

Separating Boys from Men

TRAILER

Communities around the world have different ways of entertainment. There are those who sing and dance while others have different kinds of sports such as wrestling. While many communities have gone ahead and professionalized these sports or abandoned them altogether, the Abaluyia community of western Kenya have stuck to theirs.

RUNTIME: 16:38

COUNTRY: KENYA

FILMING LOCATION: WESTERN KENYA

LANGUAGE: SWAHILI

SOURCE: A24 MEDIA

SCRIPT

Communities around the world have different ways of entertainment. There are those who sing and dance while others have different kinds of sports such as wrestling. While many communities have gone ahead and professionalized these sports or abandoned them altogether, the Abaluyia community of western Kenya have stuck to theirs.

Traditionally this sport was used for various reasons. First it was used to determine which the most energetic clan was. It was also used by young men and women in order to identify a suitor.

Traditional wrestling is locally called minyikha. This is a beautiful game which is nonviolent. Two energetic men are made to wrestle each other to the excitement of the crowd. There is no boxing or kicking one another. They just wrestle using bare hands and feet. For one to be declared a winner, he must wrestle his opponent to the ground and the opponent must fall on his back.