Jamaica, United States of America, Canada, Israel, USSR, India, Japan, Sri Lanka, China, Pacific Islands.

9. HOBBIES.

- Outdoor Sports
- Social Programmes for Women and Youth
- Literature Review
- Spiritual Fora.