Questions

1. Please advise if the Mungiki demonstrated in Ruiru on or around 26 December 2007?
2. Were elections held in Kenya on 27 December 2007?
3. When were the results of the election available?
4. Did William Kabogo lose the election?
5. Was the election won by George Thuo?
6. Is the Mungiki largely Islamic?
7. Do the National Youth Alliance issue membership cards with the word Mungiki on them?

RESPONSE

1. Please advise if the Mungiki demonstrated in Ruiru on or around 26 December 2007?

No information was found in the sources consulted of a demonstration in Ruiru on or around 26 December 2007.

According to the attached Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas maps there are two places in Kenya known as “Ruiru”. One is some 20kms north east of Nairobi. The other is some 5kms west of Fort Hall. Fort Hall is an estimated 75kms north east of Nairobi (‘Ruiru near Nairobi & Fort Hall’ 2000, Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas – Attachment 1; ‘Ruiru near Fort Hall’2000, Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas – Attachment 2).
2. Were elections held in Kenya on 27 December 2007?

Presidential and National Assembly elections were held on 27 December 2007. In the presidential election, the incumbent, Mwai Kibaki (Party of National Unity (PNU)), was re-elected. In the National Assembly elections the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) won 99 of the 210 seats. As at April 2008 the Cabinet comprised a coalition of the PNU, ODM and ODM-Kenya parties (The Europa World Year Book 2008 2008, Routledge, 49th ed, London, Vol. II, pp.2594-2596 – Attachment 3).

According to The Europa World Year Book 2008:

At the legislative elections, held on 27 December 2007, the ODM secured 99 of the 210 seats in the National Assembly, the PNU won 43, the ODM-Kenya, which had broken away from the main party in August, 16 and the KANU [Kenya African National Union] 14. Results in three constituencies were not released. The presidential election was held concurrently and the Electoral Commission of Kenya announced that, despite indications prior to the vote that [Raila] Odinga [ODM] had garnered greater popular support, Kibaki had narrowly been re-elected to the presidency with 4,584,721 votes; Odinga was reported to have secured 4,352,993 votes. Official figures detailing the total number of votes cast were not immediately made available. Odinga and other opposition candidates vehemently denounced the results, while independent international observers expressed scepticism regarding the credibility of the election, which had taken place amid allegations of widespread procedural violations. The results led to an upsurge in tribal conflict between Kibaki’s Kikuyu supporters and Odinga’s Luo followers. Nevertheless, on 30 December Kibaki was sworn in for a second term (The Europa World Year Book 2008 2008, Routledge, 49th ed, London, Vol. II, p.2586 – Attachment 3).

3. When were the results of the election results available?


In respect of the presidential election result, the International Crisis Group (ICG) reported that ECK announced on 30 December 2007 that President Mwai Kibake was the winner. The

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1 In research for this response the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK) website (http://www.eck.or.ke/) could not be accessed.
ICG also noted that on 29 December 2007 the opposition had started to denounce the rigging of the presidential election (International Crisis Group 2008, Kenya in Crisis, 21 February, Africa Report No. 137, pp.1-2 – Attachment 7).

4. Did William Kabogo lose the election?
5. Was the election won by George Thuo?


The entry for the SKS in the Political Handbook of the World 2007 states:

Sisi Kwa Sisi purports to transcend religious barriers by uniting supporters of Islamic Party-Kenya and the Mungiki sect. The party won two seats in the 2002 legislative balloing and pledged to work with the NARC coalition [National Rainbow Coalition] to secure political and economic reforms.


In June 2007 Africa Confidential reported that Kabogo had been charged with association with Mungiki. He was released on bail (‘Terror Comes Home to Roost’ 2007, Africa Confidential, 8 June, Vol. 48, No. 12 http://www.africa-confidential.com/article/id/2191/TEROR-COMES-HOME-TO-ROOST – Accessed 20 January 2009 – Attachment 13).

6. Is the Mungiki largely Islamic?

No information was found in the sources consulted on whether the Mungiki is largely Islamic. However, sources report that some Mungiki leaders had converted to Islam. Although the International Crisis Group reports that Mungiki membership is limited to Kikuyu men, sources cited by the Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board state that the group apparently has some non-Kikuyu members and 80% of the members are male.


In July 2007 the Washington Post reported that one Mungiki leader, who has left the group, converted to Islam and then to Christianity:

Eventually, some Mungiki leaders became rich. One, Ndura Waruinge, officially renounced the sect, converted to Islam, changed his name to Ibrahim, then converted to Christianity and changed his name to Hezekiah. Now he is running for a seat in parliament (McCrummen, Stephanie 2007, ‘Brutal Kenyan Sect Aims to Provoke Strife’, Washington Post, 2 July – Attachment 17).

On membership of the Mungiki the Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board stated:

It is not known how widespread the Mungiki are in Kenya (Washington Post 2 July 2007; Reuters 5 June 2007). However, the group claims to have a membership of up to two million people (Safer Access July 2007; BBC 24 May 2007a; Revolutionary and Dissident Movements of the World 2004, 268). Members are generally unemployed youths of the Kikuyu ethnic group (ibid.; Reuters 5 June 2007), although the group apparently has some non-Kikuyu members (Revolutionary and Dissident Movements of the World 2004, 268). It is estimated that 80 percent of Mungiki members are male (ibid.). Many wear dreadlocks (Safer Access July 2007; Washington Post 2 July 2007) (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2007, KEN102637.E – Kenya: The Mungiki sect; leadership, membership and recruitment, organizational structure, activities and state protection available to its victims (2006 – October 2007), 1 November http://www.irm-cisr.gc.ca/en/research/rir/index_e.htm?action=record.viewrec&gotorec=451542 – Accessed 21 January 2009 – Attachment 18).

However, also on the group’s membership, the ICG reported that:

…[Mungiki] Membership is gained by swearing oaths (often forced) and strictly limited to Kikuyu men. The initial aim was the “liberation” of Kikuyus from Moi oppression and a
cultural revival of the traditional Kikuyu way of life. It borrows much from Mau Mau symbolism and argues that no one except a Kikuyu should ever rule Kenya. Over the years and especially between 1992 and 1997, it has had contacts with parliamentarians from central Kenya. Though they were sometimes forcibly sworn into the group, they found cooperation with Mungiki useful for political mobilisation (International Crisis Group 2008, *Kenya in Crisis*, 21 February, Africa Report No. 137, pp.13-14 – Attachment 7).


7. Do the National Youth Alliance issue membership cards with the word Mungiki on them?

No information was found in the sources consulted on the “National Youth Alliance” issuing membership cards with the word “Mungiki” on them.


The *Daily Nation* article dated 21 April 2008, citing a spokesman for the KNYA, Njuguna Gitau Njuguna, stated:

Njuguna also stated that Kenya National Youth Alliance was not the political arm of the Mungiki (which he claims no longer exists) but a political organisation in its own right with a membership of some 1.5 million people (Warah, Rasna 2008, ‘Kenya: Mungiki Merely a Symptom of a Deadly Disease’, *Daily Nation*, 21 April, allAfrica.com website [http://allafrica.com/stories/printable/200804210208.html](http://allafrica.com/stories/printable/200804210208.html) – Accessed 21 January 2009 – Attachment 22).

**List of Sources Consulted**
Internet Sources:

Daily Nation http://www.nation.co.ke/
The Standard http://www.eastandard.net/

Databases:

FACTIVA (news database)
BACIS (DIAC Country Information database)
REFINFO (IRBDC (Canada) Country Information database)
ISYS (RRT Research & Information database, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, US Department of State Reports)
RRT Library Catalogue

List of Attachments

1. ‘Ruiru near Nairobi & Fort Hall’ 2000, Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas. (CD ROM)

2. ‘Ruiru near Fort Hall’2000, Microsoft Encarta Interactive Atlas. (CD ROM)


