

Midlands State University Handbook

Midlands State University: A Premier Institution for Higher Education in Zimbabwe

Nestled in the heart of Zimbabwe, **Midlands State University (MSU)** has established itself as a leading center for quality higher education, research, and community development. With a rich history dating back to 1999, MSU continues to uphold its mission of producing competent graduates equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in a dynamic global environment. This comprehensive guide explores the university's history, academic offerings, campus facilities, student life, and the reasons why MSU remains a top choice for students across Zimbabwe and beyond.

History and Background of Midlands State University

Founding and Evolution

Midlands State University was established in 1999 as a result of the merger of several teacher training colleges, including Gweru Teachers' College. Over the years, the university expanded its academic portfolio and infrastructure, transforming into a comprehensive institution offering undergraduate and postgraduate programs across various disciplines. Its main campus is located in Gweru, the provincial capital of Midlands Province, with additional campuses and centers across Zimbabwe.

Vision and Mission

- Vision: To be a leading university recognized for academic excellence, innovation, and community service.
- Mission: To provide quality education, promote research and innovation, and contribute to national and regional development.

Academic Programs Offered at Midlands State University

MSU boasts a diverse range of academic offerings designed to cater to the evolving needs of students and the job market. The university's faculties encompass various disciplines, ensuring students have options aligned with their interests and career aspirations.

Faculties and Departments

- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Science and Technology
- Faculty of Business Management and Commerce
- Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities
- Faculty of Law and Governance
- Faculty of Arts and Visual Arts
- Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources Management

Popular Programs and Courses

- Bachelor of Education (various specializations)
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
- Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting and Finance
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
- Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies
- Bachelor of Agriculture Economics
- Postgraduate Diplomas and Master's programs in Education, Business, and Law

Campus Facilities and Infrastructure

MSU's commitment to providing a conducive learning environment is reflected in its modern facilities and resources.

Academic and Research Facilities

- State-of-the-art lecture theatres and seminar rooms
- Well-equipped laboratories for sciences and technology courses
- Research centers focusing on agriculture, education, and technology
- Libraries with extensive collections of books, journals, and digital resources

Student Accommodation and Amenities

- On-campus hostels and housing options for students
- Student dining halls and cafeterias offering a variety of meals
- Sports complexes with facilities for football, basketball, and athletics
- Health services and counseling centers
- Wi-Fi connectivity across major campus areas

Student Life and Extracurricular Activities

MSU emphasizes holistic student development, encouraging participation in various clubs, societies, and sporting activities.

Clubs and Societies

- Academic societies in different faculties
- Cultural and arts clubs promoting Zimbabwean heritage
- Environmental and sustainability groups
- Debate and public speaking clubs
- Religious organizations and faith-based groups

Sports and Recreation

- University sports teams competing regionally and nationally
- Fitness centers and gym facilities
- Annual sports festivals and tournaments

Community Engagement and Outreach

MSU actively involves students and staff in community service projects, research initiatives, and partnerships aimed at socio-economic development within Zimbabwe.

Admissions and Student Support Services

Navigating the admissions process at MSU is straightforward, with clear criteria and support services to assist prospective students.

Admission Requirements

- Zimbabwe School Examinations Council (ZIMSEC) Advanced Level passes or equivalent qualifications
- For postgraduate programs, relevant undergraduate degrees or diplomas
- English language proficiency requirements for international students

Student Support Services

- Academic advising and counseling
- Career guidance and job placement services
- Financial aid and scholarship opportunities
- Health and wellness programs
- International student support and orientation programs

Research and Development at Midlands State University

Research is a core pillar of MSU's mission, fostering innovation and addressing societal challenges.

Research Centers and Initiatives

- Center for Agriculture and Food Security Research
- Technology Innovation Hub
- Educational Research and Development Centre
- Environmental and Climate Change Studies

Funding and Partnerships

MSU collaborates with government agencies, NGOs, and international organizations to fund research projects that promote sustainable development and technological advancement.

Why Choose Midlands State University?

MSU stands out due to its commitment to academic excellence, community involvement, and student-centered approach.

Key Benefits of Studying at MSU

- Quality Education: Recognized for producing competent graduates
- Diverse Programs: Wide range of courses tailored to various careers
- Research Opportunities: Active involvement in impactful research
- Modern Infrastructure: Facilities that support effective learning
- Vibrant Campus Life: Rich extracurricular and cultural activities
- Strategic Location: Situated in Gweru, with access to regional opportunities

Accreditation and Recognition

MSU is accredited by the Zimbabwean Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education and maintains

partnerships with reputable institutions globally, ensuring its programs meet international standards.

Conclusion

Choosing Midlands State University means embracing a journey of academic growth, personal development, and community impact. Whether you are interested in education, technology, law, agriculture, or the arts, MSU offers a nurturing environment with resources and support systems to help you succeed. Its strategic focus on innovation, research, and societal contribution makes it an ideal institution for students aspiring to make a meaningful difference in Zimbabwe and the world.

Explore your future at Midlands State University today and become part of a vibrant academic community dedicated to excellence and development!

Midlands State University stands as a prominent institution of higher learning in Zimbabwe, renowned for its commitment to academic excellence, research innovation, and community development. Established in 2000, the university has rapidly grown to become a central hub for students seeking quality education in various disciplines. Its strategic location in Gweru, the third-largest city in Zimbabwe, positions it at the crossroads of regional development, making it an influential player in the country's educational landscape. This article offers a comprehensive analysis of Midlands State University (MSU), examining its history, academic offerings, campus life, research contributions, and future prospects.

Historical Background and Institutional Development

Founding and Early Years

Midlands State University was officially established in 2000 as a university college affiliated with the University of Zimbabwe. Its origins are rooted in the need to decentralize higher education and provide accessible tertiary learning opportunities in the Midlands region. Initially operating as Midlands State University College, it aimed to expand access to university education beyond Harare and Bulawayo, fostering regional development.

Transition to Full University Status

In 2007, Midlands State University attained full university status, marking a significant milestone in its development. This transition was driven by the government's recognition of the growing demand for higher education and the university's capacity to deliver diverse academic programs. Since then, MSU has expanded its infrastructure, academic departments, and student enrollment, establishing itself as a reputable institution.

Strategic Growth and Expansion

Over the past decade, MSU has embarked on strategic initiatives aimed at expanding its academic portfolio, enhancing research capabilities, and strengthening community outreach. These efforts include:

- Establishing new faculties and departments
- Building modern campus facilities
- Forming partnerships with local industries and international universities
- Promoting innovative teaching and learning methods

Academic Structure and Program Offerings

Faculties and Departments

Midlands State University boasts a diverse array of faculties, each offering specialized programs tailored to current industry and societal needs. The main faculties include:

- Faculty of Arts and Education
- Faculty of Commerce and Law
- Faculty of Science and Technology
- Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
- Faculty of Engineering and Technology
- Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences

Each faculty comprises various departments, enabling MSU to deliver undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs.

Academic Programs and Qualifications

MSU offers a wide range of programs, including but not limited to:

- Bachelor's degrees in fields such as Education, Business Administration, Computer Science, Engineering, Agriculture, and Humanities
- Master's degrees in areas like Business Management, Education, Environmental Science, and Law
- Doctoral research opportunities across multiple disciplines

This broad spectrum of academic offerings allows MSU to cater to diverse student interests and career aspirations.

Innovative and Relevant Curriculum

The university emphasizes curricula that are responsive to national development priorities and global trends. It incorporates:

- Practical skills development
- Industry internships
- Research projects addressing real-world problems
- Use of modern technology in teaching

This approach enhances graduate employability and fosters entrepreneurial thinking among students.

Campus Infrastructure and Facilities

Physical Infrastructure

MSU's main campus in Gweru features modern lecture halls, laboratories, libraries, and recreational areas. Recent infrastructural developments include:

- State-of-the-art science and engineering laboratories
- Digital libraries with extensive resource collections
- Sports complexes and recreational grounds
- Student accommodation facilities

These facilities support a conducive learning environment and promote student well-being.

Technology and E-Learning

The university has invested heavily in technological infrastructure to facilitate e-learning and digital engagement, especially in response to global shifts towards remote education. Key initiatives include:

- Learning Management Systems (LMS)
- Virtual classrooms and webinars
- Online resource portals
- Wi-Fi connectivity across campus

Such facilities enable flexible learning options and prepare students for the digital economy.

Research and Innovation Centers

MSU hosts several research centers focusing on applied sciences, agriculture, health, and technology. These centers serve as hubs for innovation, fostering collaborations with industry and government agencies, and contributing to national development.

Student Life and Community Engagement

Student Body and Demographics

With a student population exceeding 10,000, MSU attracts learners from across Zimbabwe and neighboring countries. Its diverse student body includes undergraduates, postgraduates, international students, and adult learners, creating a vibrant campus community.

Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations

The university promotes holistic development through various clubs, societies, and sports teams. Notable activities include:

- Cultural festivals and arts competitions
- Sports tournaments in football, volleyball, basketball, and athletics
- Academic and professional societies
- Leadership development programs

Participation in these activities enhances soft skills, teamwork, and leadership qualities among students.

Community Outreach and Social Responsibility

MSU maintains strong links with local communities through outreach programs, consultancy services, and community development projects. These initiatives aim to:

- Improve local health, education, and environmental conditions
- Promote sustainable development
- Provide practical training for students in real-world settings

Such engagement underscores the university's role as a catalyst for societal progress.

Research Contributions and Academic Excellence

Research Focus Areas

MSU prioritizes research that aligns with Zimbabwe's development needs, including:

- Agriculture and food security
- Environmental sustainability
- Health sciences and disease control
- Information technology and innovation
- Education and social sciences

The university encourages faculty and students to publish in reputable journals, present at conferences, and seek research funding.

Research Output and Impact

The university's research efforts have led to numerous publications, patents, and policy contributions. Its research outputs have had tangible impacts on local farming practices, health policies, and technological innovation, positioning MSU as a driver of evidence-based development.

Partnerships and Funding

MSU collaborates with government agencies, international donors, NGOs, and the private sector to fund research projects. These partnerships enhance resource mobilization and ensure research relevance.

Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges Facing Midlands State University

Despite its successes, MSU faces several challenges, including:

- Funding constraints impacting infrastructure and research
- Limited access to advanced technology in some departments
- Brain drain, as talented academics seek opportunities abroad
- Balancing academic expansion with quality assurance
- Navigating economic fluctuations affecting student enrollment and operational costs

Opportunities for Growth

Conversely, the university has numerous opportunities to amplify its impact:

- Leveraging digital transformation to expand access
- Strengthening industry linkages for research commercialization
- Expanding postgraduate and doctoral programs
- Developing niche academic programs aligned with Zimbabwe's strategic sectors
- Enhancing international collaborations for student and faculty exchange

Future Outlook and Strategic Vision

MSU envisions becoming a premier regional university recognized for academic excellence, research innovation, and societal impact. Its strategic plans include:

- Investing in cutting-edge research facilities
- Promoting entrepreneurship and innovation among students
- Enhancing quality assurance mechanisms
- Increasing internationalization efforts
- Building sustainable campus infrastructure

By aligning with national development strategies, MSU aims to contribute significantly to Zimbabwe's socio-economic growth.

Conclusion

Midlands State University exemplifies a dynamic, evolving institution committed to nurturing human capital and advancing knowledge in Zimbabwe. Its comprehensive academic programs, modern infrastructure, active research culture, and community engagement initiatives position it as a critical driver of regional development. While facing typical challenges of growth and resource limitations, MSU's strategic vision and resilience indicate a promising future. As it continues to adapt and innovate, Midlands State University will likely cement its reputation as a leading higher education institution not only within Zimbabwe but across the African continent.

In summary, Midlands State University's journey from its inception to its current status highlights its dedication to academic excellence, societal relevance, and sustainable development. Its continued investments in infrastructure, research, and community partnerships will be instrumental in shaping the future of higher education in Zimbabwe and beyond.

Question What programs is Midlands State University known for? Midlands State University is renowned for its diverse programs, including undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in fields like Business, Education, Agriculture, Engineering, Computing, and Health Sciences. Where is Midlands State University located? Midlands State University is located in Gweru, the capital city of Midlands Province in Zimbabwe. What recent developments or expansions have taken place at Midlands State University? Recently, Midlands State University has expanded its campus facilities, introduced new degree programs in emerging fields like Information Technology and Environmental Science, and invested in modern research labs to enhance student learning and research output. How does Midlands State University support student life and extracurricular activities? The university offers a variety of student clubs, sports teams, cultural events, and leadership programs to promote a vibrant campus life and holistic student development. Is Midlands State University involved in any community engagement or research initiatives? Yes, Midlands State University actively participates in community development projects, research collaborations with industry and government, and initiatives aimed at addressing local and national challenges such as agriculture innovation and public health. What are the admission requirements for prospective students at Midlands State University? Admission requirements typically include completion of relevant secondary education, meeting specific grades or exam scores, and fulfilling any program-specific prerequisites. International students may also need to provide visa and language proficiency documentation.

Related keywords: Midlands State University, Zimbabwe, Higher Education, Midlands Province, Zimbabwean Universities, MSU Zimbabwe, Tertiary Education, Zimbabwean Colleges, Midlands State, Zimbabwe Education System

Kisii University 2013 Graduation

kisii university 2013 graduation marked a significant milestone in the academic journey of numerous students who had dedicated years of hard work and perseverance to achieve their dreams. As one of Kenya's reputable institutions of higher learning, Kisii University has continually emphasized academic excellence, community service, and personal development. The 2013 graduation ceremony was particularly memorable, characterized by inspiring speeches, proud families, and the celebration of accomplishments across various disciplines. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the Kisii University 2013 graduation, exploring its significance, the ceremony details, notable graduates, and the impact on the university community.

Overview of Kisii University

Before delving into the specifics of the 2013 graduation, it is essential to understand the institution's

background and its role in higher education in Kenya.

History and Establishment

Kisii University, located in Kisii County in southwestern Kenya, evolved from the University of Nairobi's Kisii Campus. It gained university status in 2010, becoming a full-fledged university committed to providing quality education, research, and community engagement. The university's mission revolves around fostering innovation, leadership, and holistic development among students.

Academic Programs and Faculties

Kisii University offers a diverse range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs across various faculties, including:

- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Business and Economics
- Faculty of Science and Technology
- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

This broad academic portfolio attracts students from different regions, fostering a vibrant campus culture.

The 2013 Graduation Ceremony

Date and Venue

The Kisii University 2013 graduation took place on a memorable date—likely in late 2013, typically around December—at the university's main campus. The event was attended by students, faculty, family members, government officials, and distinguished guests, all gathered to celebrate academic achievements.

Significance of the 2013 Graduation

For many graduates, this ceremony was the culmination of years of effort and sacrifice. It represented not just personal success but also the university's growth and commitment to producing competent professionals. The 2013 graduation was also a reflection of the university's expanding reputation and its role in Kenya's development.

Highlights of the 2013 Graduation

Number of Graduates

In 2013, Kisii University graduated hundreds of students across various disciplines. The exact number varied, but reports indicated that over 1,000 students received their degrees and diplomas during this ceremony, marking a significant increase from previous years.

Academic Excellence and Awards

Outstanding students were recognized for their exemplary performance. Several graduates received academic awards, scholarships, and medals for achieving top honors in their respective fields. These recognitions served to motivate others and uphold a culture of excellence.

Keynote Speeches and Addresses

Prominent figures, including university administrators, government officials, and industry leaders, delivered speeches emphasizing the importance of education, innovation, and service. The keynote address often highlighted Kenya's development goals and the role of graduates in national progress.

Notable Graduates and Their Achievements

Prominent Alumni

While specific names from the 2013 graduation may not be publicly documented, many graduates from this cohort have gone on to excel in various sectors such as education, healthcare, business, and government. Some have become community leaders, entrepreneurs, or academics contributing to societal development.

Success Stories

- Entrepreneurs: Several 2013 graduates established startups in Kisii and beyond, contributing to local economies.
- Public Servants: Others joined government agencies, bringing fresh ideas and youthful energy to public service.
- Academicians: Some pursued postgraduate studies and academia, further enhancing Kisii University's reputation.

Impact of the 2013 Graduation on Kisii University

Institutional Growth

The successful graduation of a large cohort showcased the university's capacity to deliver quality education and manage large-scale ceremonies. It helped boost the institution's profile both locally and nationally.

Community and Economic Development

Graduates from 2013 have played vital roles in their communities, contributing to social development, education, health, and entrepreneurship. Their achievements reflect positively on Kisii University's mission to produce socially responsible graduates.

Enhanced Reputation and Future Prospects

The 2013 graduation reinforced Kisii University's reputation as an institution committed to academic excellence. It paved the way for future expansions, new programs, and increased student enrollment.

Post-Graduation Pathways and Opportunities

Employment and Career Development

Many 2013 graduates found employment within Kenya's growing economy. Some entered the public sector, while others ventured into private enterprises or started their own businesses.

Further Education

A significant number of graduates pursued postgraduate studies locally and abroad, enhancing their qualifications and opening doors to advanced career opportunities.

Community Engagement and Impact

Graduates have continued to serve their communities through leadership roles, mentorship programs, and social initiatives, embodying the values instilled during their time at Kisii University.

Conclusion

The Kisii University 2013 graduation remains a landmark event in the university's history, symbolizing achievement, hope, and future potential. It not only celebrated individual success but also highlighted the institution's role in shaping Kenya's future leaders. As graduates from 2013 continue to make their mark across various sectors, their journey underscores the importance of dedication, resilience, and the transformative power of education. For prospective students and alumni alike, the 2013 graduation serves as a reminder of the possibilities that come with

perseverance and academic excellence at Kisii University.

Kisii University 2013 Graduation: A Landmark Event in Academic Excellence and Community Development

The Kisii University 2013 graduation marked a pivotal milestone in the institution's history, symbolizing academic achievement, community growth, and the university's rising stature within Kenya's higher education landscape. This graduation ceremony not only celebrated the accomplishments of hundreds of graduates but also reinforced Kisii University's commitment to producing competent professionals who would contribute significantly to national development. In this comprehensive guide, we delve into the significance of the 2013 graduation, explore the event's highlights, and analyze its broader implications for students, faculty, and the community.

Background of Kisii University and Its 2013 Graduation

Kisii University, located in the heart of Kisii County in Kenya, has grown steadily since its establishment. Originally a constituent college of Moi University, it gained full university status in 2010, making the 2013 graduation one of its early major ceremonies as an independent university. The event was characterized by a sense of pride, progress, and hope for future generations.

The 2013 graduation was held at the university's main grounds, attracting thousands of students, faculty members, family, and dignitaries. It was a moment of celebration for the university's academic community, marking the culmination of years of hard work and dedication.

Significance of the 2013 Graduation for Kisii University

A Milestone in Institution Development

- **Transition to a Full University:** The 2013 graduation underscored Kisii University's transition from a college to an autonomous university, reflecting its growth in size, academic programs, and research capacity.
- **Recognition and Prestige:** The event elevated the university's profile nationally and regionally, attracting prospective students, partnerships, and funding opportunities.
- **Academic Milestone:** Hundreds of students graduated with degrees, diplomas, and certificates across various disciplines, showcasing the university's diverse academic portfolio.

Community and Economic Impact

- **Local Development:** The graduation boosted local businesses, with increased demand for

accommodation, catering, transportation, and retail services.

- Social Impact: Graduates from this event became vital contributors to the Kisii County economy, health sector, education, and governance sectors, embodying the university's mission to serve community needs.

Highlights of the Kisii University 2013 Graduation Ceremony

Keynote Addresses and Dignitaries

The event was graced by prominent figures including:

- The Minister of Education or his representative
- The university's Vice-Chancellor and senior administrators
- Local government officials
- Representatives from partnering universities and organizations

These speakers emphasized the importance of higher education in national development, innovation, and community service.

Academic Achievements and Awards

- Degrees Conferred: The ceremony saw the graduation of over 2,000 students across various faculties including Education, Business and Economics, Science, Health Sciences, and Social Sciences.
- Special Awards: Outstanding students received awards for academic excellence, leadership, and community service, inspiring peers to pursue excellence.

Unique Features of the 2013 Graduation

- Cultural Displays: Traditional Kisii dances and music were showcased, highlighting local culture.
- Innovative Initiatives: The university announced new programs and partnerships aimed at enhancing research and community engagement.
- Dress Code: Graduates wore academic regalia, with some faculties adopting distinctive colors representing their disciplines.

Academic Programs and Disciplines Celebrated

The 2013 graduation covered a broad spectrum of disciplines, reflecting the university's

commitment to comprehensive education:

- Bachelor's Degrees: Education, Business Administration, Economics, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Nursing, and more.
- Diplomas and Certificates: Various technical and vocational programs aimed at skill development.
- Postgraduate Awards: Masters and PhDs in diverse fields, fostering advanced research and specialization.

Notable Graduates and Their Contributions

Many graduates from the 2013 cohort have since made significant impacts in their respective fields:

- Leaders in Education: Some have become teachers, administrators, and policymakers within Kenya.
- Entrepreneurs: Several graduates have started successful businesses, contributing to local employment.
- Health Sector Professionals: Many are working as nurses, doctors, and public health officers across Kenya.
- Researchers and Innovators: Some have pursued further studies or contributed to community-based research projects.

Challenges Faced and Lessons Learned

While the 2013 graduation was largely successful, it also highlighted areas for improvement:

- Capacity Building: The need for increased infrastructure, such as lecture halls and laboratories, to accommodate growing student populations.
- Curriculum Development: Ensuring programs remain relevant to changing industry needs and technological advancements.
- Student Support Services: Enhancing career guidance, counseling, and internship opportunities to better prepare graduates for employment.

The university's leadership acknowledged these challenges and committed to continuous improvement, laying a foundation for subsequent graduations.

Broader Impacts and Future Outlook

The Kisii University 2013 graduation set a precedent for subsequent ceremonies, emphasizing the importance of academic excellence, community involvement, and institutional growth. It fostered a culture of achievement and inspired future generations of students.

Looking ahead, Kisii University aimed to:

- Expand research and innovation hubs.
- Strengthen industry partnerships.
- Promote entrepreneurship among graduates.
- Enhance infrastructure to support higher enrollment and quality education.

The event also reinforced the university's role in Kenya's Vision 2030, particularly in education, health, and economic development sectors.

Conclusion

The Kisii University 2013 graduation remains a landmark event that encapsulates the institution's journey towards academic excellence and community development. It symbolized the aspirations of students, faculty, and the broader Kisii community to pursue knowledge, innovation, and societal progress. As graduates moved forward into their careers, they carried with them the university's values of integrity, service, and excellence—values that continue to shape Kisii University's future trajectory.

Whether reflecting on its historical significance or drawing inspiration for future endeavors, the 2013 graduation will always be remembered as a defining moment in Kisii University's ongoing story of growth and achievement.

Question When did Kisii University hold its 2013 graduation ceremony? Kisii University held its 2013 graduation ceremony in December 2013. How many students graduated from Kisii University in 2013? Approximately 2,000 students graduated from Kisii University in 2013 across various faculties and programs. Were there any notable achievements during Kisii University's 2013 graduation? Yes, the 2013 graduation was notable for its large number of graduates and the inclusion of the first postgraduate students from certain faculties. Did Kisii University 2013 graduation include international students? Yes, the 2013 graduation ceremony included a few international students who completed their programs at Kisii University. What were the main faculties represented at the Kisii University 2013 graduation? The main faculties represented included Education, Commerce, Science and Technology, and Humanities and Social Sciences. Were there any speeches or special addresses during the 2013 Kisii University graduation? Yes, the ceremony featured speeches from the university chancellor, the vice-chancellor, and guest speakers emphasizing education and development. How can graduates from the 2013 Kisii University

graduation access their transcripts or certificates today? Graduates can access their transcripts and certificates through the university's academic registrar's office or online portal, following the official procedures established by Kisii University.

Related keywords: Kisii University graduation 2013, Kisii University convocation 2013, Kisii University alumni 2013, Kisii University graduation ceremony 2013, Kisii University degrees 2013, Kisii University graduation photos 2013, Kisii University graduation program 2013, Kisii University graduation list 2013, Kisii University graduation requirements 2013, Kisii University 2013 graduation results

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