



**Multi-Party National Akin To Bomas Forum Is The Way To Go, Not The Bi-Partisan Operation Linda Ugatuzi** leader Prof Fred Ogola shares with us the way forward in terms of bringing about inclusivity for economic development.

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## Daily ePAPER

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

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**News>>Catholic Bishop Calls Out Leaders On The Shakahola Massacre**

**P. 8.** Murang'a Catholic Diocese Bishop Rt Rev James Maria Wainaina has called on the country's top leadership to hastily take action on religious factions that have misled the faithful through unacceptable ideologies.



**Motivation>>Do Not Expect Every Favour You Give To Be Reciprocated**

**P. 12.** Anyone who loves in the expectation of being loved in return is wasting their time. .... Paulo Coelho.

# Ruto: Remuneration To Reflect Cost Of Living

**The President explained that Kenya will fulfill its international obligations in the domain of labour rights and welfare, citing the ratification of the International Labour Organisation Convention. He said the Work Injury Compensations will also be refined into a social insurance system. "A compensation model based on employer liability is stale; we must transform it to ensure sustainability."**



President William Ruto

STORY ON PAGE 9



## AFYA YANGU

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# Raila Assures Today's Protests Will Be Peaceful



Raila briefing the media .

**Worth Noting:**

- “Last time they denied us access to the CBD where we had intended to present the said memoranda, otherwise we would not have gone to Kawangware, Eastleigh, Mathare, Kibera, Kware and Pipeline, but tomorrow we shall specifically go to the streets where these offices are situated and I know there are no businesses along those streets”, he said.
- The Azimio la Umoja One Kenya Coalition leader took a swipe at the police for allegedly usurping powers not bestowed on them in the constitution saying the purported outlawing of the demonstrations was unconstitutional.

Azimio Raila Odinga has assured there will be no destruction of property during today's planned demonstrations in the Central Business District of Nairobi.

“I want to assure you that there will be no destruction of anyone's property as our demonstration will be peaceful”, he said during a presser on yesterday afternoon.

He said the demonstrations have been planned specifically for the purposes of presenting memoranda to the Office of the President, the National Treasury, the Independent Boundaries and Electoral Commission (IEBC), and the Public Service

Commission (PSC).

“Last time they denied us access to the CBD where we had intended to present the said memoranda, otherwise we would not have gone to Kawangware, Eastleigh, Mathare, Kibera, Kware and Pipeline, but tomorrow we shall specifically go to the streets where these offices are situated and I know there are no businesses along those streets”, he said.

The Azimio la Umoja One Kenya Coalition leader took a swipe at the police for allegedly usurping powers not bestowed on them in the constitution saying the purported outlawing of the demonstrations was un-

constitutional.

“Article 37 of the constitution provides that every Kenyan has the right to peaceably and unarmed, assemble to demonstrate, to picket and to present petitions to public authorities... and clearly this has not been suspended”, he added.

“We repeat that the only violence and destruction of property that have taken place during our activities are when police invade our marches”, he said.

Shakahola deaths

At the same time, the Azimio Coalition has opposed plans to form a Judicial Commission of Inquiry to

investigate the Shakahola massacre saying he has no powers under the law to do that.

“The people have delegated their sovereignty of judicial power to only the Judiciary and the Independent tribunals established under the constitution... only parliament can establish a subordinate court or an independent tribunal through an act of parliament”, said Mr. Odinga.

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Editor's Desk

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# How E-Newspapers Are Slowly Erasing The Art Of Newspaper Vending

By: Wangari Mwangi and Yvette Kimani

[@themkenyatimes](#)



*A newspaper vendor selling a copy to a motorist.*

## Worth Noting:

- Nderitu also attributed the plummeting hardcopy sales to the rise of ageing staff in most offices in Nyeri, who prefer getting information online. He cites an example of how his current orders are from older people between the ages of 45 and 60 who majorly occupy senior positions in most offices.

- “Due to technology and digitization of newspapers, citizen journalism and free news websites, the sale of newspapers has declined making it difficult to even sell 30 newspapers a day unless there is a juicy story. This new media is not all bad, however it is affecting me economically because I cannot meet my family’s needs and I am too old to get a better paying job,” said the 73 year-old.

Whereas many people have a lot of positive things to write home about the advent of speedy internet and the rise of social media, the same cannot be said about newspaper vendors.

The wide popularization of E-papers and the availability of publications online appears to be the new concept that is slowly but surely eating lunch meant for newspaper vendors.

In most parts of the country, reading newspapers online has become so common and the newspaper vendors are an unhappy lot.

Many of them are now lamenting about the hard times they are facing due to declining sales of their art which dates as far back as the 1800s.

Johnson Nderitu who has been in the business for more than 25 years, said that he reminisces on the days that selling newspapers was a real business where he could sell 100 newspapers copies in a day.

Nderitu also attributed the plummeting hardcopy sales to the rise of ageing staff in most offices in Nyeri, who prefer getting information online. He cites an example of how his current orders are from older people

between the ages of 45 and 60 who majorly occupy senior positions in most offices.

“Due to technology and digitization of newspapers, citizen journalism and free news websites, the sale of newspapers has declined making it difficult to even sell 30 newspapers a day unless there is a juicy story. This new media is not all bad, however it is affecting me economically because I cannot meet my family’s needs and I am too old to get a better paying job,” said the 73 year-old.

Daniel Ndegwa, another vendor, said that even his prominent customers who traditionally booked the paper in advance no longer do the same since they can now access the whole story online.

“I used to sell 50 newspapers and I had orders for over 30 newspapers daily which I used to deliver to homes or offices. Currently, I only sell about 20 papers at most and have less than eight orders for personal delivery. My customers now just call me to discontinue my delivery services since they can now access these newspapers on their smartphones,” he lamented.

He added that for the last 15 years he has been selling newspapers, he has never seen a bigger threat to his business until now, that he had to set up a side business to complement his income.

His story and that of his counterpart Kelvin Mutua are the same as both of them say that the rains started beating them during the Covid-19 pandemic when their customers started embracing technology.

“The pandemic is what caused the low sales as people stopped buying the physical newspaper copies. Today, I hardly sell more than five copies in a day compared to 2018 where I used to sell over 15 newspapers. I can no longer depend on this sole business, I had to set up a shop as another source of income,” explained Mutua.

Although most of these vendors agree that it may be difficult for the government and the publishers to regulate the proliferation of online content, they are seeking help in rescuing this old age business from going extinct.

Brian Mwangi suggests that newspaper publishers should come up

with a plan where vendors can earn a commission from converting hardcopy readers to the online platform. Brian said that this will help vendors make money even at the face of dwindling hardcopy sales.

He added that the newspaper business has made young people like him get employment from production to distribution and if the business falls then the number of unemployed persons would rise drastically.

Mt Kenya Times, a paper that majorly covers the mountain region was the first to go fully digital two years ago and remains the only fully daily ePaper in the country.

Other dailies, weekly and monthly newspapers are trying to follow suit.

*additional reporting by William Muchiri*

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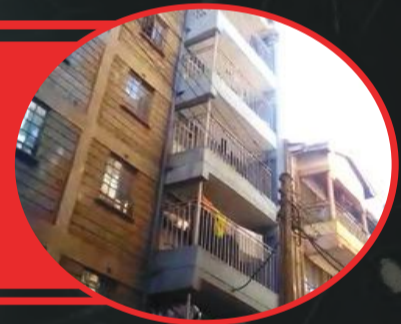
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# Kanyenya-ini Villagers Dream To Have A Dispensary, Comes True

By: Bernard Munyao  
@themkenyatimes



**Worth Noting:**

- The dispensary, Nduta said will be developed to offer maternity services to assist expectant mothers who have likewise been traveling long distances to deliver.
- The MCA said the locals have battled with myriad challenges surrounding health, water and roads which she pledged will be addressed.
- “We thank the county government for listening to the cries of the residents of Karurumo. The dispensary will bring medical services closer to them,” she stated.

Residents of Karurumo village and its environs within Kanyenyaini Ward, Murang’a County have expressed joy following the completion and commissioning of a dispensary in the area.

The dream to have a health facility in the area which borders Aberdare forests started many years back when construction of a dispensary was launched but the project stalled soon after.

The former Kangema MP, the late Tirus Ngahu allocated some money from the local CDF to construct the dispensary but the facility was not completed after the legislator failed to defend his seat in 2017.

Residents have been travelling long distances to seek medical services and the dispensary is thus a big relief for them.

The abandoned project was revived by the current Murang’a county administration which allocated funds for its completion.

Area MCA, Grace Nduta on Saturday observed that the newly commissioned facility will greatly assist residents who have been travelling all the way to Kangema and Murang’a hospitals for treatment.

The dispensary, Nduta said will be developed to offer maternity services to assist expectant mothers who have likewise been traveling

long distances to deliver.

The MCA said the locals have battled with myriad challenges surrounding health, water and roads which she pledged will be addressed. “We thank the county government for listening to the cries of the residents of Karurumo. The dispensary will bring medical services closer to them,” she stated.

One of the residents, Nancy Wanjiru Wanyoike argued that residents of Karurumo and Kianjuru villages have been subjected to many challenges as they seek treatment.

“The roads from our villages to Kangema level 3 hospital are not good. It has been a big challenge

especially for expectant mothers. The dispensary is a big relief for the sick,” she noted.

On the other hand, Mzee Peter Gwandaru said it has been a journey to get the facility as the resources got replenished thus stalling of the project.

While launching the dispensary, Governor Irungu Kanga’ata said Karurumo health project is one of the old projects that have remained uncompleted for many years.

He noted that the facility has equipment and people will immediately start accessing healthcare.

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# Catholic Bishop Calls Out Leaders On The Shakahola Massacre

.....As his colleague from Four Square Church Says No To Auditing

By: Florence Kinyua and William Muchiri @themtkenyatimes

Murang'a Catholic Diocese Bishop Rt Rev James Maria Wainaina has called on the country's top leadership to hastily take action on religious factions that have misled the faithful through unacceptable ideologies.

Bishop Wainaina's sentiments comes in the wake of the Shakahola infamy where Good News International Church leader Paul Mackenzie is accused of driving his followers to death by preaching that starvation was the only path to God.

Speaking at Mumbi grounds on Sunday during St Joseph the Worker, Mumbi Catholic parish family day, the bishop who derived his sermons from the day's readings on the good shepherd emphasized that the country's leadership needed to answer very critical questions at this point in time.

"In the Old Testament, whenever the people went astray, the kings took responsibility for their actions. A good shepherd will not lead the sheep astray; instead, he lays down his life for the sheep who knows him by his voice as he also knows them by name," he added.

The bishop emphasized Jesus' love for his followers and his willingness to guide and protect them. "Likewise, today we are asking, where was the President and the security agents when the Shakahola massacre was taking place? Mass extermination of people is unacceptable and is not in line with the will of God," Wainaina added.

He wondered how such religious organizations were registered and urged the President to take action. Further, he cautioned church leaders who are using religion to advance weird unacceptable ideologies noting that it is against the calling to be a good shepherd.

Celebrated on the fourth Sunday after Easter, the good shepherd Sunday also doubles up as the vocation Sunday.

"Pray for the vocations as each of the children of God is called to serve Him in four different ways of life; in marriage, undertaking the priestly life, the religious life in the case of brothers and sisters and even in the individual life," he observed.

The event attracted hundreds of faithful from the Parish's ten local churches and was held under the theme, "United in the Eucharist."



Murang'a Catholic Diocese Bishop James Maria Wainaina during the Mass on Sunday

At the same time, Bishop Erastus Njoroge of Foursquare Gospel Church Kenya has opposed auditing of churches.

Addressing faithful at the Church's Mweiga branch, he posed, "Audit who? You cannot audit our faith?"

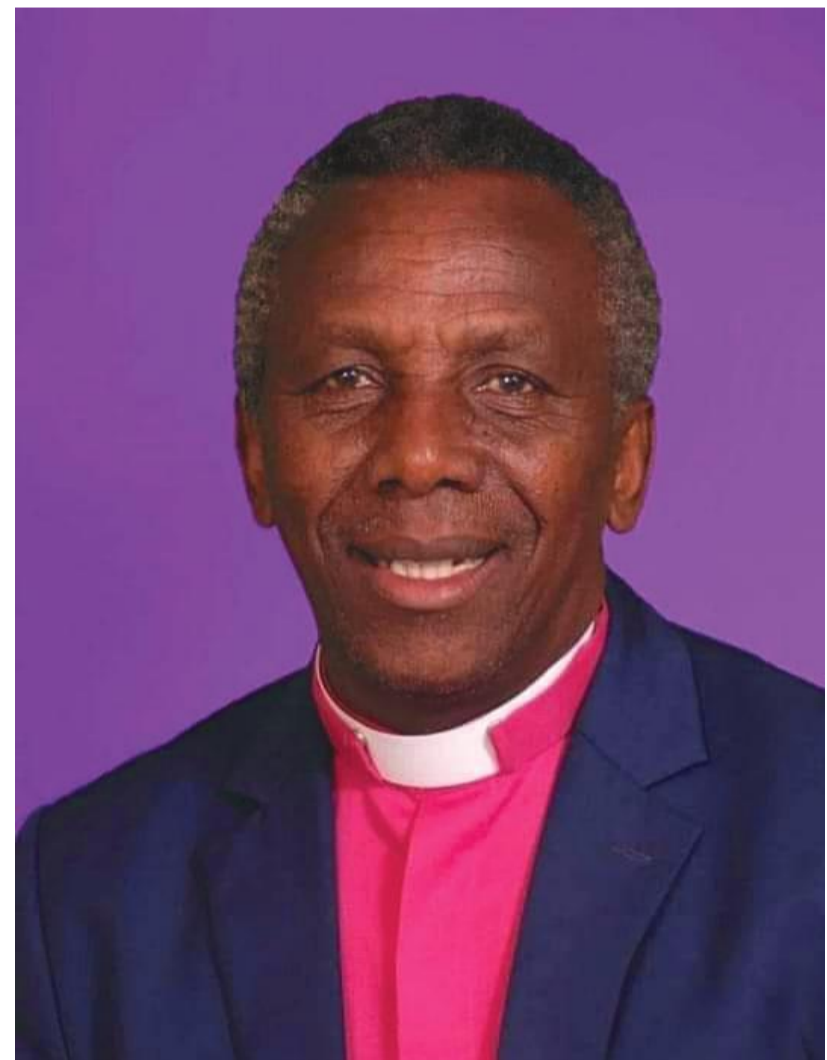
Bishop Njoroge noted that they usually take their returns to the Attorney General and so they should not be condemned just because one of them has been found with a mistake.

He noted that Mackenzie case is a sign of the last days adding that many other cases will be witnessed in near future.

He said there is no need for the government to crackdown on the churches but allow them to regulate themselves.

"You cannot crackdown on Churches. Since it is like auditing our faith which is impossible. You cannot have a crackdown of faith. If it's a must, let the government involve us," said Bishop Njoroge.

The cleric also called upon the government to distinguish those who have been called to serve the Gospel and those who acquired knowledge of the gospel to make money.



Four Square Church Bishop Erastus Njoroge.

## Worth Noting:

- The bishop emphasized Jesus' love for his followers and his willingness to guide and protect them. "Likewise, today we are asking, where was the President and the security agents when the Shakahola massacre was taking place? Mass extermination of people is unacceptable and is not in line with the will of God," Wainaina added.
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- Celebrated on the fourth Sunday after Easter, the good shepherd Sunday also doubles up as the vocation Sunday.

# Ruto: Remuneration To Reflect Cost Of Living

By: PCS

Kenya is set to adopt a radical remuneration policy that will be responsive to the cost of living.

Under the new plan, the minimum wages will also be guided by sustainability and productivity.

Further, public and private sector wages will be rationalised to address disparities.

President William Ruto said he was keen on enhancing worker welfare and labour interests to boost productivity.

He made the remarks on Monday at the Uhuru Gardens in Nairobi during the 58th Labour Day Celebration.

He said the Government was already making progress in furthering labour rights in the country.

The President explained that Kenya will fulfill its international obligations in the domain of labour rights

and welfare, citing the ratification of the International Labour Organisation Convention.

He said the Work Injury Compensations will also be refined into a social insurance system.

“A compensation model based on employer liability is stale; we must transform it to ensure sustainability.”

President Ruto asked workers to sharpen their skills to boost their capacity and incomes.

“We have made training opportunities available throughout the country in vocational education and training opportunities,” he observed.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, Senate Speaker Amason Kingi, Cabinet Secretaries, Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, MPs, union officials led by COTU Secretary General Francis Atwoli among other leaders, were present.



President William Ruto

# Autopsies For The Shakahola Bodies Commence In Malindi

By: Emmanuel Masha

@themtkenyatimes

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki yesterday launched the commencement of autopsies for the bodies of victims of controversial Pastor Paul Mackenzie’s cultic teachings.

Professor Kindiki said it would take up to one week for the exercise to be completed and that it will take relatives of the victims more than one month to know the identities of the bodies through DNA.

The post mortem extermination exercise is led by Chief Government pathologist Johansen Oduor assisted by detectives from the Homicide Unit of the Directorate of Criminal Investigations and forensic experts among others.

Addressing journalists at the Malindi Sub County Hospital Mortuary, Prof. Kindiki urged members of the public to be patient as the government embarks on the process to establish the truth about the Shakahola massacre.

He said the government had resorted to using modern technology to conduct the rescue and recovery operation in the 800-acre piece of land believed to belong to Mackenzie, adding that the entire Chakama ranch is a crime scene and no member of the public will be allowed in as it is a security operation area.

“We are here to witness the commencement of a very critical stage concerning what happened to our people in Shakahola forest,” he said, adding that 110 bodies have so far been recovered. He said the exhumation exercise had been halted temporarily due to heavy rains.

Kindiki named Assistant Inspector General of Police Peter Ndung’u as the operation commander supported by the regional police commander.

He said that all officers who will have been found to have slept on the job would be made to account for their lapses, adding that a commission of inquiry into the incident will establish what actually transpired.

“There must be accountability. Other than establishing the cause of the tragedy, the commission will investigate and give recommendations on the conduct of officers that may have been negligent,” he said.



Cabinet Secretary Prof. Kithure Kindiki addressing the media in Malindi..

investigate and give recommendations on the conduct of officers that may have been negligent,” he said.

On his part the government Pathologist said the process could take a month as it involved many technical

issues.

Kilifi governor Gideon Mung’aro also called on the public to be patient and give the pathologists time to conduct the post mortem and DNA.

He assured members of the public

that the operation being carried out in Chakama ranch was not meant to victimize locals.

# Discipline Of Friendship Pt 1



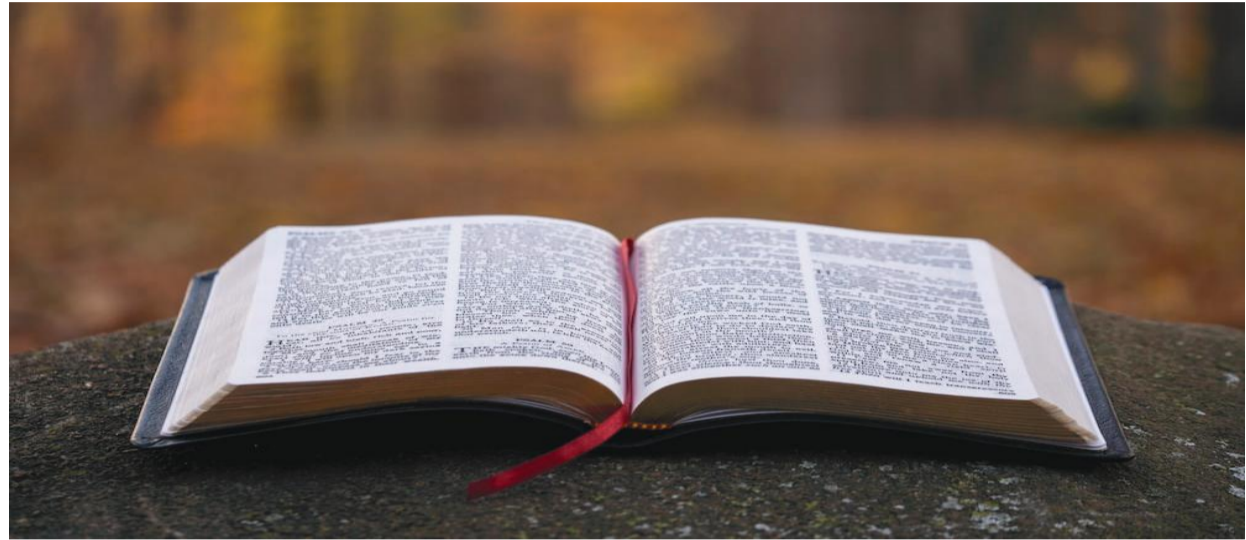
**By: Eric Musa**  
 EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

In a report by Michael McGill, published in 1985, corroborates this. He states: "To say that men have no intimate friends seems on the surface too harsh. . . .But the data indicates that it is not far from the truth. Even the most intimate of friendships (of which there are few) rarely approach the depth of disclosure a woman commonly has with many other women. . . . Men do not value friendship."

Why is this? we wonder. We all know that men, by nature, are not as relational as women. Men's friendships typically center around activities, while women's revolve around

sharing. Men do not reveal their feelings or weaknesses as readily as women. They gear themselves for the marketplace, and typically understand friendships as acquaintances made along the way, rather than as relationships. Also, men fear being suspected of deviant behavior if they have an obviously close friendship with another man. And, of course, there are some who suffer from the John Wayne delusion that "real men do not need other people."

Tragically, those who think this way rob themselves, their wives, their children, and the Church because they will never be all God wants them to be. Such thinking ignores the wisdom of both Scripture and life. Soon after Adam's creation, God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone" (Genesis 2:18). While this relates directly to the creation of Eve, it is also a primary ontological statement about the nature of man, who is, whether he admits it or not, a relational being. His growth and significance are worked out in re-



lationships. Christ is our example. His ministry was centered in deep friendships with the Twelve, whom He repeatedly called "friends" (John 15:13-15), and there was also the inner circle of three with whom He formed an even deeper friendship and to whom He bared His heart. **WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN CHRIST JESUS.**

References:  
 The Living Bible  
 Discipline of a Godly Man( Book by Kent Hughes)

**Evangelist Eric Musa:**  
*(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit, as it is written;*

*"NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2". For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact Evangelist on +254722157300 ( Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember; God Loves you and I unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM*

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# Azimio Should Give Ruto Time To Rebuild The Economy That Was At ICU

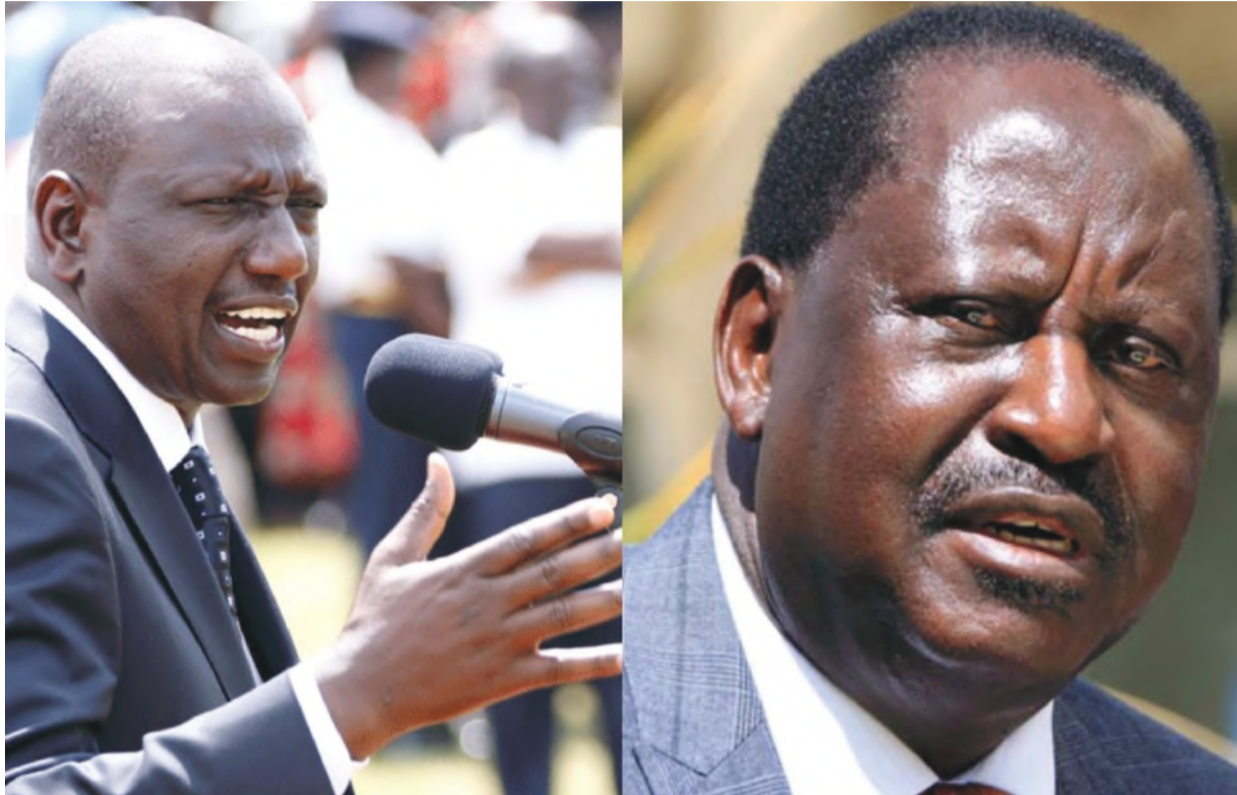


By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



### Worth Noting:

- The high cost of Unga is one of the main issues that the Azimio leader Raila would use mobilize Kenyans to participate in his demonstrations that always turned chaotic, bloody and destructive. With due respect to him, this smacked of hypocrisy and dishonesty.
- We know Raila was one of the core- principals of the 'handshake government' alongside President Uhuru Kenyatta.
- During this period, the price of 2kg packet of Unga had shot to Sh230. This is while noting that the Unga, fuel, electricity subsidies were in place.
- President Ruto removed the subsidy programme stating it was only benefiting a few super-rich corrupt riddled cartel.



President William Ruto and Azimio leader Raila Odinga

President William Ruto took the reign of power at a time when the country was being confronted by four main challenges: The dilapidated economy; drought and famine; Russia-Ukraine war and undergoing recovery from devastating effects of Covid-19 pandemic.

During the electioneering period, the incoming administration seemed to have underrated the magnitude and enormity of these challenges.

This explains why it become difficult to fulfill all the promises within the timelines he had set out.

The Kenya Kwanza government's initial plan was to fix the economy within six months.

Upon expiry of this period, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua enumerated the strides taken.

My boss, President William Ruto is on the right course. He is working hard to surmount the challenges we inherited.

He, however, admitted we have not reached there.

Give us one year to return our economy back on track.

Speaking when he appeared before a parliamentary committee, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi waded into this matter.

Responding to a question posed by a member, he urged Kenyans to be patient.

Fixing an economy that had been run down is not a simple job. We are here for a long haul.

He said it will take government two

years to sort out this problem.

The leadership of Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Coalition would take advantage of this to launch a new battle front against President Ruto.

You can now see Dr Ruto took you for a ride. He had promised to fix the economy with six months.

Azimio would turn deaf ear to the projects and programmes he had rolled out within that period.

Besides, the coalition leaders would not tell us the miracles they would have used to turn around the economy if they won polls.

The high cost of Unga is one of the main issues that the Azimio leader Raila would use mobilize Kenyans to participate in his demonstrations that always turned chaotic, bloody and destructive. With due respect to him, this smacked of hypocrisy and dishonesty.

We know Raila was one of the core-principals of the 'handshake government' alongside President Uhuru Kenyatta.

During this period, the price of 2kg packet of Unga had shot to Sh230. This is while noting that the Unga, fuel, electricity subsidies were in place.

President Ruto removed the subsidy programme stating it was only benefiting a few super-rich corrupt riddled cartel.

Since he assumed power, the cost of Unga has been dropping.

If you go to a shop or supermarket, you will find the prices for some

brands ranging between Sh165 and Sh170.

Recently, President Ruto assured Kenyans the price is poised to come down to Sh150 and below in coming days.

God has blessed us with rain and as we know this is a planting season.

Our farmers have already planted maize and other food crops and are currently tilling their land.

So, God willing, we are expecting a bumper harvest in the next few weeks.

The prices will come down automatically.

Raila is also capitalizing in what he terms as skewed and ethnized appointments of the civil servants and state officers.

This government is only employing people from one or two communities yet Kenya has 45 tribes.

Politics aside, if you look at the list of those employed it represented the face of Kenya.

None of the community has been left out.

However, I agree that certain tribes have more employees than others.

To me, this seems to a standard script read by all successive governments of independent Kenya.

Get me right. I'm not saying two wrongs can make a right.

But in my view Dr Ruto has tried to remedy this challenge.

However, allow me to say this. Raila should be the last person to fault Dr Ruto for this problem.

Before I explain, I hope many would agree. It is not possible to actualize this equality.

One example. The cabinet is comprised of 22 members. Kenya has 45 tribes.

Back to Raila, I was working with a Youth NGO when he was a prime minister in the grand coalition government.

Given the nature of my job, I visited his office several times.

I was also among those picked to attend meetings in office.

These meetings had been organized by top officials. He had instructed them to do so this after we registered reservations regarding the distribution of the funds allocated to support the youth.

There were fears these funds were being misappropriated and allocated to the old people.

This led to coining of a kiswahili mantra: Kazi kwa vijana, pesa kwa Wezee.

During these visits, one thing was clear. Majority of those employed there hailed from his community.

Ever since, many believe he has been reading the same script.

If you want to confirm this, just visit his Capitol Hills Office and ODM secretariat.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a writer and political analyst based in Nairobi

# Do Not Expect Every Favour You Give To Be Reciprocated

By: N. George

@themtkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- Medics are expected to face every illness that affects the patients no matter how contagious it is that is why some died during the era of covid-19. They sacrifice their time if the operation takes longer than the regular time. Over the weekends, days off and vacations they can be called to duty. In case of injuries far from healthy facilities they may be requested to attend to a patient outside the work place.
- Much as all these categories receive salaries their duty calls for commitment to their work and humane aspect so that they can improve the welfare of those they are serving.



*Anyone who loves in the expectation of being loved in return is wasting their time. ....Paulo Coelho.*

Teaching similar to other trades like security officers and medics are paid for their work but the amount is not commensurate with the work done as they require sacrifice while rendering these professional services.

Take the case of a teacher much as he instructs his students' not all of them who will easily understand what they have been taught. If he expects a good overall performance he has to ensure almost every student has understood they would involve constant repetition of topics and being ready to assist whoever wants academic support inside and outside the classroom.

Security officers are expected to remain vigil all the time they are at work and if need be they can be recalled to work during off days, holidays, vacations even while retired. No matter how lethal the threat is they are expected to foil it. Those being served do not mind whether

the security officer will be injured in case of confrontation with criminals. The employers are majorly concerned with the security of their clients.

Medics are expected to face every illness that affects the patients no matter how contagious it is that is why some died during the era of covid-19. They sacrifice their time if the operation takes longer than the regular time. Over the weekends, days off and vacations they can be called to duty. In case of injuries far from healthy facilities they may be requested to attend to a patient outside the work place.

Much as all these categories receive salaries their duty calls for commitment to their work and humane aspect so that they can improve the welfare of those they are serving.

They serve both people who they know as well as those who they do not know yet are not much interested with their names all the want to hear is that they have improved their general welfare mind you they put their

lives in risks for others to enjoy.

Not everyone you love who loves you some will ignore you if you dare try to speak to them. This should not demotivate you from loving these people rather you should ask what is it that you love in them then try to have something similar in other people. If it is the way one carries out his duties that attract you toward them then try to work hard also so that you too can attract others to love you.

If you identify what motivates them towards this then try to acquire it so that you too can do work which you as well as other people will admire in that person. What one is talented in is different from his personality so you should be able to separate the two.

Parents should do the level best to provide the best environment for their kids as well as instill them with the best morals they know of but not all the kids would bother themselves with improving the welfare of their parents once they become of age. Parents should not curse their kids

due to neglect in fact they should just wish them well provided they are able to live independently they need to be given freedom to give or deny their resources to the parents.

Doing good to others without expectation of favours from the will help you to remain strong as none will break your heart due to failure to reciprocate and whoever returns to support you will be seen as an advantage. You can only know what your heart hold never claim to truthfully stand for others since they are the one who know their positions.

## KTDA Leads in Afforestation to Conserve the Environment

By: John Kariuki  
@themtkenyatimes

KTDA Foundation in partnership with Kenya Export Promotion and Branding Agency and Kiru Tea Factory farmers yesterday planted 1000 trees along Mathioya river in Muranga country .

Board Member Zone 2 Chege Kirundi urged the farmers to plant trees during this rainy season ,conserve environment and rehabilitate rivers adding that rain is very crucial in diversification and improvement weather for tea growth and due to climate .

The campaign labelled as ‘JAZA MITI ‘za Miti is a campaign by Kenya Export Promotion Branding Agency for national tree growing and



Kiru Tea Factory Chairman Geoffrey Chege Kirundi (holding mic) led the exercise

restoration campaign to plant trees with a mission of planting 1 billion trees .

The farmers who attended the tree planting event received two Hass Avocado seedlings to plant at their farms ,they will also be helping the factory to monitor and conserving the growth of the trees.

Tree Planting is a high priority Government-driven initiative to conserve natural resources as well as to increase forest cover to 10% by 2030 (according to the Kenya Vision 2030) and sustainably manage natural forest resources for environmental protection and enhanced economic growth.

## Ruto’s Win Is Irreversible, Says Atwoli As He Urges Workers To Shun Protests

By: Margaret Kalekye

The Central Organization of Trade Unions (COTU) Secretary General Francis Atwoli has urged workers to ignore Tuesday planned protests by the opposition and go to work.

Speaking during this year’s Labour Day celebrations at Uhuru Gardens in Nairobi, the trade unionist wondered what is the end game of the protests by Azimio leader Raila Odinga.

Atwoli warned the Kenyan workers they faced the sack if they stayed at home saying the protests which have been declared unlawful amounted to economic sabotage.

“Workers, please go to work

on Tuesday, or you may be sacked because you went to protest. We must grow the economy and employ all those looking for jobs” he said.

He challenged Azimio members to move on and accept President William Ruto’s win just as he did saying the outcome is irreversible.

“What is the end game of Maandamano.... Raila did a lot for this country and we recognize him as a Kenyan leader” he stated.

“There are situations that are irreversible. Hii ni mambo ya Mungu (It is Gods doing) and when some things happen just accept and move on. I was with them and Maina Kamanda warned us that former President Uhuru Kenyatta will take us nowhere” Atwoli added.

He however appealed to the President to reach out to the opposition leader for the sake of the county’s stability.

“Your Excellency, go beyond where you are. Make sure you reach out to any of your political enemies to make sure that this country remains stable and we avoid this issue of maandamano” he advised.

Atwoli called on retired President Uhuru Kenyatta to steer clear of politics and pursue peace.

“I want former President Uhuru Kenyatta to become a peace-maker and not an activist. What makes us think that by going to the streets, we will change the status quo? Atwoli posed.

The opposition has insisted the protests would go on as planned.

## Regional Integration Committee Holds A Familiarization Meeting With Stakeholders

By: John Kariuki  
@themtkenyatimes

National Assembly Committee on Regional Integration chaired by Wanjiku Muhia (Kipipiri) held a consultative meeting on integration processes with different stakeholders.

During the meeting that was held at Serena Hotel, Mombasa, the stakeholders; Ministry of East Africa Community, the ASALs and Regional Development, the state department for Immigration & Citizen Services and IGAD Secretariat, presented to the committee on the EAC strategies to support free movement of goods and people within the bloc and other regional bodies.

Members at the committee sought to know what ailed free movement of people and goods across the EAC border despite the free movement protocol currently in place.

In her response, the Cabinet Secretary



Cabinet Secretary for EAC, ASALs and Regional Development, Rebecca Miano

for EAC, ASALs and Regional Development, Rebecca Miano, told the members that talks were in place to ensure roads connecting the One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) are up

to the required standards so as to accommodate cargo and people moving across the border.

“Conversation with other relevant stakeholders are ongoing to ensure

roads connecting the OSBPs are up to the standard and the environment around these posts improved in order to accommodate cargo and people moving across the border,” she said.

The Director General, Directorate of Immigration Services, Alexander Muteshi, raised concerns on lack of funds for implantation of various programmes asking the committee to intervene for treasury to allocate and release adequate funds on time.

“We have a backlog of 60,000 passports awaiting printing. This is a result of lack of booklets and a printer. Every day we get 3,000 passport applications,” Mr. Muteshi said.

The IGAD Secretariat led by Dr. Fatuma Adan who is the IGAD head of mission to Kenya, enlightened the members of the IGAD transhumance protocol.

Dr. Adan revealed that, among the objectives for the protocol is to ensure free, safe and orderly cross border mobility for pasture and water.

After the familiarization retreat, the committee members are now expected to be well conversant with a number of issues touching on EAC and their mandate as a committee.

# My Mother Is An Angel



creative work to my mother. Every thought of my mother is a valuable lesson for me.

My mother is my motivator. She inspires me to live with great goals. My mother always gives me courage and energy. She always helps me achieve victory and success. Today, I am a leader girl and young poetess because of my mother. I am always lucky and happy. Because I am a daughter of a unique woman who has a heart full of love. I thank God. But still, it is very difficult to express my love for my mother in words. Maybe this is because of the greatness of my love. My mother is an angel. My angel!

In my opinion, all mothers in the world are angels for their children. They are angels on earth created by God. This is why there is a proverb: Heaven is under the feet of mothers. We must not forget that this paradise is our highest duty. Our mothers deserve the most beautiful happiness in the world!

Ochildiyeva Shahnoza Abdivohidovna was born on July 17, 2006 in the republic of Uzbekistan, Surkhandarya region, Denov district. Presently, she studies at school number 49 in 10th grade. She is a Captain of the Denov District Council of the Youth Union of Uzbekistan. He actively participates different national competitions, festivals, gaining honorable places. Also one of the youngest and most active members of several international organizations. Her poems have been published in several newspapers and magazines. In 2021, the first collection of poetry was published under the name "Yurakdagi orzularim". Samples of creativity were included in the anthologies "Turkçenin dünyakda özbek sesi" published in the Republic of Turkey and "Talented voices of Uzbekistan" published in America. In 2022, her new book came out of publication under the title "She'riyat o'ziga ayladi asir".

Human is the greatest among the creatures created by God. Mothers are the greatest of people! Mother is a special universe. She is a person who lives devotedly to her children throughout her life. In fact, every mother lives, worries and rejoices for her child first of all. Mothers only wish for the best for their children. Love boils in their hearts and always shows in their eyes. Mothers love us without reasons. Mother's love is more beautiful than all the beautiful feelings in the world! Maybe that's why there is no person closer to children than mothers!

My mother is my closest and dearest person (along with my father). My mother is a woman with a pure and a kind heart. I always feel my mother's love. She is a model of true humanity and goodness for me! My mother keeps her huge pains like a mountain in the bottom of her white heart and does not stop giving us happiness by living bravely. That's why I always try to learn patience and tolerance from my mother.

My mother is my teacher. Because she gave me the most necessary lessons in every field. She teaches me lessons of humanity that cannot be taught in any school. Even the first fan of my poems and stories is my mother. I like to read my

# When Dreams Turn Into Goals



his self-confidence increases and he always looks to the future.

A person with a clear goal is not afraid of falling in life, even if he falls, he gets up and starts walking towards his goals. The essence of life is to fall seven times and get up eight times. Always remember to turn your dreams into goals.

Dreams only exist in dreams, their realization is shown with a goal, that is, our goals lead to results. Get motivation from successful people, exchange ideas with them, it's up to you to change your life. Always look at life with a smile. The key to success is in your hands. The whole world is with you. It's time to act...

Every person is born and begins to live with their dreams and hopes. Thanks to these dreams, people understand why they came to life and try to change themselves. When do dreams turn into goals? When we truly desire our goals, take the time to reach them, and chase them wholeheartedly, our dreams will surely turn into goals.

A person without a goal never moves, he gets stuck in one place. A dream is only our desire; the purpose is to pursue it. Every person who is determined and active achieves success. After reaching his goals,

QURBONOVA GULSANAM was born on April 16, 2006 in Dehkanabad district of Kashkadarya region. She is currently a grade 10 student at school number 68 in Dehkanabad district and is proud of the regional German language. She has also achieved many results in sports, table tennis, chess, checkers.

# Young Madina



Young Madina, born on November 1, 2006 in Gallaorol district of Jizzakh region, has many dreams. One of them is to become a World Champion. Currently, he is working hard to turn this dream into reality.

His interest in sports appeared in the 3rd-4th grade. Later, with the support of his sister, he further developed his interests and participated in various sports clubs. Madina, who likes mathematics and physical education, said that she will become a teacher of physical education in the future. It is not an exaggeration to say that his interest in sports is increasing after seeing his enthusiasm. He is currently training with his coach Abdukholikov Sardar in the championship held in Tashkent. We wish them success. May his achievements increase even more!

© Sarvara Sindarqulova

Student of school 24, Gallaorol district, Jizzakh region. Member of "Qaqrus" club

In recent years, special attention has been paid to public health and public sports. It is worth noting that the Paralympic sport is not left out of this process. The Paralympic Games are an international sports competition for people with disabilities. Those who participated in this competition adequately defend the honor of their country despite their limited opportunities. On February 22 and March 3 of this year, the "Fazza" international para-athletics Grand Prix tournament was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

It was at this competition that Madina Mukhtarova, a student of physical education teacher Shuhrat Otanov of the 24th school, who lives in the Gallaorol district of the Jizzakh region of Uzbekistan, won a bronze medal in the shot put competition.

# Thank You Allah



Bu: Sherova Orzigul Alisher qizi

Open your eyes, life is beautiful,  
Enjoy your time, even you may dance or sing.

The life you have been given is blessing,  
Thank you Allah for everything.

Your imagination appears in my brain,  
Like a new bride, nature is amazing.  
There is no dust, world is clear due to rain,

Thank you Allah for everything.

When I draw your picture as a designer,  
The Moon is queen and the sun is king,  
When the stars in the sky shine lighter,  
Thank you Allah for everything.

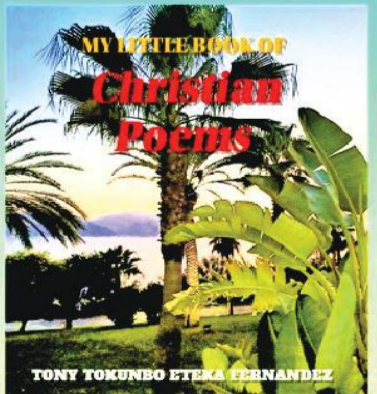
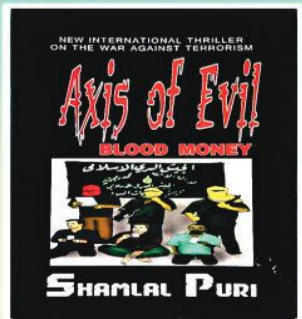
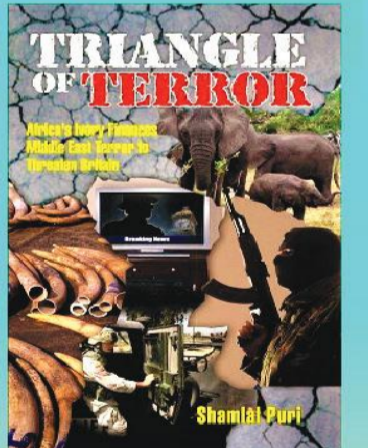
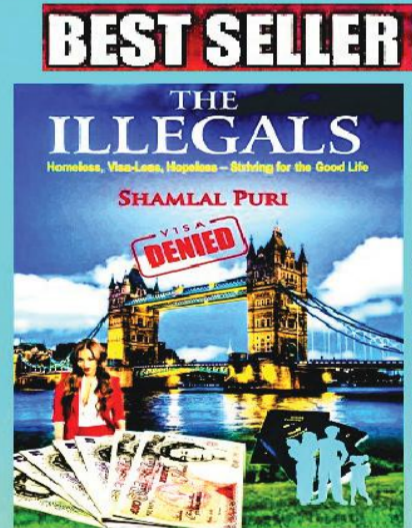
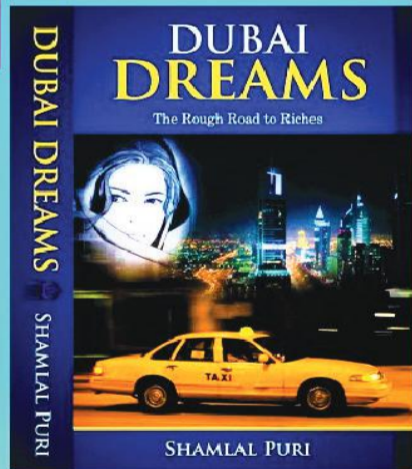
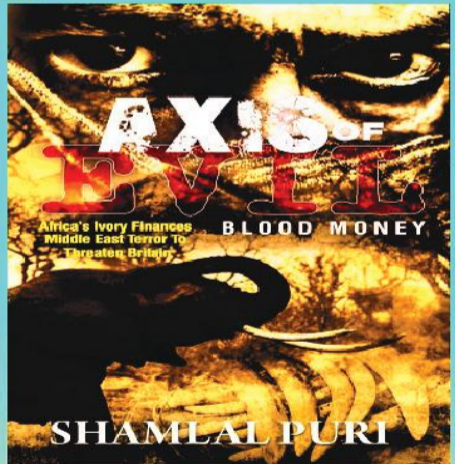
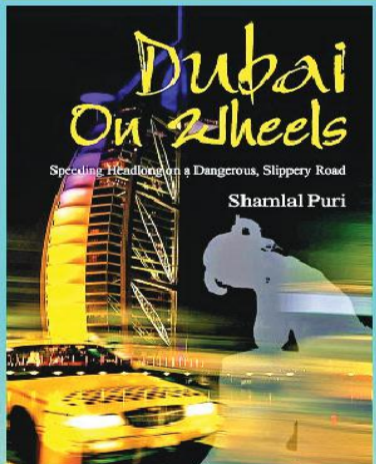
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# Nairobi Governor Vows To Enforce Plastic Ban

By: Bernadette Khaduli

@themtkenyatimes

The Nairobi County government has vowed to enforce the ban on plastic bags to protect the environment from pollution.

Nairobi Governor Johnstone Sakaja said the County government will in a weeks' time undertake an operation within the city to ensure that the plastic bags and bottles that have been banned are no longer in the market and supermarkets.

He said Nairobi is the environment capital of the world, hosting the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and would not allow the banned plastics to be used in the city, as they were clogging drainages.

"A lot of roads and drainages are flooded because of dumping of plastic bags and bottles, we will not allow this as we have to keep our city clean," said Sakaja.

Speaking during the Labour Day

celebrations at Uhuru Gardens yesterday, the Governor said the Nairobi County government is working with Kenya National Highways Authority and Kenya Urban Roads Authority to finish the uncompleted work at the Nairobi Expressway.

He announced that a contractor has already been sourced to undertake the works at Uhuru highway.

Sakaja also requested the President to intervene on the private security wages which he lamented were underpaid regardless of the government's pronouncement every year during labour day that the minimum wage be above Sh13,000.

He said it is sad that the private security workers numbering 450,000 countrywide and in Nairobi County 250,000 are only paid between Sh4,000 to Sh5,000 when people are grappling with economic challenges.

"Others sufferings are the drivers of Bolt, Uber and Taxify because of competition," said Sakaja, adding that 90 percent of the accidents caused by the drivers could be as a result of driving for 22 hours a day to make money.



Nairobi Governor Johnstone Sakaja

The Governor disclosed that his government has already done regulations on transport touching on the digital companies and urged AA of Kenya and the Communication Authority to gazette the regulations so that the drivers can get something. He added that the County government has already designated picking and dropping of passengers by driv-

ers.

Governor Sakaja further stated that his government managed to increase the county's revenue collection by Sh673 million from January to March 2023 compared to the same period last year.

Sakaja who attributed the increase in revenue collection to the hard work and commitment by employ-

ees said in April 2023 the county also managed to collect Sh800 million, terming it the highest monthly amount ever collected since the start of devolution.

He announced that the county government will towards the end of this week employ 3500 workers in the cleaning section.

# Regional Integration Committee Holds A Familiarization Meeting With Stakeholders

By: Our Reporter

@themtkenyatimes

National Assembly Committee on Regional Integration chaired by Wanjiku Muhia from Kipipiri constituency held a consultative meeting on integration processes with different stakeholders.

During the meeting that was held at Serena Hotel, Mombasa, the stakeholders; Ministry of East Africa Community, the ASALs and Regional Development, the state department for Immigration and Citizen Services and IGAD Secretariat, presented to the committee on the EAC strategies to support free movement of goods and people within the bloc and other regional bodies.

Members in the committee sought to know what ailed free movement of people and goods across the EAC border despite the free movement protocol currently in place.



Committee members during yesterday's forum

In her response, the Cabinet Secretary for EAC, ASALs and Regional Development, Rebecca Miano, told the members that talks were in place to ensure roads connecting the One

Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) are up to the required standards so as to accommodate cargo and people moving across the border.

"Conversation with other relevant

stakeholders are ongoing to ensure roads connecting the OSBPs are up to the standard and the environment around these posts improved in order to accommodate cargo and people

moving across the border," she said.

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# Multi-Party National Akin To Bomas Forum Is The Way To Go, Not The Bi-Partisan

By: Prof Fred Ogola

@themtkenyatimes



Prof Fred Ogola .

Operation Linda Ugatuzi leader Prof Fred Ogola shares with us the way forward in terms of bringing about inclusivity for economic development.

Operation Linda Ugatuzi, the umbrella body for all Civil Society Organisations, has today held consultative meetings with Religious Leaders, Political Party Leaders, and Community Based Organisation Leaders following the standoff between President William Ruto and Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga over the alleged fall-out of the bipartisan negotiations

1. We were never from the onset in support of the Bipartisan but proposed Multilateralism since the issues on the table are now much bigger than the interests between Kenya Kwanza and Azimio la Umoja one Kenya alliance. Let us not go to parliament since we are here because of the failed leadership of the existing institutions, especially parliament, and Even the Judiciary and the Executive. The current government has created the fourth arm of government, the “state house” where all the other arms of government that ought to be independent are

being controlled by the Statehouse. Please include Civil Society, Religious leaders, the private sector, and all stakeholders to have their say. Even if Kenyans are poor, it doesn't mean they don't know what they want. Members of parliament have lost legitimacy since they have been bought, let's listen to Kenyans.

2. Azimio has stated that there are threats of Assassination against them. This is following the threats

from some members of the Kenya Kwanza government and affirmed by the president that “they will know they don't know”, “mtajua hamjui”. We request the president that instead of threatening the Opposition, please threaten hunger, unemployment, poverty, disease, and ignorance, the main enemies Kenya face. Azimio just like other members of the Opposition are friends of Kenya, let us engage them while upholding the constitution. We cannot suspend

the Constitution to deal with opposition but we would rather suspend the Constitution to deal with hunger, disease and ignorance.

3. We would like to urge both the President to be honest. He requested Raila Odinga to call off the Mass action for dialogue. Raila accepted your olive branch, formed a team and gave them terms of reference. You also set up the team but your Kenya Kwanza supporters are

having these negotiations outside the select panel of 14 members. Let's give dialogue a chance to avert the impending mass action. We know lives will be lost and property will be destroyed. Talk to each other and call it off, you have a chance, you can do it. Let's negotiate. Peace is our greatest weapon as a nation.

4. We hear the calls from Kenya Kwanza that former president Uhuru Kenyatta should stay out of politics. However, that is not possible within the prevailing political context. It can only be possible if the Kenya Kwanza government respects his property and Party the way Kibaki respected Moi's Property and Party KANU.

### In conclusion

We are confident that a Multi-partisan process will immensely benefit our nation and help resolve deep-seated political, policy and societal issues facing the country. We also this process will build our National Ethos. Kenya belongs to all of us. Therefore, we need a platform where Political Parties, Religious Leaders, Civil Society, Community Based Organisations, Governance and Policy Experts, and Legal Scholars among other stakeholders will participate in this national dialogue and present their views for consideration.

# Dedan Kimathi Foundation Labour Day Tree Planting Together With Rotary Club Of Limuru And KFS

By: Waithaka Kariuki

@themtkenyatimes

War never takes a break; not until the desired outcome is achieved. In the fight against climate change, taking breaks in the midst of the rains is uncomfortable for tree growing environmentalists.

As the rest of Kenyans took a break to celebrate Labour Day in recognition of the significant contribution made by workers to the national economy growth, Dedan Kimathi Foundation took advantage of the free day to join the Rotary Club

of Limuru to plant 3000 trees in Uplands Forest Station in Limuru; Kiambu.

Strongly committed to climate change mitigation, DKF Green Army dedicated the Labor day to join in site preparations and planting of the tree seedlings in efforts to take the nation closer to the 30% tree cover as targeted by the year 2032.

The activity was carried out in partnership with Kenya Forest Service, Rotary Clubs of

Westlands, Thika Road, Jabali and Juja; Rotaract Club of St. Paul's University and Imagine Rotary.



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# BOMB!! - BRING OUR MONEY BACK

By: Njonjo Mue



**Worth Noting:**

- To entice the officials to cooperate, we inserted a clause in the draft law that provided for amnesty to those who had money banked abroad by a particular cut-off date.
- We also inserted a clause providing that anyone who disclosed that they had siphoned money from the public purse and banked it abroad and brought it back home would be allowed to keep 15% of it provided that it was invested in Kenya.
- After we had drafted the law, I travelled to Nairobi and I was invited by ICJ – Kenya to formally launch the Misappropriated Public Funds Repatriation Bill and the BOMB campaign during one of ICJ’s monthly public lectures that took place at The Stanley Hotel towards the end of the year 2000.

Corruption has been a perennial problem in Kenya’s body-politic.

Every year as the twentieth century drew to a close, the publication by the Controller and Auditor General of a list of officials named in connection with stolen public resources had become a painful ritual commonly referred to the ‘list of shame’.

The list of shame would elicit the usual grumbles from the public for a few days following its publication before it was overtaken by other events in the national news headlines.

The culprits therefore always knew that they just had to lie low for few days and ride the tide, or simply issue bland denials, and the public would be none the wiser.

However, in 2000, I decided to adopt a more proactive approach. At the turn of the century, one of corruption’s main mutations was the stealing of public funds by officials in the Moi government and siphoning and banking them abroad, far from the reach of Kenyan authorities even if they had the intention of trying to get it back.

During the annual conference of Kenya Community Abroad in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA, in July 2000, where I delivered the keynote address, I challenged Kenyans in the Diaspora not to despair about the sorry state of our homeland but rather to ask themselves what they were uniquely placed to do to aid the struggle for good governance.

I suggested that one way we could help was in starting a campaign to locate public funds stolen and banked abroad and returning them back to Kenya.

When I returned to Johannesburg, I recruited two friends of mine, Mary

Chege who was then reading for her LL.M degree at the University of Witwatersrand, and Ken Mwige, who was visiting South Africa, and together we began a campaign that we gave the catchy title, ‘Bring Our Money Back!’ or ‘BOMB’. This campaign had three components.

First, we encouraged Kenyans all over the world, especially in countries where our money was likely to be banked in private accounts belonging to politicians and senior officials, to start or join in campaigns to compel the banks to disclose if they had Kenyan officials among their clients.

This was intended to help us quantify the extent of illicit financial flows from Kenya.

Second, we drafted a bill that provided a legal framework for Kenyan officials to voluntarily return any monies that they had banked abroad.

To entice the officials to cooperate, we inserted a clause in the draft law that provided for amnesty to those who would disclose that they had money banked abroad by a particular cut-off date.

We also inserted a clause providing that anyone who disclosed that they had siphoned money from the public purse and banked it abroad and brought it back home would be allowed to keep 15% of it provided that it was invested in Kenya.

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Shortly after my presentation, as I

was taking questions, someone discretely passed a note to me at the high table.

It was from my friend Nyaguthii Chege who had been in the audience for the talk but whom I could no longer see. The note explained why.

“Sorry, I can’t stay till the end,” she had written before slipping out of the room. She had then added ominously, “You are sticking your neck way out.”

Today, this may sound like an overstatement of the risk that my friends and I were taking, but one has to recall that this was in the year 2000.

The KANU regime which had been known to arbitrarily arrest, torture and eliminate its opponents, had been in power for thirty-seven years with no sign of going anywhere any time soon.

Reading my friend’s ominous note sent a shiver down my spine. Was I terrified at taking such a public stand against corruption? Of course I was.

But in such instances, my coping mechanism was usually to remind myself that there was a fear greater than that of what Kanu might do to me: the fear of having to face our children some day to explain to them what we did to salvage their country from the kleptocrats of our day.

The following day, 17 September 2000, The People Newspaper reported on the launch of the BOMB:

[BOMB identifies banks with stolen Kenyan cash

By SOLOMON KYENZE

The Bring Our Money Back (BOMB!) has identified European banks suspected to hold secret accounts in which cash stolen by influ-

ential Kenyans from the public coffers are stashed. And it has drafted a bill to help Kenyans reclaim the money and property bought with embezzled funds.

The BOMB, an initiative by Kenyans living abroad and which is helping track down monies banked abroad, says it has identified prime properties in leading Western capitals bought with the stolen money which it will lobby using international legal action to reclaim for the Kenyan people.

An official of the BOMB, Njonjo Mue, made the disclosure on Friday night at The Stanley Hotel when he launched the BOMB campaign in Kenya. Mue, the coordinator of the organisation, also addressed a public lecture titled, “Bring Our Money Back (BOMB): Proactive strategies for tracing and repatriating looted Kenyan monies in foreign banks.”

He said following the discovery of the property plus the suspected bank accounts, pressure will be mounted by Kenyans living abroad and locally to lobby the authorities in those countries for action.

The coordinator said the efforts will be actualised through a draft Bill already drawn and which specifies the direction through which the money and property is to be reclaimed and sets in place a legal set up in Kenya to oversee the area.

The draft Bill, which is titled The Misappropriated Public Funds Repatriation Bill is ready and will be presented to the attorney-general soon for onward transmission to Parliament.

Mue said the BOMB was finalising a list of possible culprits suspected to have stolen public resources during both the Kenyatta and Moi regimes. The list will form a basis for lobbying the international community into action.

Real Estate also suspected to have been purchased in certain Western capitals using looted cash has also been identified and legal measures are to be deployed both locally and internationally to claim it back for the Kenyan people.

Giving the details of the draft BOMB Bill, Mue said it establishes a repatriation board, which will administer the Bill, and coordinate all efforts to claim the looted cash and property.

The Bill provides for amnesty to the culprits. The culprits must, however,

# BOMB!! - BRING OUR MONEY BACK

Contd from Page 20.

first explain how they stole the money and then agree to refund 85 per cent of it within six months to the Consolidated Fund. They will be allowed to keep the remaining 15 per cent on condition that they invest it locally.

Once the draft Bill becomes law, the repatriations board will institute legal proceedings locally against persons who own the property in foreign lands and which is suspected to have been acquired using embezzled funds. The board will then use the judgement to lobby the authorities in those countries to have the particular property liquidated and the money reverted to the Consolidated Fund.

Mue said experts working with the BOMB were studying various international banking laws plus the various treaties that Kenya has signed that will help in efforts to launch international legal action against the looters.

European banking institutions that are suspected to hold the stolen cash will also be petitioned to overlook confidentiality clauses and open up their books for inspection to allow secret accounts belonging to the looters to be revealed.

The coordinator noted that the tide was presently against public resource looters as the international community was now actively collaborating in efforts to trace funds stolen from the people. He gave the example of Nigeria and the Philippines where he said the international community had managed to track down billions of dollars stolen by former despotic rulers and stashed in secret accounts.

Mue said BOMB will present to the A-G, the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority (KACA) and the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) governor a list of the property bought using illegal funds so that they may help have it liquidated and the money returned to the Consolidated Fund.

Participants at the lecture included the co-convenor of the National Convention Executive Council (NCEC) Davinder Lamba and the director of the International Commission of Jurists (Kenya Section) Kagwiria Mbogori, among others. ]

Third, we knew that the problem of illicit financial flows was not unique to Kenya but was pervasive throughout the African continent. We therefore hoped that the model we had developed would be transferable to other countries facing a similar chal-

lenge.

Indeed in early 2001, Transparency International invited me to Nyanga, Zimbabwe, where all eleven TI national chapters in Africa were meeting for their annual conference, to make a presentation on BOMB.

After my presentation, the gathered delegates resolved that it would be good to develop and adopt a formal declaration on repatriating funds illicitly siphoned from African countries and banked abroad.

I was tasked with drafting such a declaration and I had to work through the night so that it would be ready for debate and adoption before the conference came to an end the following day.

Thus one of the concluding resolutions of the conference was the adoption of the Nyanga Declaration on Tracing and Repatriation of Public Funds Illicitly transferred from African countries and banked abroad, or in short, The Nyanga Declaration.

The adoption of the Nyanga Declaration was announced by Transparency International in a press statement dated 12 March 2001:

[TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO REPATRIATE AFRICA'S STOLEN WEALTH – NYANGA DECLARATION 12 MARCH 2001

TI in Africa to lead international campaign to trace laundered money The members of the United Nations should adopt an international treaty to expedite the tracing, recovery and repatriation of wealth stolen from developing countries and transferred abroad, declared the representatives of Transparency International from eleven African countries, following a meeting held in Nyanga, Zimbabwe, on 1 – 4 March 2001.

The Nyanga Declaration, released today, calls for “the sealing of all loopholes, requiring the banks to open to their books for inspection where there is reasonable cause to suspect illegal activity, and mandatory liquidation, and repatriation of assets known to have been corruptly acquired.”....

The Declaration calls upon the Organisation of African Unity to “take a leadership role in representing the interests of Africa with regard to the return of Africa’s stolen wealth wherever it may be found on the globe and, as a first step, should adopt all reasonable measures to prevent the



Lawyer Njonjo Mue .

illegal appropriation and transfer of monies from Africa’s treasuries.”

The Nyanga Declaration was adopted by representatives of TI from: Botswana, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. ]

Looking back, the BOMB campaign was both a success and a failure at the same time.

On the success side, we mobilised Kenyans in the Diaspora to go beyond merely reacting to and complaining about the Auditor General’s annual list of shame on corruption and the siphoning of public funds by politicians and senior officials and banking them abroad.

The campaign was a shot across the bow to corrupt officials to put them on notice that they would be held to account by the Kenyan people if not at present, then at some point in the future, and that we would get our money back just as Nigerians had started to take back what had been stolen from them by the Abacha regime.

It was also a success insofar as it had provided a transferable model that could be used by other countries in Africa as had been done through the adoption of the Nyanga Declaration by Transparency International which became a tool for addressing the problem of illicit financial flows and money laundering.

However, the campaign failed in that we were unsuccessful in getting foreign banks to cooperate in disclosing accounts that might contain illicit wealth from Kenyan politi-

cians and their cronies.

Also, while we drafted a Bill that would have provided a framework for repatriating such illicit wealth home, our Bill was never tabled in parliament but the government, under pressure from the World Bank and foreign donors, did pass its own Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act in 2003.

When President Kibaki came into office in 2003 on an anti-corruption platform, it initially appeared as if the BOMB campaign, or a semblance thereof, would be taken up by the new NARC Government when it commissioned the international risk consultancy firm, Kroll and Associates, to uncover where former dictator, Daniel arap Moi, and his family and cronies had stashed away the hundreds of millions of dollars they had stolen from Kenyans during his quarter of a century rule.

However, the Kroll Report was never made public after it was presented to the Kibaki Government in 2004. The report was eventually leaked and it showed that Kroll had traced \$1.3 billion siphoned to over 30 countries by Moi and his family and associates.

I had first mooted the idea of BOMB in July 2000 during the annual conference of Kenya Community Abroad in St. Paul, Minnesota.

In October 2005, the President of KCA at the time of that conference, Dr. Matunda Nyanchama, succinctly summed up in an open email our effort in mounting the campaign:

“At the same conference, he (Njonjo Mue) talked of the BOMB (bring

our money back) initiative. We supported this and directed efforts as a strategy to

get the necessary information to shame the country’s looters and thieves! It was a noble cause but which required extensive investment for investigative work. Indeed, as has been seen with the NARC government, the process for discovering where money has been stashed abroad can be protracted, despite spending huge sums of money in the process. BOMB remains a noble cause; results have yet to come.”

The challenge of tracing illicit financial flows from developing countries to tax havens abroad remains a daunting one. Every once in a while, investigative journalists uncover billions of dollars as having been siphoned abroad by the global, including Kenyan, political and business elite.

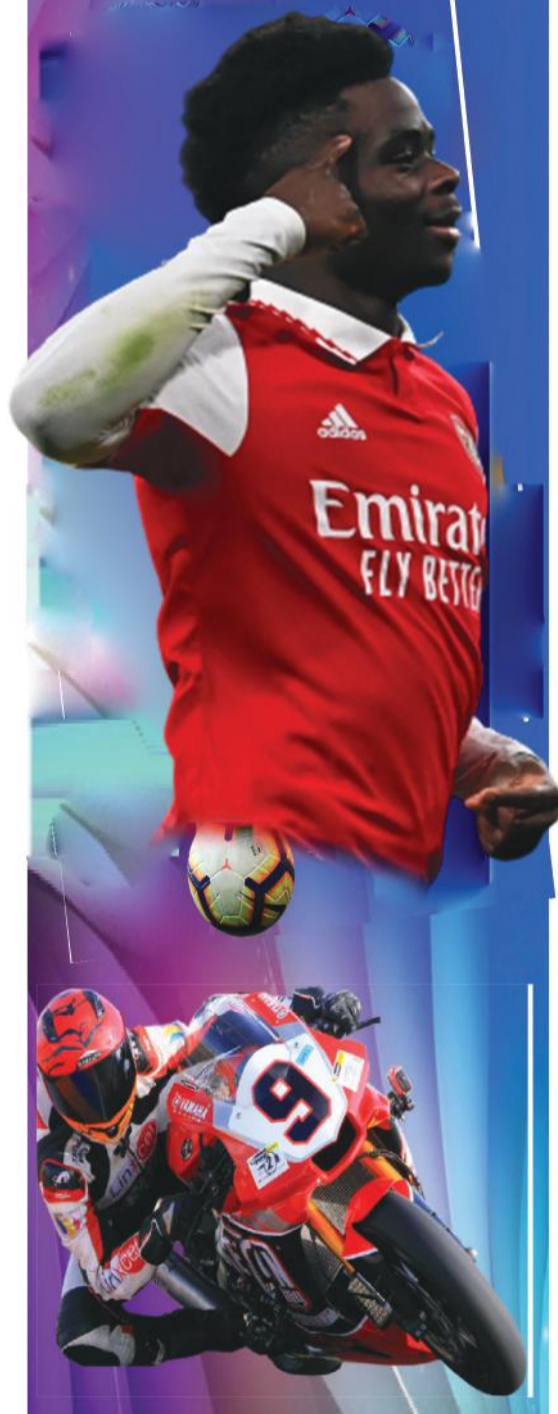
Two recent examples of such exposés are the Panama Papers in 2016 and the Pandora Papers published in 2021 implicating the Kenyatta family.

Unfortunately, opaqueness in the name of confidentiality remains the rule insofar as banking rules and regulations governing tax havens and incorporation of shell companies that are used to funnel stolen wealth abroad are concerned.

In the absence of political will both at home and in these tax havens, the possible repatriation of public funds illicitly siphoned abroad will remain a pipe dream.

# SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS  
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**Sports >>** \*The Under-20 Barthes Trophy defending champions Zimbabwe put on a clinical performance at a packed Nyayo Stadium on Sunday evening to defeat hosts and crowd-favorite Kenya 28-7.

## Kenya's Chipu Go Down To Zimbabwe In U20 Barthes Trophy Final



### BARTHES TROPHY

Zimbabwe celebrating after lifting Barthes Trophy. Photo/RAYMOND MAKHAYA

The Under-20 Barthes Trophy defending champions Zimbabwe put on a clinical performance at a packed Nyayo Stadium on Sunday evening to defeat hosts and crowd-favorite Kenya 28-7.

Zimbabwe had shown intent to defend their title from the word go with convincing thrashings Ivory Coast and Tunisia, 55-0 and 60-6 respectively.

On their part, Kenya had to go through neighbors Uganda 44-20 and Namibia 24-13 to get to the final. Both teams came into this game having booked a ticket to the Junior World Trophy set to be played in July in Nairobi. Bragging rights were however on the line and Zimbabwe wanted it more.

The game quickly got out of

hand for Kenya as Zimbabwe's sleek rugby skills and running saw them race to a 14-0 lead before Kenya responded with a converted try from captain Laban Kipsang' to half the deficit.

Namibia would however respond with another converted try from a counter-attack to take the scores to 21-7, a lead they held to the break.

The second half was made much more interesting when the heavens fully opened and a wet playing surface saw an increase in handling errors. This would see the game stay scoreless for the better part of the half.

Zimbabwe would then burst into life in the last 10 minutes, first going over only to be denied after a TMO review and then going over immediately

from the ensuing clearance kick to claim the game, 28-7 at full time.

Kenyan captain Laban Kipsang' rued his teams' slow reaction in defense but promised that his charges will be ready for the Junior World Trophy come July having learned from their mistakes.

On his part, Zimbabwe coach Shaun De Souza expressed his joy after his charges retained the title. "It is funny because last year when we came, we were building for this year. We went all the way last year, so that was a bonus but this year we really wanted to win it."

On their way to the final, Zimbabwe did not concede any try, only Kenya managing to break their compact defense in the fi-

nal. Captain Panashe Zuze believes it is down to teamwork. "The boys showed up for the game, we only conceded one try in three games which I think is some sort of a record so I am happy with the boys," says Zuze.

The two teams will be Africa's representatives at the Junior World Trophy in July.

-By Barthes Trophy-

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>** \*Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp could face disciplinary action after accusing the referee in Sunday's dramatic 4-3 win over Tottenham of bearing a grudge against his team.

## Klopp Risks Sanction For Referee 'Against Us' Rant



Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp could face disciplinary action after accusing the referee in Sunday's dramatic 4-3 win over Tottenham of bearing a grudge against his team.

Portugal international Diogo Jota's stoppage-time strike sealed victory at Anfield, just 99 seconds after Spurs thought Richarlison's first Premier League goal for the club had rescued a point after the visitors had been 3-0 behind.

Klopp, however, was so incensed by the officiating throughout the match that he charged down the touchline to celebrate wildly in front of fourth official John Brooks — and injured himself in the process.

Klopp then lambasted referee

Paul Tierney.

"We have our history with Tierney, I really don't know what he has against us, he has said there is no problem but that cannot be true," Klopp told Sky Sports.

"How he looks at me, I don't understand it. My celebration was unnecessary, but what he said to me when he gave me the yellow card is not OK."

The German boss, asked what Tierney had said, replied: "I will not say anything about it. The refs don't say what is said so I don't say what is said."

That did not stop Klopp from going on to reference Tierney's performance during Liverpool's 2-2 draw away to Spurs last season.

"Paul Tierney didn't give Harry

Kane a red card but Robbo (Liverpool's Andy Robertson) got a red card. It was not the first time, there are so many things."

As for his touchline antics following Jota's winning goal, Klopp said: "Of course, we are emotional in these moments. It's difficult. It is not OK, we shouldn't do that."

"I didn't say a bad word to the fourth official — not at all — but I pulled my hamstring probably in that moment so, fair enough, I'm already punished."

Tottenham's Ryan Mason was also unhappy with the officials, particularly the VAR, following a defeat that left Spurs sixth in the table, two points behind Liverpool.

The interim head coach wanted

to know why Jota was still on the pitch after a head-high challenge on Oliver Skipp only led to a yellow card.

"I would like an explanation and a reason why it wasn't (a red card)," said Mason. "I can understand referees on the pitch missing it."

He added: "We want the VAR to help the official on the pitch at that moment, but an experienced referee and VAR haven't given it... It was a big decision, a crucial decision and one you can't really miss."

Capital Sport

# SPORTS NEWS



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# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



## I Miss Mom

By: Mashhura Almatova  
@themkenyatimes



### Worth Noting:

- At that exact day it was also spring. In church there was the sound of the call to prayers (Azan). It was the evening with darkness. There was the smell of rain everywhere. Then, only you can feel the lovely silent tone of dropping rain from roofs.
- Patients also were stunned with that magical sound with different thoughts probably about their lives. Perhaps that rain was joy for oneself but sadness and dream for others. That rain was also something that can apart people and made together.
- You could find out city church opposite to the hospital. One woman finished her job and started a way home. That way also crossed the church. While walking from the church gate she guessed the mixed sound of the rain and baby.

Spring. The sun was hiding behind clouds and clouds were making it vanish. It was the spring rain that was raining. In the cemetery near the grave there was a man with wide shoulders and strange face. His eyes were filled up with grief as dipping in some thoughts. He handled red roses. On the grave, it was covered with green grass as decorated.

- Good afternoon, mom. Look mother! Your son is here. Yeah, that fool guy. Mom you know that we both love the rain. Because each and every time it rained we two could remember our first meeting. That's 23 years now what rain makes me amazed. You also left me. Every time it rains I can't stop walking around the alley again and again. I wish I got back you with this rain, mom. Mother, you know that I am fed up with living due to the fact that you're not with me. It feels tired of people's fakeness. I always feel alone. No one could ever listened to me, cared about my feelings as you. Mommy, when I was young, I dreamt about being an adult soon. But now I wish to be a child as before. I miss all about your kindness, lovely caressing. I cite without doubt now that you was my only gift that God gave. Mom you were the deepest ocean that was full with kindness. However, that ocean with pain. You tried to live without any implying about all obstacles and problems you faced during your whole life. My dear mother, do you know about the rain what mentions about now? Of course that day, it realizes that day now. Mom, can you feel that lovely rain on your face also?!

At that exact day it was also spring. In church there was the sound of the call to prayers (Azan). It was the evening with darkness. There was the smell of rain everywhere. Then, only you can feel the lovely silent tone of dropping rain from roofs. Patients also were stunned with that magical sound with different thoughts probably about their lives. Perhaps that rain was joy for oneself but sadness and dream for others. That rain was also something that can apart people and made

together. You could find out city church opposite to the hospital. One woman finished her job and started a way home. That way also crossed the church. While walking from the church gate she guessed the mixed sound of the rain and baby. Woman surprised and stepped through the tone of the baby cry. As she looked the ground, she saw a crying baby in the wet blanket and looked around unconsciously. There was the feeling of joy and in contrast the pain of that condition of the baby. The reason for job was God finally gave her a baby. When she was 20, she married and experienced a 7-year marriage without giving a birth. Finally, her spouse also leave her and married to another women. She carried the baby and the way back home thought about the all. All pain with her life, her step-mother's bad manner and treatment, living without having children and unhappy life. She could also consider about the past of hungry days, walking around the streets without any help. She was at that time 43. With depression she was old, her hair was not dark anymore. She was working in the hospital as a cleaner with the mood of losing the game with her fate for 17 years. From an early morning she was going her work place. She tried to be nice and frank to all. She named her founded baby as Sodikbek. She chose this name due to the symbol of being loyal to his country and relatives. She gave all her kindness and care to the baby. After years the baby grew up. He wanted to move abroad and earn more money. Woman wanted her boy to study at university, but he didn't want. He was sure about his decision and moved abroad. It was another familiar pain for mom living alone as 20 years ago. All was the same as those times. She was tired. She was sick and not healthy anymore. After 2 months thanks to the missing pain she died.

- Mother, my lovely mother, how God made you with that beauty?! My angel! Why you left me!?! Sorry your stupid son, please! I couldn't be with you in your last days; I couldn't be with in your last destination. Sor-



Mashhura Almatova .

ry for all! You always remarked "All for you!" with smile. But you didn't say something like all pain in me because of you. Why, mommy, why!?! Mother is the truth of life. Mothers exist then there is no way for the ruin of families. The world is in still-

ness with mothers. They look after us, want us to be equal as our other friends. Morally, let's try to say all out love and appreciate all of their care when they are with us!