County honours fallen freedom fighter Menza

BY JOSEPH MASHA
Kilifi County

Kaya elders and other leaders from Kilifi County on Tuesday converged at the burial site of the late freedom fighter Mekatili wa Menza to mark the 100th year of her death.

The occasion was marked with much feasting and dancing to traditional songs as part of the process to mark the special day.

The function, presided over by Governor Amason Kingi and attended by recently endorsed Kaya elder Ganze MP Peter Shehe, involved going through the Mijikenda rituals to appease the spirits.

Before converging at Bungule village in Magarani constituency, the elders had participated in a peace walk in Tana River and Kilifi counties.

According to the secretary of Malindi District Cultural Association Joseph Mwarandu, this annual feast started 10 years ago.

Mr Mwarandu said though the late Ms Menza was one of the veteran freedom fighters in the county, her role has not been recognised by the government.

“Though Mekatili wa Menza was one of the great freedom fighters in this county, her efforts to liberate Kenya has not been recognised by both the government and members of the Mijikenda community,” he said.