



**Yasuyoshi  
CHIBA**

**L'Afrique de Chiba  
*Chiba's Africa***

# Yasuyoshi CHIBA

AFP

LIEU  
**COUVENT DES MINIMES**

## L'Afrique de Chiba

L'Afrique m'enseigne ce que je ne sais pas ou que je ne sais imaginer.  
Lorsque je me suis installé au Kenya, tous les principes que je tenais pour acquis en tant que Japonais se sont envolés un à un. La notion du temps ou de l'engagement y était différente, et il était normal que les choses ne se passent pas toujours comme prévu. Alors au bout d'un certain temps, mes attentes n'ont plus du tout été les mêmes. Et pourtant les renoncements auxquels il m'a fallu consentir n'ont pas été vains : avoir moins d'attentes m'a permis d'être plus heureux et de ne plus m'inquiéter sans cesse pour l'avenir.  
Les photographes ont le privilège de pouvoir découvrir de nouveaux lieux, de rencontrer

de nouvelles personnes et d'apprendre de nouvelles choses. Aujourd'hui encore, chaque expérience que je vis m'ouvre de nouvelles perspectives. La plupart de mes photographies n'existeraient pas sans le soutien des Africains. Ils m'ont amené à observer les choses toujours plus en profondeur, au-delà de toutes mes attentes. Ce que je peux faire, en retour, c'est capturer quelque chose de légèrement différent, une scène atypique qui pourrait facilement passer inaperçue.  
L'Afrique m'a offert un parfait terrain d'apprentissage pour devenir un tout autre photographe.

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VENUE  
COUVENT DES MINIMES

## Chiba's Africa

Africa is a place that teaches me what I do not know or cannot imagine.

When I started living in Kenya, the standards I had as a Japanese person fell apart, one after the other. The concept of time or commitment was different, and it was normal for things not to go as planned. After spending some time here, my standard of expectation was totally altered. However, to compensate for the hardships, my lower level of expectation has brought me more joy and less worry about the future.

Visiting new places, meeting people, and learning new things are definitely a privilege

for photographers. Ongoing experiences have generated new perspectives for me. Most of my images would not exist without the support of the people in Africa. They have always taken me to deeper levels, beyond my expectations. What I can do, in return, is to capture something slightly different, for example a niche scene that is easily overlooked.

Indeed, life in Africa has given me excellent conditions to be retrained as a photographer.

***Yasuyoshi Chiba***



## Yasuyoshi Chiba

After his journey as a student to Nepal where he shot and developed nearly 100 rolls of black & white film, Yasuyoshi Chiba discovered, when editing his reportage, that his emotions remained "intact" in each frame. He soon realized that a career in photojournalism could combine both his love for travel and photography. Chiba started as a staff photographer for the *Asahi Shimbun*, one of Japan's leading daily newspapers, traveling around the country, covering all kinds of news stories, and enjoying having to deal with new topics. While on assignment he met Japanese Brazilians and became interested in documenting the diaspora. Just as Chiba was thinking of moving to Brazil as a freelance photographer, his wife was offered a job in Kenya. While Africa was not in his scope, curiosity prevailed. He arrived in Kenya in late 2007, amid post-electoral clashes, and soon got lucky, working as a stringer for AFP, and later being hired as an AFP staff photographer. He was finally sent to Brazil, but came back to Nairobi where he is now based as AFP's Chief Photographer for East Africa.



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