

Characteristics of the Weather in Kisumu

There is no really dry month but the total rainfall is lower than that of a typical Equatorial climate.

The area receives convectional rainfall which mainly falls in the afternoon. Rainfall is heavy, ranging from 1000 - 1600mm. The relative humidity is high through increased moisture and evaporation.

*In the morning
Scorching sun appears
From the East*

*Luminous cloud
Up in the sky
Looks so beautiful*

In the lake region the water exerts a cooling effect on the adjacent areas so that the temperatures are actually lower than in a true Equatorial climate.

Glowing sun above me, scorching my shaved head, headaches

Kenya has been suffering from severe droughts in recent times.

The boy ran

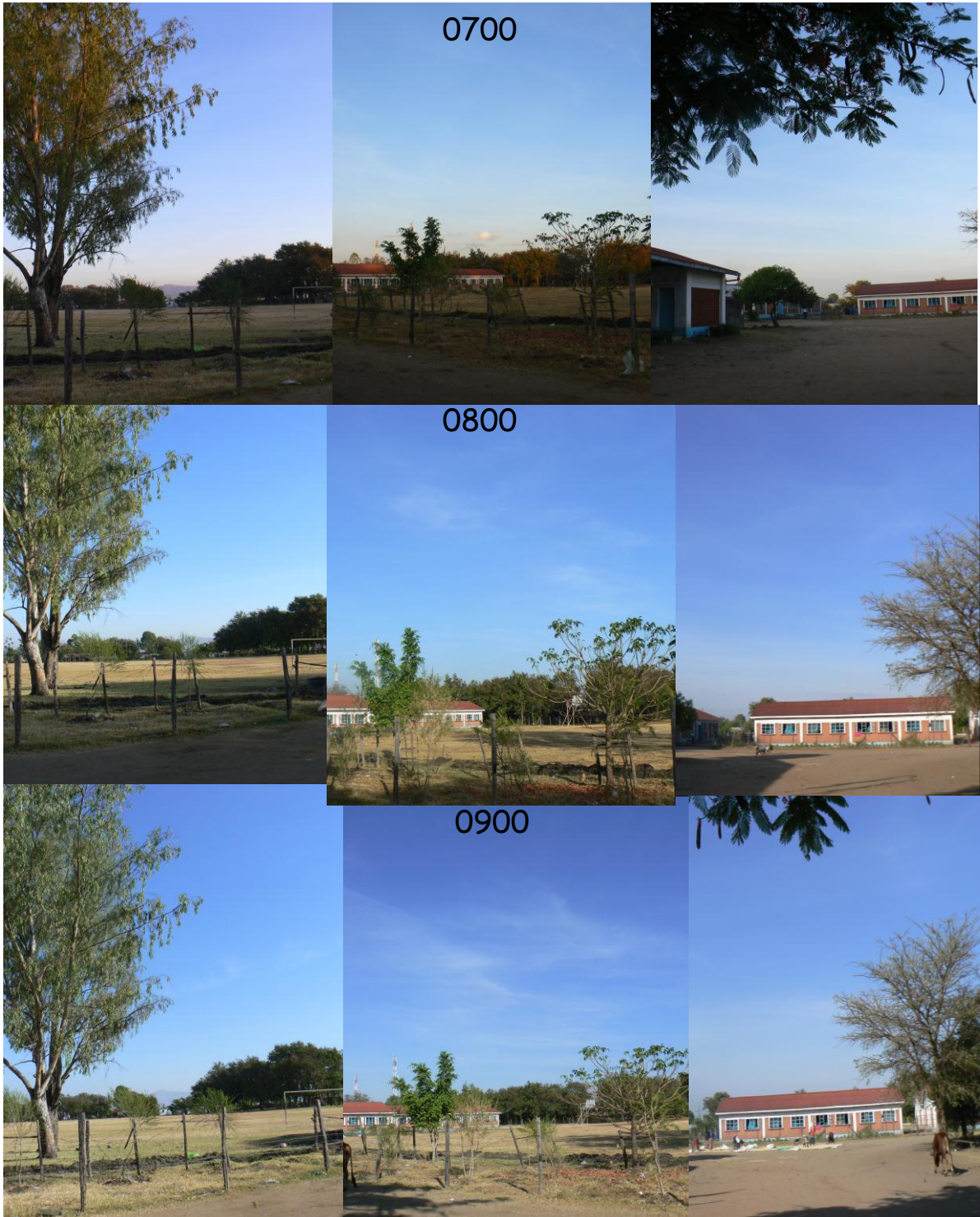
Leaving dust floating

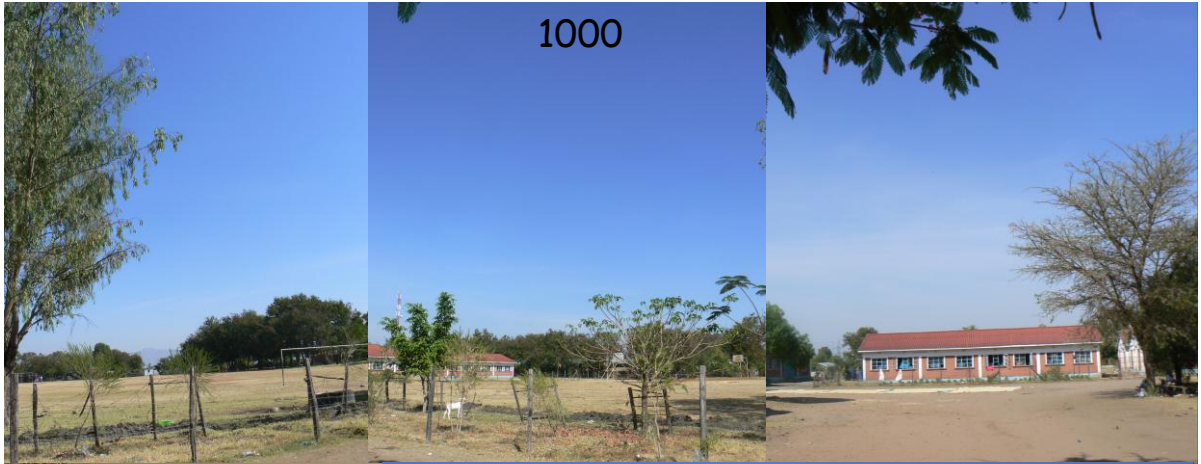
On the air

*The deadly drought
Killed many people
In Northern areas*

Skyscape Changes In a Day from 0700 at Otieno Oyoo High School

This series of pictures shows the build up of cloud - particularly over the lake during a day





1000



1100

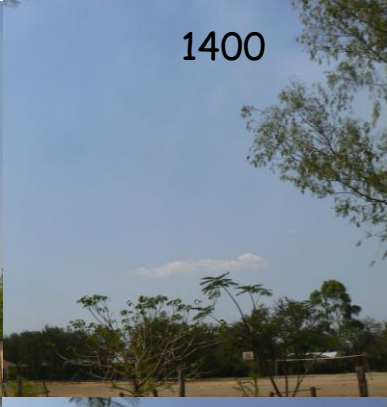


1200

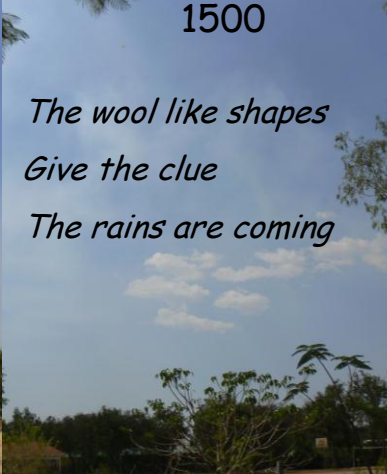


1300

*I was made
to Stand under the
Scorching sun*



1400



1500

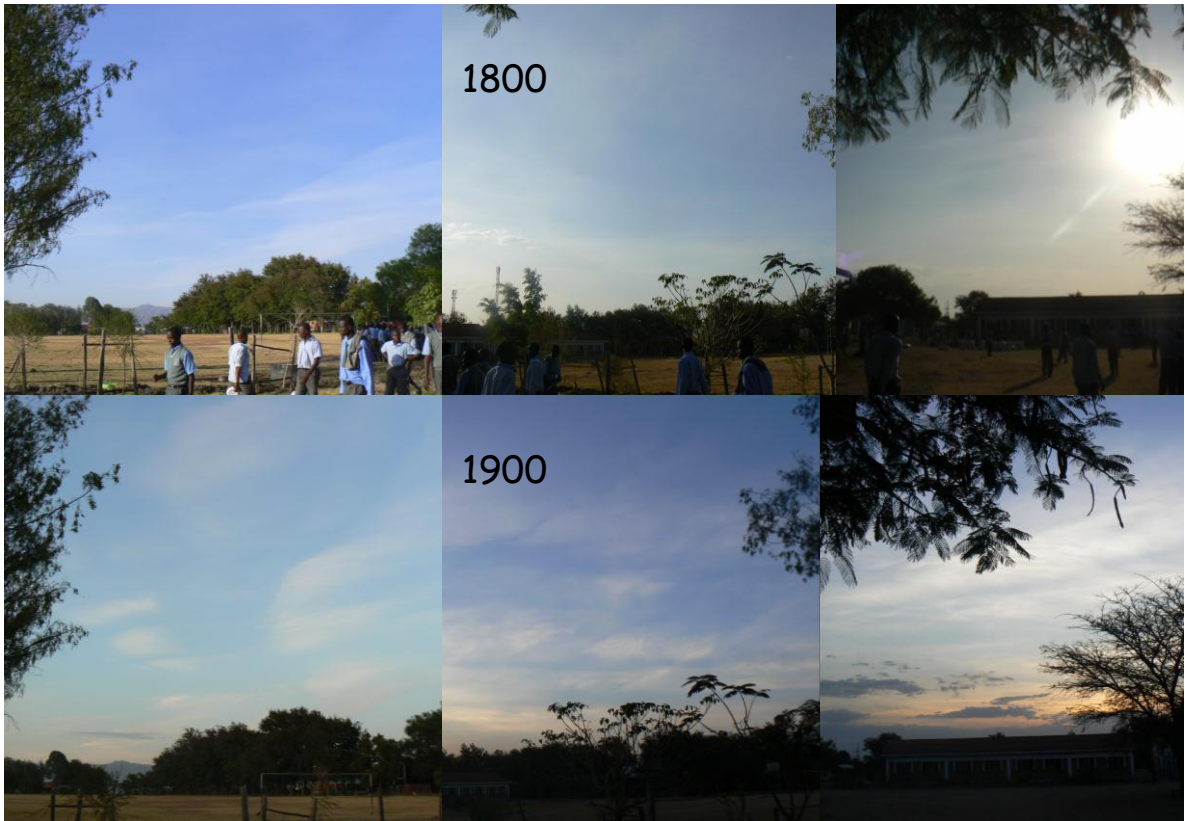
*The wool like shapes
Give the clue
The rains are coming*



1600

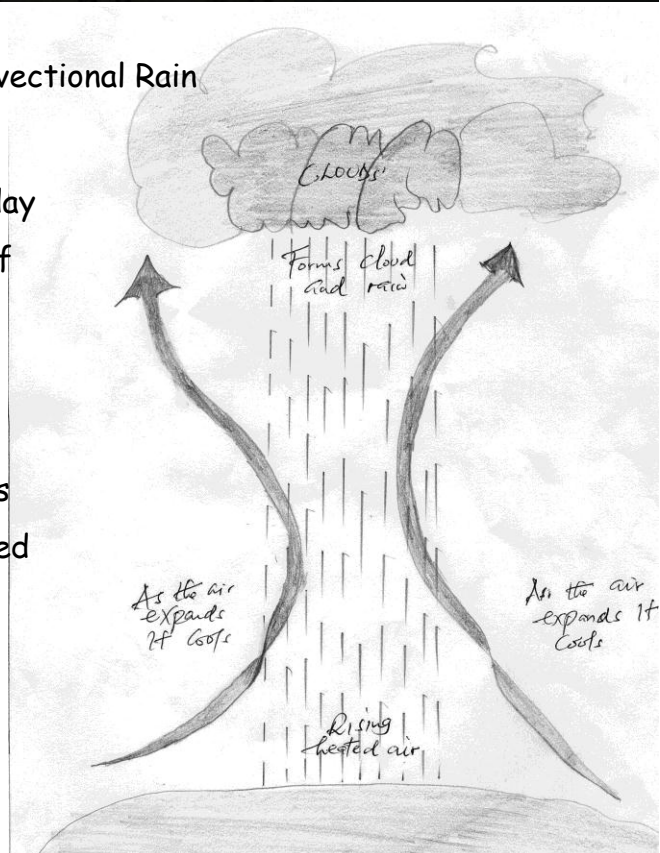


1700



Convective Rain

The build up of cloud during the day can be explained by the heating of air over Lake Victoria. As the warmed air rises, it cools. As it cools it loses its ability to hold moisture and so clouds form. This may result in rainfall. This is called convective rain.



Convictional Rainfall

Water in a lake or ocean is heated intensely by solar radiation. The heating is most intense in the afternoon.

The heated moist air above the water rises, and cooler drier air is drawn in to take its place.

As the warm air rises it cools, and the water vapour condenses.

The condensed water vapour forms Cumulonimbus clouds. These clouds eventually give rise to torrential rain which is commonly accompanied by lightning, thunder and hailstones.

Problems

The torrential rain associated with convictional rainfall causes floods which cause displacement especially around Lake Victoria.

Hailstones associated with rainfall destroy crops eg rice.

Rainfall is characterised by strong winds which flatten crops and damage houses especially in the lowland areas.

The thunder and lightening may damage livestock and people.

All went into a frenzy

Dazzling rain

The flashing lightning

Accompanied by

Almost striking

Arrow like lightning

Flashing sky

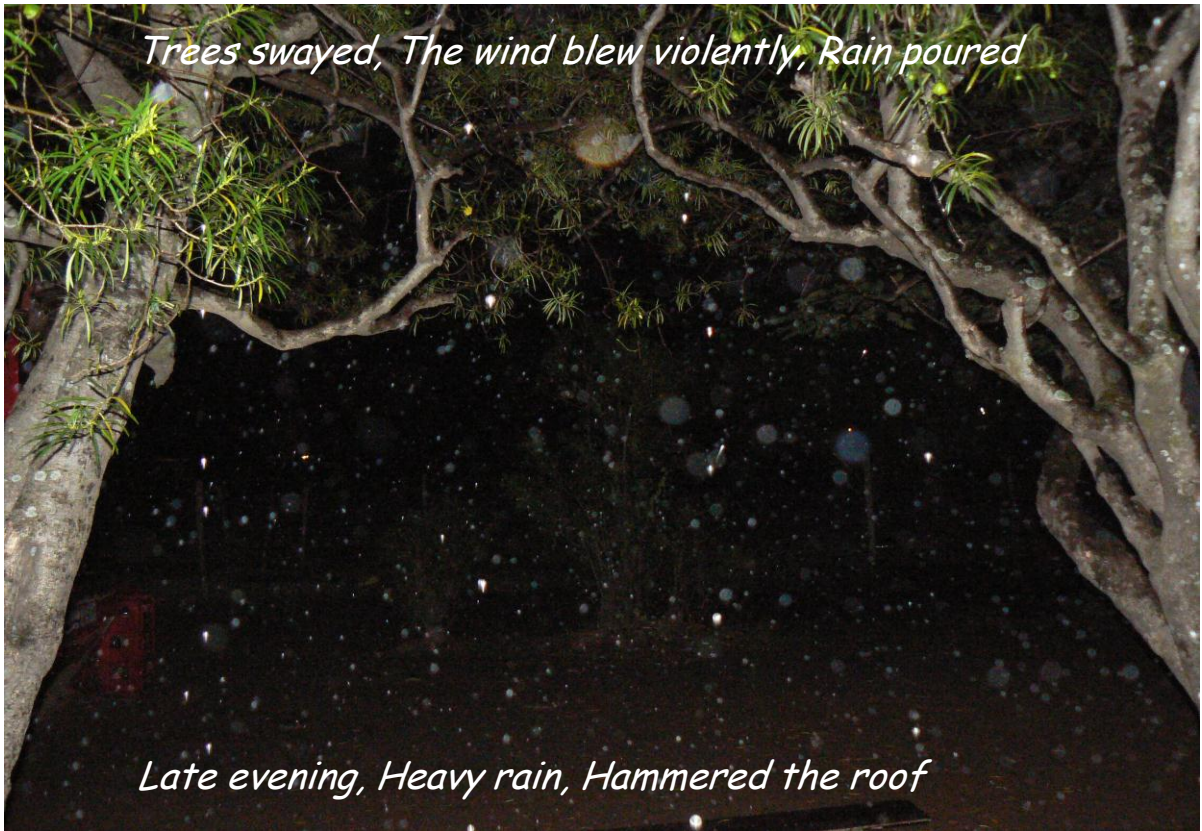
Blinding lightning strikes

Loud breaking thunder

Deafening thunderstorm

Torrential rain

Confused children



Trees swayed, The wind blew violently, Rain poured

Late evening, Heavy rain, Hammered the roof

The splashing of rain water

On the ground

Causing soil erosion

The falling rain

*Makes the body wet and
trembling*

Like a leaf blade

Heavy rain, the flood engulfed the world, the ground left bare

The sizzling lightning

Makes people fear

A chameleon on a feeble twig

Flashing thunderstorm

Roaming like a lion

Across the land

Influence of Water Bodies on Rainfall

Large bodies of water such as Lake Victoria are a major source of moisture in the atmosphere. Through evaporation large quantities of water are taken up and deposited as rain. Usually the area around the water body benefits from heavier rainfall.

