A mammoth crowd, colourful display of multi-cultural performances from all walks of life, captivating exhibitions and Omieri, the legendary snake, marked the highlights of the 3rd Kenya National Commission for UNESCO (KNATCOM) National Cultural Celebrations that took place at the Jomo Kenyatta Sports Ground, Kisumu County, from 19th to 23rd September 2018. The theme of celebrations was “National Cohesion, Identity and Pride”. The event was aimed at promoting peace and national unity as different communities came together to celebrate cultural diversity.

The Celebrations attracted over 35 counties and representation from various Government Ministries and Departments, institutions of learning and private
establishments. The event was officially opened by Amb. (Dr.) Amina C. Mohamed, EGH, CAV the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education; Prof. Anyang Nyong’o, the Governor of Kisumu County; and Josephta Mukobe, the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Sports and Heritage. Various leaders also attended the celebrations including ambassadors, senators, members of parliament and members of county assemblies among others.

The Kenya National Commission of UNESCO partnered with the County Government of Kisumu and the National Museums of Kenya to host the third edition and has planned an array of activities to keep attendees well informed, entertained and interested in all things culture.

Other sponsors of this event included the UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa and Tuskys Supermarket.

These celebrations precede the now popular Kenya Week in UNESCO Headquarters, marked with cultural performances and exhibitions, to take place from 12th to 15th November, 2018.

THE EVENT IN PHOTOS
The eager Kisumu residents braved the scorching sun to get a glimpse of Omieri, the snake that died in Nyakatch in 1987.

Photo credit: Innocent Oleche