

Gov't Says New Universities, TVETs Funding Model Student Centered
 Dr Kipsang indicated that the funding model for higher education will see needy households get more support than those from well-off backgrounds.

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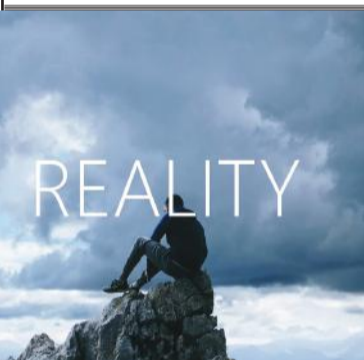
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News>>Government Serious On Fiscal Discipline In The Public Service - Mudavadi

P. 8. The government has reiterated its commitment to entrench fiscal discipline in the public sector in a move to enhance efficiency, transparency, accountability and prudent management of public resources in service delivery.



Motivation>>Never Dare To Alter Reality Knowingly

P. 12. Since we cannot change reality, let us change the eyes which see reality.
 Giannis Ritsos.

Which Way Jubilee Party?

Jubilee Expels Kanini Kega, Sabina Chege As New Appointees Are Announced

Kega-Led Jubilee Faction Dismisses NDC Attended By Kenyatta As Legally Inconsequential



Former President Uhuru Kenyatta at Jubilee NDC. PHOTO/Courtesy. Kanini Kega-led faction addressing press (inset).

STORY ON PAGE 9



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Nakuru Iconic Old Town Hall Set For Refurbishment

By: Anne Sabuni and Samwel Karanja



Nakuru Iconic Old Town Hall.

We are committed to the preservation and restoration of our heritage,” he said.

According to former Nakuru Mayor, Kimunya Kamana, 95, the Hall is rich in history. The Hall was used by the first President, the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta to sign a treaty with British Colonialists in 1963.

“He assured the colonialists that no one would harass them and urged them not to be fearful because they will be allowed to live in the country,” said Kamana.

The Hall was gazetted along with the Nairobi Cinema, the National Archives building in Nairobi and Menengai Town Hall in Nakuru town as historical buildings.

“We are committed to the preservation and restoration of our heritage,” said Thabanja.

He went on, “This is one of the oldest buildings and it is historical, but the good thing is that the building had earlier been closed. We could have lost many lives here. We hope the County Government will renovate it because we don’t want to lose it.”

Nakuru City Board Vice Chairperson Jepta Rono said the repair works will involve roofing, flooring and interior works, adding that preservation of the City’s buildings will result in a positive economic impact for tourism.

“Properly maintained historical buildings that are aesthetically cohesive and well promoted, can be an important tourist attraction and in that way attract revenue from visitors,” observed Rono.

Rono expressed regret that despite Nakuru’s rich architectural history, old buildings in the City are being

pulled down at an alarming rate to pave way for gleaming structures that announce the departure of the County from its historical moorings.

“What many seem to have conveniently forgotten is that these old buildings represent an irreplaceable heritage that is an important legacy of the present generation to the later ones, especially in terms of culture, aesthetics, educational, and inspirational benefits,” he stated.

Thabanja indicated that old buildings give a sense of cultural significance and allow locals to experience architecture in a different way.

“They serve as memorials, providing continuity to earlier times. One can tell a lot about a city from the history of its buildings, even about how a metropolis came to be. And preservation leads to increased dialogue among children, parents, and grandparents regarding our ancestors and history,” noted the City Manager.

Thabanja indicated that old buildings further accentuate a city’s culture and character by keeping its distinguishing features.

“It is not Rome until you see the Colosseum, it is not the Vatican without St Peter’s Cathedral, nor is it Paris without the Eiffel Tower. Such is the significance of characteristic buildings to a city,” he added.

The City Manager warned that if the mindless destruction of old buildings continues, Kenya will soon change from a beautiful City, rich in aesthetics and heritage to an impersonal concrete jungle.

Worth Noting:

- “The Nakuru City Board has budgeted for the renovation that will commence with immediate effect. We are committed to the preservation and restoration of our heritage,” he said.
- According to former Nakuru Mayor, Kimunya Kamana, 95, the Hall is rich in history. The Hall was used by the first President, the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta to sign a treaty with British Colonialists in 1963.
- “He assured the colonialists that no one would harass them and urged them not to be fearful because they will be allowed to live in the country,” said Kamana.

This is where founding President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta met with white settlers, four months before Kenya became independent.

Though skyscrapers pierce the sky and a lot has changed in the county, Nakuru Old Town Hall prominently stands out as the history behind the few architectural snippets, the city has to offer.

Nakuru Old Town Hall is difficult to miss, probably because it stands out like a sore thumb in a city that is mostly made up of glittery modern buildings.

The one storey building, situated at the edge of Kenyatta Avenue was completed in 1945.

The building which is currently occupied by Nakuru County’s public health and enforcement department,

once served as the chambers of the defunct Municipality’s mayor and the meeting room of civic leaders from 1947 to 1966.

Governor Susan Kihika’s Administration has now announced that the County Government will soon start the rehabilitation of the historic Old Town, even as the building’s roof collapsed last year.

“The building is very old, dating back to colonial days,” said Gitau Thabanja, the Nakuru City Manager, noting that it has now been gazetted as a historical site.

He said the building has been closed for public use, to allow renovation to preserve its heritage.

“The Nakuru City Board has budgeted for the renovation that will commence with immediate effect.

Editor’s Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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Group Executive Chairman

M. Danson

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dan-mwangi-1b47446b/>

Our Contacts

P. O. Box 101 675 - 00101 Nairobi, Cell: 0700 161 866, 0705 215 262

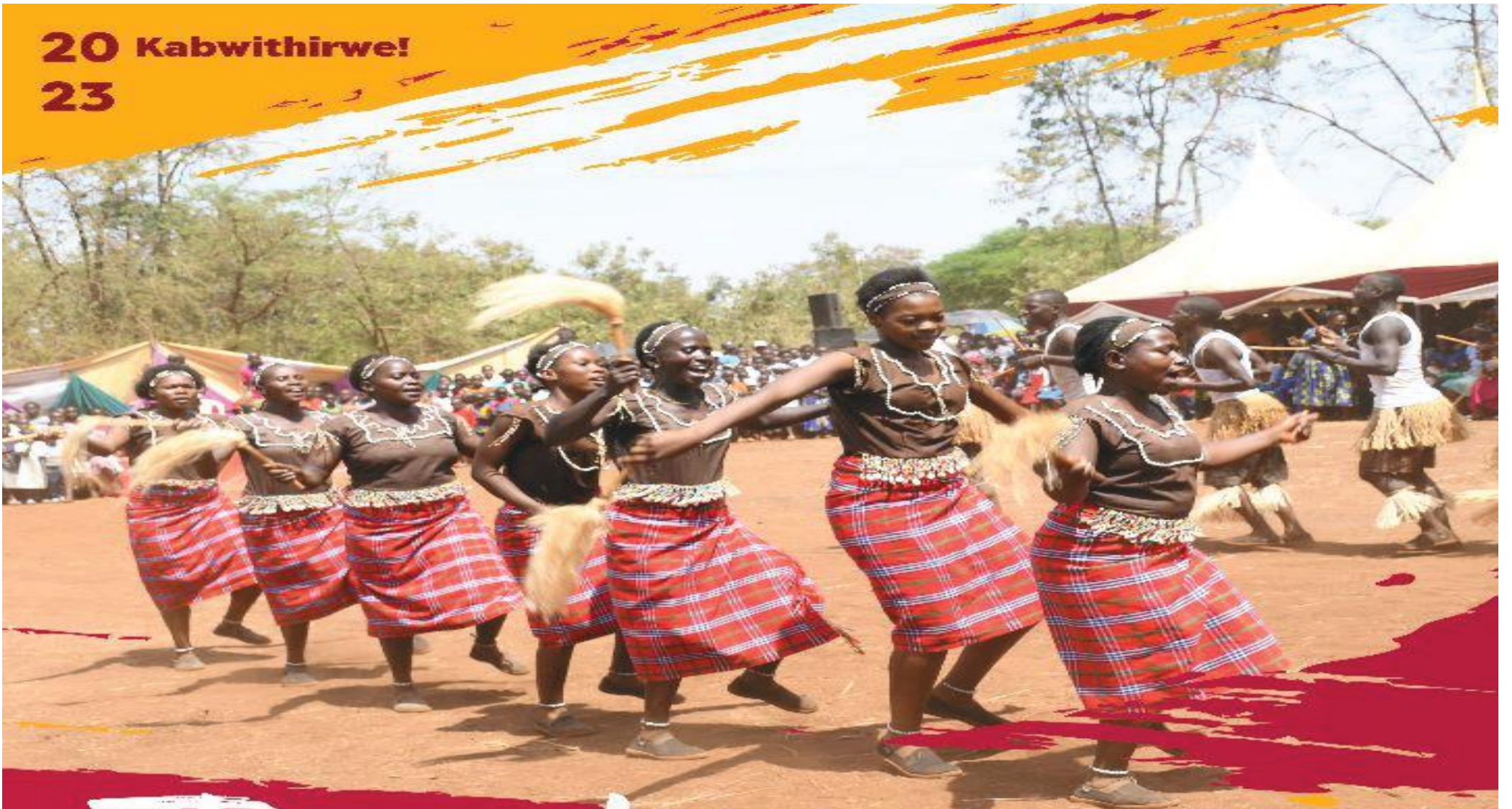
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Kenyan Who Summited Mt Everest Launches A Book On His Experience

By: Our Reporter

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- He achieved the unthinkable by climbing to the highest point on earth and joining the list of heroes and heroines from Nyeri County who have achieved great accomplishments in their respective disciplines.
- “As adventure is emerging as a great motivation for travel not only for leisure but also as a way of education and self-actualization, I believe that reading this book will inspire many through discovering how KG conquered the highest mountain in the world and the discipline, skill, and zeal that got him to the top,” the governor noted.
- He is also the first black African to summit Denali, North America’s highest mountain peak which stands at 6,190 meters above sea level.



Mountaineer James Ngarariga Kagambi (right) handing over a copy of his book to Nyeri County governor Mutahi Kahiga during the launch yesterday.

The first Kenyan to summit the highest point in the world has launched a book on his experience.

James Ngarariga Kagambi (KG) launched his book, “The Journey To Everest” yesterday in Nyeri town.

Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga and his deputy David Kinaniri were among the dignitaries who graced the occasion.

Kagambi, 62 who hails from Naro Moru area in Nyeri county made the history last and has authored the book alongside Agatha Verdadero.

The 90-page book was launched almost a year after the mountaineer conquered the tallest mountain in the world.

Kagambi was one of the seven blacks who summited Mt. Everest, located in the Himalayan Mountains between Nepal and Tibet in Asia on 12th May 2022 after 40 days of mountaineering.

He achieved the unthinkable by climbing to the highest point on earth and joining the list of heroes and heroines from Nyeri County who have achieved great accomplishments in their respective disciplines.

“As adventure is emerging as a great motivation for travel not only for leisure but also as a way of education and self-actualization, I believe that reading this book will inspire many through discovering how KG conquered the highest mountain in the world and the discipline, skill, and zeal that got him to the top,” the governor noted.

He is also the first black African to summit Denali, North America’s highest mountain peak which stands at 6,190 meters above sea level.

In 1994, he became the first black African to summit the Aconcagua, the highest summit in the Americas whose peak stands at 6,961 meters above sea level.

Through this book, Governor Kahiga hopes that a generation of adventurers, outdoor activity, and sustainable tourism players are inspired.

The memoir comes only a few months after KG won the Climb of the Year Award.

Mount Everest peak stands at a staggering 8,849 meters or 29,032 feet above sea level.

By that achievement, he made the county of Nyeri proud and elevated Kagambi to a high-profile tourism ambassador for Nyeri County.

The book describes the experience as rewarding as Kagambi narrates how he endured the high altitudes despite an advanced age to make history.

He earlier explained that in addition to the extremes, he equally had to contend with a 15-kilogram load on a daily basis which consisted of an oxygen cylinder, several layers of clothes, and climbing shoes for 40 days.

“It’s worth noting that since 1953 about 6,000 climbers have summited Mt. Everest, but only eight were black African climbers.

Kagambi, therefore, joins the small

list of other heroes and heroines from Nyeri who have also achieved great accomplishments in their respective disciplines. These include great personalities like Mwai Kibaki (Kenya’s 3rd President). Dedan Kimathi Wachiuri (the greatest freedom fighter of all) and Kariuki Itote alias General China.

Others include Prof. Wangari Maathai (The Nobel Peace Laureate), Catherine Ndereba, and Douglas Wakiihuri among others” said the Governor.

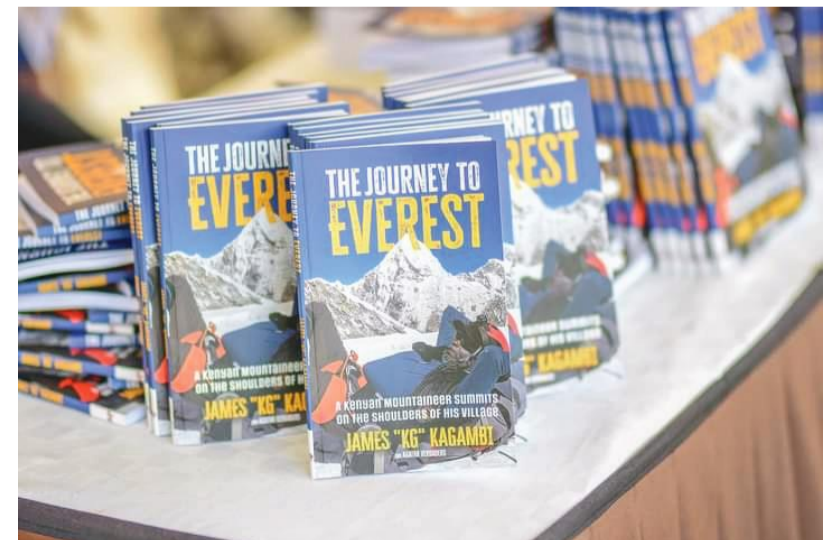
Last year, the County Government of Nyeri, led by Governor Kahiga, through the Department of Trade, Tourism, & Cooperative Development trained 150 mountain climbers,

guides, and cooks.

This was in an effort to build the capacity of players in the sector to reinvigorate the tourism sector in Nyeri County.

The governor further noted that County government is privileged to have KG as her tourism ambassador, a role in which he continues to promote mountaineering and sustainable tourism in addition to other tourism products like scouting.

Others present were KG’s family, other senior government officials led by CEC for Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development Diana Kendi and County Secretary Ben Gachihio as well, KWS officers among others.



The book.



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CS Tuya Shares Ministry Priorities With Development Partners

By: Beth Nyaga

Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya on Monday hosted a development partners meeting during which she shared her Ministry's focus areas in line with the Kenya Kwanza administration's natural resources sector plan.

The Cabinet Secretary listed environment, climate change and forestry governance; conservation, protection, management and restoration of the environment, and forestry ecosystems as well as climate change adaptation and mitigation as key focus areas.

Other focus areas for the Ministry of as outlined in its draft 2023 to 2027 strategic plan are agroforestry and commercial forestry management, and resource mobilization and partnerships.

"As a ministry, we are now very clear about our implementation trajectory. On Wednesday this week, the 24th of May 2023, we will be validating our strategic plan for the period 2023 to 2027.

"I know that as key stakeholders, some of you have added your voices to that draft strategic plan and would still invite those that have not to share with us your comments as we finalise the document," Hon Soipan



CS Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Soipan Tuya. Photo/Courtesy.

said.

The CS invited development partners to support the Ministry in the implementation of the various programmes in the five focus areas saying their support will help Kenya meet some of her international obligations.

"So, when we finally launch the strategic plan in June 2023, it is my hope that each partner around this table would have found an area to plug in to strengthen our partnership.

"This will contribute to our efforts in the realization of the aspiration under Article 42 of the Kenya Constitution 2010 to provide a clean and healthy environment to the people of Kenya.

"Moreover, it will also help Kenya to meet some of the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN Agenda 2030 while at the same time enabling us to fulfill our international obligations on environment and climate change," the CS said.

Ahead of the finalization of the Ministry's strategic plan, the CS said implementation of several initiatives within the five focus areas was already underway including review of the Environment Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) and Forest Policy.

She said changes in the Forest Policy, which is due for presentation to the Cabinet for adoption in coming days, will pave the way for review

of the Forest Conservation and Management Act. Reform of forest legislation is aimed at strengthening operations of Kenya Forest Service, KEFRI and other institutions in the sector.

"We have another thirteen (13) regulations in the environment, climate change and forestry sector that are before the Parliamentary Committee on Delegated Legislation, we are engaging the committee before we gazette them," CS Soipan said.

The CS said the ongoing amendment of the 2016 Climate Change Act is aimed at mainstreaming carbon trading among other reforms. The proposed amendments will undergo final virtual public participation this week ahead of due legislative processes.

On sustainable waste management, CS Soipan said the Ministry had developed a prototype bill that's due for discussion with Counties. Once enacted, the County laws will enable the full implementation of the 2022 Sustainable Waste Management Act which seeks to entrench the circular economy in the country.

The Cabinet Secretary spoke about ecosystem restoration priorities through the 15 billion tree growing and restoration programme, saying the flagship Kenya Kwanza administration project seeks to raise Kenya's tree cover from the current 12.3 to 30 percent by 2032.

"As part of this programme, we have developed a Wetlands Resto-

ration Strategy that is being championed by the State Department of Environment and Climate Change.

"We launched this strategy last week and engaged with both national and county government frontline players to sensitize them on the same," the CS said, noting that Kenya has 5,300 wetlands that need to be restored.

On the September 4th to 6th Africa Climate Summit, CS Tuya said Kenya will co-host the Heads of State and Government meeting alongside the annual Africa Climate Week at KICC in Nairobi, and thanked several development partners for supporting aspects of the conference.

She thanked the Danish Government for sponsoring the Africa Climate Summit Secretariat Office and event venue, German Government through GIZ for taking up communication and publicity costs as well as the International Organization of Migration (IOM), and called on more partners to come on board.

"I would like to make a special plea at this point to all of you as partners, please find an aspect of the summit that you can support financially. Please do not leave the table without making a commitment," the CS appealed.

The Cabinet Secretary was joined at the meeting by Principal Secretary Eng Festus Ng'eno (Environment and Climate Change) and his Forestry counterpart Gitonga Mugambi as well as the President's Climate Change Envoy Amb Ali Mohamed.

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Government Serious On Fiscal Discipline In The Public Service - Mudavadi

By: Our Correspondent

@themtkenyatimes



Principal Secretary, State Department for Legislative Affairs in the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary, Aurelia Rono.

Worth Noting:

- “Giving an example of Kenya’s Public Service which is relatively young, this program targets serving public officers in their nascent years within the service. Since they are beginning to display signs of future potential, we ought to empower them at an early stage to ensure progressive growth within the civil service,” said Mudavadi.
- “The myth that our public service in Kenya is filled with dinosaurs; old-fashioned or unable to adapt to modern times is just hearsay. Out of a 394,792 strong mainstream civil service that comprises of national government civil service, police, teachers and county employees, those under 40 years form 50% and those under 50 years old form 77% of the workforce.” added Mudavadi in the speech.

The government has reiterated its commitment to entrench fiscal discipline in the public sector in a move to enhance efficiency, transparency, accountability and prudent management of public resources in service delivery.

This will encompass the ability of a government to sustain smooth monetary operation and long-standing fiscal condition. Monitoring and comparatively evaluating the progress in the ratio of revenue receipts to the total revenue expenditure will form a huge chunk of what the government is working towards achieving.

This was contained in the speech by the Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, read on his behalf by The Principal Secretary, State Department for Legislative Affairs in the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary, Aurelia Rono, at the official opening of the second phase of the economic governance programme between Kenya and South Africa at the Kenya School of Government, in Mombasa County.

Ms Rono who was representing the Prime Cabinet Secretary lauded the collaboration between the Kenya School of Government and the South Africa National School of Government for their joint effort and collaboration towards the realization of a common agenda in policy and economic governance for the benefit of the citizens of these two countries.

“This being part of the first undertakings after the signing of the bilateral agreement between President William Ruto and his South Africa counterpart Cyril Ramaphosa back in November 2022, it is highly commendable that such a program is tak-

ing shape,” said PS Rono.

In the speech Mudavadi it is said the programme will act as a catalyst that empowers government officers to reach their full potential in serving the citizens by growing their individual’s expertise and therefore enhancing upward mobility within the service.

“Giving an example of Kenya’s Public Service which is relatively young, this program targets serving public officers in their nascent years within the service. Since they are beginning to display signs of future potential, we ought to empower them at an early stage to ensure progressive growth within the civil service,” said Mudavadi.

“The myth that our public service in Kenya is filled with dinosaurs; old-fashioned or unable to adapt to modern times is just hearsay. Out of a 394,792 strong mainstream civil service that comprises of national government civil service, police, teachers and county employees, those under 40 years form 50% and those under 50 years old form 77% of the workforce.” added Mudavadi in the speech.

The programme is anchored on crucial frameworks of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Africa’s Agenda 2063, the Kenya Vision 2030 which we are just 7 years shy of actualizing it as a nation and; Kenya’s Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BeTA) a road-map under the current Kenya Kwanza administrations’ economic empowerment program dubbed the PLAN; and South Africa’s National Development Plan (NDP).

These frameworks aptly provide a comprehensive roadmap for devel-

opment to African countries’ crucial adapting sectors of agriculture, industrialization, social protection, fiscal policy, and debt management.

“We are working towards acquainting the public service work force with the much-needed skills and knowledge know-how so that we can be able to increase efficiency across multiple fronts in productivity and production, food security, exploration of our blue and ocean economy, manufacturing, environmental protection, social security and protection, mobilization of resources and job creation with the target being enhanced global competitiveness for sustainable development.” said Mudavadi.

“Africa is crying out for prosperous, inclusive, and resilient economies. Africa is lucky that it is a populated by an ambitious youthful population. Let us harvest this youth dividend as we work towards building a better future for our continent; let us embrace shared but practical visions, with African youthful ownership and leadership at the forefront.” added Mudavadi.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary noted that in a move to achieve quality and high living standards among our citizens, improve the lives of all citizens and their well-being with the continent, consistency in the implementation of inclusive workable policies thus remains paramount.

Experts note that across Africa’s public services, it can be said that fiscal discipline is the main undoing. Therefore, impacting knowledge on fiscal discipline regarding policy formulation, implementation and accountability remains to be a key component of economic governance

as a breath of fresh air.

“Africa must embrace the importance of sound fiscal policies that support domestic resource mobilization, prudent public financial management and regional integration to achieve debt sustainability if we have to survive in an increasingly competitive and protectionist world.” pointed out Mudavadi.

“For the Kenya Government, our aim to promote fairness and stimulate economic growth targets, and end regressive taxation is by reviewing all business licenses and capping license fees at 1.5% of total turnover. Expanding the tax base by supporting farmers and informal traders to increase their incomes and become tax compliant is crucial.” added Mudavadi.

Mudavadi in his speech further noted the urgency of reducing the public debt through prudent management of external debts, that currently amounts to over 70% of the Gross Domestic Product, GDP. This he said will largely be realized through prioritizing domestic resource mobilization and the reduction of reliance on non-concessional foreign borrowing.

“We will ensure borrowed funds are used primarily for productive and inclusive projects, well outlined and with a clear plan. Implementing fiscal consolidation and discipline measures will also reduce the budget deficit and stabilize the debt-to-GDP ratio. transparency and accountability in public debt management are paramount.” said Mudavadi.

His sentiments on prudent utilization of public resources come in the wake of a stern warning issued by President William Ruto to all government officers in the public sector that his regime will not at any point tolerate corruption, mismanagement of public resources, laxity and lack of transparency and accountability in running of government and public affairs.

The training on economic governance is purposely designed to strengthen the capacity of senior policy makers within the public services of the Republics of Kenya and South Africa has a core objective aimed at building public service capacity in innovation, policy formulation and implementation.

This being in the context of integrating national, regional and global complexities in each country’s policy environment.

Which Way Jubilee Party?

By: Our Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes



Former President Uhuru Kenyatta at Jubilee NDC. PHOTO/Courtesy.



Kanini Kega-led faction addressing press.

Worth Noting:

- East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Member of Parliament Kanini Kega-led faction of the Jubilee Party has dismissed the Ngong Racecourse meeting attended by embattled retired president Uhuru Kenyatta saying it has no legal consequence.
- The Jubilee Party faction led by Kenyatta expelled a dozen officials in an attempt to reconstitute a National Executive Committee (NEC) dominated by President William Ruto loyalists.
- In changes announced at the NDC, the Kenyatta-backed camp axed Kanini Kega, the Acting Secretary General according to changes ratified by a Ruto-backed NEC.

Kega-Led Jubilee Faction Dismisses NDC Attended By Kenyatta As Legally Inconsequential

East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Member of Parliament Kanini Kega-led faction of the Jubilee Party has dismissed the Ngong Racecourse meeting attended by embattled retired president Uhuru Kenyatta saying it has no legal consequence.

Addressing the press on yesterday, Kega stated that until the Internal Dispute Resolution Committee resolves the ongoing wrangles, the resolutions have no basis.

“The pronouncement made by the purported Jubilee National Delegates Convention (NDC) held by the former President Uhuru Kenyatta has no legal backing since the Political Parties Resolution has not resolved the disputes in Jubilee,” Kega said.

The Kega-led faction stated that

the National Executive Committee which was instituted will hold a meeting on possible measures to punish Kenyatta.

“It’s unfortunate that the former President has chosen to be on the wrong side of history by denting a legitimate decision of a party organ and he ceded being the party leader on the 14th March as per presidential retirement act,” Kega noted.

“Therefore the party through NEC will meet next week to see how to punish Uhuru Kenyatta for going against the party’s constitution,” he added.

The rival faction has revealed that they will have their own delegates’ convention not later than 15th July this year to institute changes in the political party which include severing ties with Azimio Coalition.

“Its only four MPs who attended that political rally that means that 30 MPs didn’t deem it fit to attend that politically rally. Out of the 29 NEC

members only 2 members attended,” Kega said.

Leadership Changes

The Jubilee Party faction led by Kenyatta expelled a dozen officials in an attempt to reconstitute a National Executive Committee (NEC) dominated by President William Ruto loyalists.

In changes announced at the NDC, the Kenyatta-backed camp axed Kanini Kega, the Acting Secretary General according to changes ratified by a Ruto-backed NEC.

Monday’s meeting also removed Sabina Chege whom the Kioni-led group named as Acting Party Leader replacing Kenyatta in changes upheld by the Political Parties Tribunal.

In its judgment delivered on April 16, the tribunal said that the notice for the National Executive Committee meeting issued on February 2 and the subsequent NEC meeting on February 10 which imposed Kega was conducted in line with the party Constitution.

Also removed alongside Kega who served as the Director of Election prior to the leadership coup are former Cheragany MP Joshua Kutunny (Deputy Secretary General) and Former Taveta MP Naomi Shaban (Deputy Party Leader, Outreach).

Others are Jimi Angwenyi (Deputy Party Leader), Kinoti Gatobu (Deputy Party Leader, Operations), Peter Mositet (Deputy Party Leader, Programmes), Nelson Dzuya (National Chairman) and Kitui Woman Representative Racheal Nyamai (Deputy Director of Elections).

Kenyatta’s camp led by besieged Secretary General Jeremiah Kioni announced Chege’s replacement as House Deputy Minority Whip with Embakasi West David Mwenje.

It named new officials who include Maoka Maore (Deputy Party Leader, Operations), Saitoti Torome (Chairman), Pauline Njoroge (Deputy Organizing Secretary), Jamleck Kamau (National Director of Elections) and Maison Leshoomo (National Women League Chairperson).

Kenyatta’s NDC named Beatrice Gabo Deputy Party Leader (Strategy), David Manje (Deputy Party Leader, Operations), Kados Muiruri (Deputy Party Leader, Outreach), Yasin Noor (Deputy Secretary General), Nderitu Mureithi (Business Council Leader) and Agnes Thumbi (National Youth League Leader).

Kioni vs Kega

Kega, the Acting Secretary General according to changes ratified by a Ruto-backed National Executive Committee, dethroned Jeremiah Kioni who leads a camp loyal to Kenyatta.

Adan Keynan, who was elected a Vice Chairperson by the Kioni-led faction, said the fate of besieged Uhuru allies lies with party’s internal dispute resolution committee.

Keynan said the party would move on with disciplinary action following a decision by the Political Parties Tribunal declining to quash NEC’s resolution installing Kega as Acting Secretary General.

In its judgment delivered on April 16, the tribunal said that the notice for the National Executive Committee meeting issued on February 2 and the subsequent NEC meeting on February 10 which imposed Kega was conducted in line with the party Constitution.

The Kega-led faction moved to expel David Murathe as Vice Chairperson over gross misconduct and contempt to party organs.

Uhuru on Retirement

Kenyatta on Monday said he had elected to defer his retirement from politics over surging inter-faction rivalry in Jubilee Party.

Kenyatta who is required by law to have retired as a leader of political party made the announcement while hosting a beleaguered axis of the former ruling party at Nairobi’s Ngong racecourse for a Special National Delegates Convention.

The retired President said given the intense wrangles over the party, he has decided to soldier on.

“I wanted to exit the political scene and I was thinking in the NDC is where I would come out to announce my retirement,” he told delegates at Ngong racecourse in Nairobi.

Section 6 (1) of the Presidential Retirement Benefits Act provides that a retired President shall not hold office in any political party for more than six months after ceasing to hold office as President.

Additionally, Section 6 (2) requires retired presidents to play a consultative and advisory role to the government and the people of Kenya.

Attaining The Fullness Of The Mind Of Christ Jesus



By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

influenced by that which you do not know. If you are filled with God's Word, your life can then be informed and directed by God — your domestic relationships, your child-rearing, your career, your ethical decisions, your interior moral life. The way to a Christian mind is through God's Word! Again, we must be careful not to create a Bible-reading legalism — "good Christians read the Bible through once a year." The Bible nowhere demands this. Some simply cannot read well, or fast, and speed reading is not the answer.

Most people, however, will find that reading the Scripture through once a year is the best way because it requires only five pages a day and offers a reachable annual goal. Believers, whatever your ability, **YOU MUST REGULARLY READ AND STUDY GOD'S WORD.** If you refuse, you are in effect "editing God" and **WILL NEVER HAVE A FULLY CHRISTIAN MIND.** The grace of God is sufficient I assure you, for in this we live according to His divine will and order. Our niche as I always say; it is in God's presence, and in Him we live, move and have

We must fully live out the experience of the Psalmist: "Oh, how I LOVE YOUR LAW! I meditate on it all day long. Your commands make me WISER THAN MY ENEMIES, for they are ever with me. I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts." (119:97-100). This is a great secret for one who is focused on attaining the fullness of the MIND OF CHRIST JESUS. While doing this, ask for the help, revelation and direction of the Holy Spirit.

You must remember this: You can never have a Christian mind without reading the Scriptures regularly because you cannot be profoundly



our being.
SELAH! GLORY BE UNTO THE MOST HIGH.
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



The Family and Fund raising committee for Mrs. Mary Edith Kimama,
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Hon/ Mr/Mrs/ Dr/ Prof _____

To a fundraising function in aid of Mrs. Mary Edith Kimama's hospital bill and care amounting to **Ksh 5Million.**

The fundraising will be held on Saturday 3rd June 2023 at the Holy Family Basilica (St. Johns Hall) in Nairobi CBD starting at 2p

Kindly Send Your Contribution to:

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Your prayers, generous contributions and presence will be highly appreciated.
Luke 6:38

Why Governors' Could Loose The Battle To Stop National Govt From Taking Over Health Services?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandongga@yahoo.com

A few days ago, President William Ruto held talks with officials of Health Workers' Union at State House.

The deliberations centered on the continued wide-range of complaints raised by the public regarding the poor and substandard health care offered by the devolved governments.

President Ruto was not taking this matter lightly. Reason? He rode to power on a platform of bottom-up agenda and the health of Kenyans is paramount in achieving this goal.

After listening keenly to the Union members, the President stated. I have heard you and, more importantly, I have also heard the cries of Kenyans. The health of our people cannot be taken for granted.

Tell me, how do you want us to deal with this problem?

The members proposed the formation of Health Risk Commission (HRC) that is managed by the national government.

The commission will oversee human resource for health, promotion and recruitment of the staff and primary health care.

This explains why the Governors hit the roof.

They interpreted this as a well calculated move to revert the health services to the National Government.

The provisions of the constitution are very clear: Health services are devolved. So, we will fight tooth and nail to thwart the takeover plan.

For me, the governors could loose this battle.

I have two reasons. First, the constitution is not cast on stone. Secondly, you have no justification to do so if you are not delivering on the mandate the supreme law has bestowed on you.

Kenyans have a right to amend the relevant provisions and revert the services to the national government.

Before the promulgation of the new Constitution of 2010, the health functions were in the hands of the national government.

At the time, there was less complaints lodged by Kenyans.

Today, the complaints range from lack of drugs, salary delays, laxity and uncaring altitude on part of the service providers and conflict of interest.

Sometimes, the medic would tell an intern or a nurse to attend to a patient because the medic is being 'held up'.

This glaring negligence on part of medic would lead to misdiagnosis of the disease. Sometimes this would lead to death of patient be-



Council of Governors chair Anne Waiguru and committee chairpersons

cause of wrong medications.

Most of medics were operating private clinics and report that some of them coniving with other players involved in drugs distribution chain to divert the drugs to their respective pharmacies and clinics were rampant.

Most of these pharmacies would be strategically located near thier work stations.

Obviously, majority of those who flock these facilities to seek treatment hail from poor backgrounds.

After attending the patients, the medic would give prescriptions and refer them to his or her pharmacy. Go and buy these drugs there. This is where you get 'original drugs', not generic.

They will not tell you the pharmacy belongs to him and the drugs you buy have been stolen from the hospital. You are supposed to get them for free.

In some cases, the doctor or nurse would tell you.

In this hospital, we do not have the machines and equipments needed to do emergencies tests that you need to undergo.

So, they would refer the patient to their clinics to have tests including scans done there at exorbitant cost.

Sometimes, it turns out these tests were not necessary.

The symptoms you had given him were enough to give you the correct medications you needed.

Well, this is the sad story of the situation in most of our public hospitals.

You can only get better services at health facilities that run jointly with churches and donor funded community based organizations (CBOs).

At this juncture, allow me to also state this.

Reports indicated that the problems at public hospitals are also compounded by reports that some of the county bosses were the beneficiaries of these malpractices.

As a result, they would not take these matters seriously.

Yes, some would raise the alarm when the public got very angry and start paying for their blood. Therefore, this would be interpreted as public relation (PR) exercise.

I have been listening to the narrative of the county bosses. They would want Kenyans to believe that the national government is to blame. They started reading this script during the era of President Uhuru Kenyatta when the health functions were fully devolved.

They will not accept they were weak link and contributing to is.

You always hear them say this. The national government has not released enough money to run the county governments.

But the question is. Can you show us what you have done with 'little' you have received?

If not, do you deserve to get more? To me, their excuses and using the national government as a scape goat is an exercise in futility.

Kenyans have come a long way and so you cannot fool them or take them

for a ride.

On matters health, they know where the problems lie and most of you are part of it.

This explains why governors' strategy of seeking public sympathy has not borne any fruits.

As a writer and commentator, I have been seeking and listening to the views of many Kenyans.

The position of majority of them is clear.

We made a big blunder when we recommended health functions to be devolved. We never thought the county will be run by a person who would become a 'small god' led by stomach and run the unit as a personal property.

During the campaign, President William Ruto promised to look at our complaints and provide leadership that would come up with long lasting solutions to problems related to critical matters of our health.

We request him to come to our rescue.

Reverting health services to National government is the surest way of fixing this recurring problem.

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

Worth Noting:

- Today, the complaints range from lack of drugs, salary delays, laxity and uncaring altitude on part of the service providers and conflict of interest.
- Sometimes, the medic would tell an intern or a nurse to attend to a patient because the medic is being 'held up'.
- This glaring negligence on part of medic would lead to misdiagnosis of the disease. Sometimes this would lead to death of patient because of wrong medications.
- Most of medics were operating private clinics and report that some of them coniving with other players involved in drugs distribution chain to divert the drugs to their respective pharmacies and clinics were rampant.

Never Dare To Alter Reality Knowingly

By: N. George

@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Aware of this necessity they will be ready to seek for solution even if not everyone will be willing to support their idea and advise them on what steps they need to take whether physical exercises, dieting or surgery to reshape their bodies.
- Different people are born with different skin colours depending on the genetic composition of their parents. Not everyone is happy with his skin colour so some take drugs or injections to bleach it so as to look appealing like those people who they admire.
- Much as they may succeed at the joints of both feet and hands there will be spots of the original skin colour that are left and serves as a reminder of how you were before alterations.



Since we cannot change reality, let us change the eyes which see reality. Giannis Ritsos.

The height and shape of a person are things that one does not choose nor can he change. Some short persons wear long dresses and high heeled shoes so that she can look somehow tall. Other people wear long trousers and big tops intending to seem big.

Whenever you find yourself in such a position you may do everything to look as it may please you but once in presence and near other people your real height will be noted and relative height to others will be notable.

Just appreciate that whatever you were gifted with was the best for you since it does not pain you being bold for having been that will improve self-confidence and other people will appreciate you and wish to be like you.

There are people who are extraordinary fat but chose to wear oversized clothing to appear normal. They will struggle to work and walk due to their body sizes until that time they will accept that they are overweight and need to do something to cut the

weight.

Aware of this necessity they will be ready to seek for solution even if not everyone will be willing to support their idea and advise them on what steps they need to take whether physical exercises, dieting or surgery to reshape their bodies.

Different people are born with different skin colours depending on the genetic composition of their parents. Not everyone is happy with his skin colour so some take drugs or injections to bleach it so as to look appealing like those people who they admire.

Much as they may succeed at the joints of both feet and hands there will be spots of the original skin colour that are left and serves as a reminder of how you were before alterations.

When they bear offsprings they are usually of the original skin colour of parents so questions may be raised by them why their parents skins colours are different from that of their parents forcing the later to explain what they did, a thing that many of them are not willing to do especially

when the message is from someone who is junior to you.

Those who know you will always remind you that they are aware of your authentic skin colour while those you would like to be like will usually tell you they are aware that you are fake version of them.

If you are talented in singing be thankful for that. There are people who love music to an extent that whenever not at work they keep listening. Some will go ahead and make their own compositions after listening to other musician songs, reading materials that address the issues he want to cover so we can truly say that his works is well research but many audience will tend to care more about the melody hence would not bother to keep listening to the well-researched composition that lacks enjoyable melody.

Had these lovers of music who are not talented at composition of music thought of playing supportive roles to those they admire their contribution would have been appreciated by many who hear about them that destroying their brand by composing

music with a boring melody.

Foster parents need not to lie to those they are supporting that they are real parents as he will come to know and once this is done the choice will be his either to love or hate them. If they remain genuine to him he would not accuse them of lies. They would also monitor whether he is happy with their treatment and he can opt to move out early or fail to appreciate them hence giving them room to think of the next move. Once he decides to contradict the he will try to prove that they are untrustworthy people who had mislead him instead of appreciating the sacrifices they had made for him to enjoy life.

Rain does not require human intervention to fall crafting any theory to show that you have influenced it will only ashame you as you will be proved otherwise.

Let us appreciate who we were created to be and capitalize on our natural strengths.

Commodities Exchange: A Welcome Move To Salvage Kenya's Economy

By: John Kariuki
 @themtkenyatimes

Kenyans are already feeling the pinch following the high cost of living occasioned by among other things, inflation and other macroeconomic factors.

This comes at a time when President William Ruto's administration is just ten months in office while on the other hand Kenyans are waiting with baited breath his many promises geared towards a bottom-up approach as he said during his campaigns.

Evans Kakai a reputable auditor, Economist and financial analyst urges the Administration of the day to focus on commodities Exchange as a good way to boost economic development right from the downmost strata.

"Every region of our country is endowed differently but you find wide discrepancies and a sharp contrast

to that. For example, the Central Region is well endowed with cash crops such as coffee, tea, horticulture and Dairy Farming. This can be anchored properly to see to it that it's well promoted and boosted for local production to increase and a good marketing plan to enable the farmer reap greatly. Same case to counties that are endowed with mineral wealth. The same can be fully exploited to boost and nurture our economy. Home-grown is the best. I don't understand why we keep on importing even fruits from other countries such as Egypt, South Africa and the like, whilst an area like Sigor or Ukambani is well endowed with very sweet fruits." Mr. Kakai advised.



Evans Kakai a reputable auditor, Economist and financial analyst .

Eight Middle-Aged Men Released on Bond for Participation in Riot at Nduru Level Four Hospital

By: Elizabeth Angira
 @themtkenyatimes

Eight middle-aged men, namely Cleophas Mokua, Charles Nyakundi, Nathan Merongo, Nicholas Anyona, Justus Nyabuto, Josphat Miruka, Kelvin Mandela, and Calen Osoi, have been released on a bond of Ksh 100,000 each or a cash bail of Ksh 20,000 before Ogembo Law Courts.

They were charged with taking part in a riot at Nduru Level Four Hospital in South Mugirango, Kisii County, which is contrary to section 80 of the penal code.

Additionally, the accused individuals faced other charges, including malicious injury to property. They willfully and unlawfully damaged a motor vehicle with the registration number GKB 034Z, a Toyota Hilux double cab owned by the Kisii



County Government.

They were also charged with willfully and unlawfully damaging an office door belonging to the Kisii County Government.

Furthermore, the accused persons were charged with assaulting and causing actual bodily harm to two individuals. They assaulted Kelvin Mutonga and Mangesa Peter, resulting in actual bodily harm. The

charges for these acts fall under section 251 of the penal code.

Moreover, Nathan Merongo and Josphat Miruka were charged with robbery with violence. They were accused of robbing Kelvin Mutonga of a mobile phone, an Oppo Reno 7, valued at Ksh 55,000.

Additionally, they were charged with robbing Peter Mangesa of an Infinix Smart 6 mobile phone valued



Ogembo Law Courts. Photo | Courtesy.

at Ksh 11,000 and cash amounting to Ksh 800.

The accused individuals beat Peter Mangesa immediately before the incident took place. These charges fall under section 296(2)b of the penal code.

During their court appearance, the accused persons pleaded not guilty before Senior Principal Magistrate Paul Biwott.

The case will be mentioned on 5th June 2023, with the hearing scheduled for 4th July 2023.

Highly Educated Person



By: Sevarova Iroda Fazliddin

Every person who comes into the world, taking the first steps in learning, develops a love for knowledge and for it. At sad times, as the total number of individuals enters the threshold of enlightenment in this way, along with immersion in knowledge they have a desire to enter a certain higher educational institution in the future. There is no doubt that they set a goal to be admitted to this university and achieve it, but is it enough to study at

a higher educational institution in life, that is, is it enough to have a higher education?

Of course not, I believe that the most important interest in the world is higher education higher enlightens great outlook and thinking enormously.

I don't think it makes sense to have a higher education if you have a need in this culture.

To sum up, the thinking and knowledge of those who studies and those who want to study should be high.

Manguberdi's Child



Bahadur, who came to do military service, got used to the army very quickly. Because he wanted to protect his country since he was young. He was assigned the task of border control. He took an oath and, trying to be faithful to his sacred oath, he tried to protect the country by fulfilling his military duties wholeheartedly. But day by day, the longing for his family, for the village where he was born and grew up listening to the bleating of sheep and cows grew in his heart. He called himself "I am here to fulfill my duty to my family, to my village."

One night Bahadir and Alisher were on duty at the border. Bahadir looked at the sky to prevent himself from falling asleep. The sky was full of stars. Then to Alisher, who is now going to sleep - Look at the beauty of the stars. They are looking at us.

- Yes. The stars give us strength. The stars are our ancestors. Their spirit will always help us, - said Alisher looking at the sky.

- Look, that star belongs to Manguberdi, and that one is the stars of our other grandfather - Bahadir said, looking at the sky.

- From where - I wonder if they will remember us like that after we leave this world? Will we also find our stars?

- From where - said Alisher again thinking.

- I think it depends on us. "The more good a person does, the brighter his star

shines," my mother used to say. Bahadir had not finished speaking when people appeared from the other side of the border.

- Terrorists! It is necessary to inform others - said Alisher.

Despite Alisher saying "Stop" Bahadir took his weapon

"It is dangerous to send terrorists to the border," he said and ran away. He didn't even hear Alisher saying behind his back, "You can't fight them alone."

Alisher called the others. But it was late. About 4 meters away from the border lay the bodies of those visible terrorists, and a little further away Bahadir was lying in a pool of blood.

Both the commander-in-chief and the lieutenant were amazed at such a scene, and the commander-in-chief Vahidov - Uddalabsan, kayil Jorayev (Bahadir's last name) - he said.

And Alisher is looking at the sky - This star is your Baha. Yes. That is the brightest star. Yes, that Manguberdi you mentioned belongs to our grandfather. Because you are a true child of Manguberdi. Children should always be with their father.

Bahadir fulfilled his duty selflessly not only to his family, but also to his village. Because the true child of Manguberdi lives as selflessly and eternally. Let this bravery of Bahadir be an example for all of us.

Guzal Botirova.

Contrary



We would eat steamed butter.
Drinks were had by everyone.
Waterless pistachio nut oil.

Don't bring about the end of the world,
It'll be tough for us.
Baking bread, taking care of children,
And hoeing for girls.

I've brushed her hair.
You flew again without asking.
You made a "creature" seconds ago.
You snatched even this dream, which was worthless.

You extinguished the final spark,
Yet his eyes still had wetness.
He turned nights into days.
Not enough life.

Horny girls have lengthy eyelashes.
Shroud him not.
Dream instead of crowning.
Does your address determine the weather if I bring it?

Durdona Akhmadjonova

Fish walked on land and took to the air,
After turning the world on its axis.
The bird seemed unperturbed by the water.
In a world turned on its head, a man walks upright.

Numerous people seemed content with their lives.
There will be no strolling about.
Turning the world on its axis, like a butterfly.
The desert is leaving, rainbow.

If the world were to ever turn upside down,

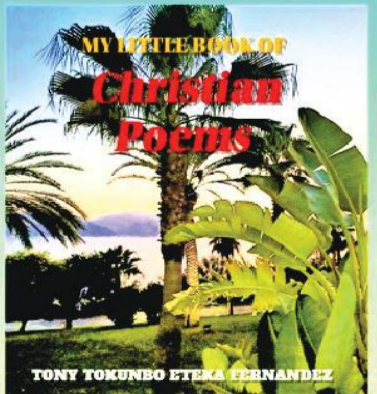
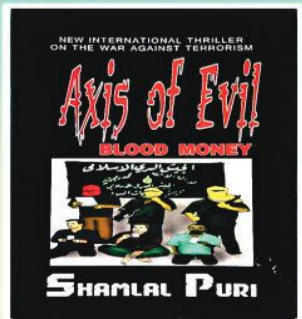
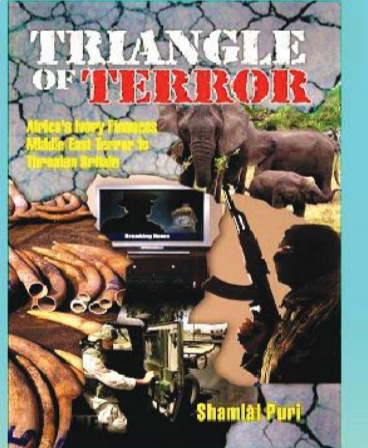
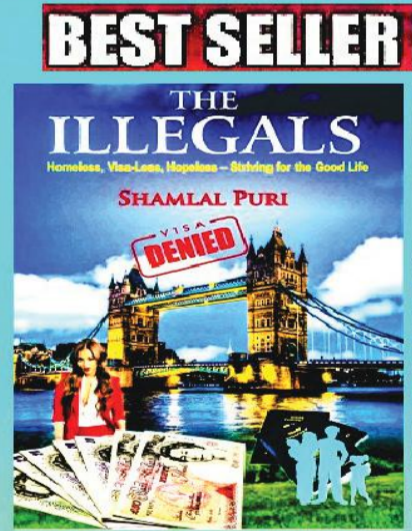
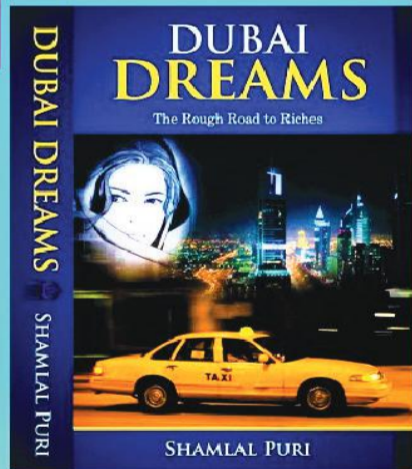
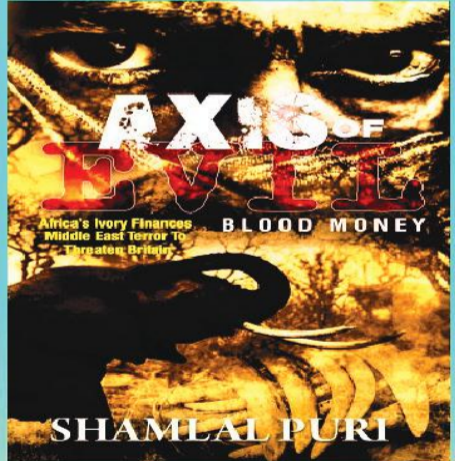
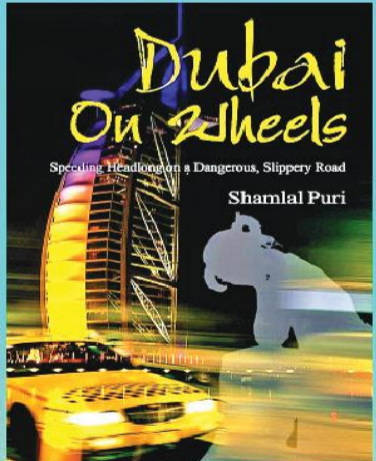
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BUSINESS

CS Kuria Launches The 3rd Investment Conference KIICO2023

By: Hamdi Mohamud

Investment, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria has officially launched the 3rd Kenya International Investment Conference (KIICO2023) hosted by Kenya Investment Authority.

The conference is expected to bring together a diverse range of stakeholders, including investors, policymakers and business leaders, creating a platform for networking, sharing ideas, and exploring investment opportunities. With the participation of over 55 trade ministers and 100 top businesses from across Africa, the conference presents an excellent opportunity for Kenya to showcase its potential as an investment destination and forge strategic partnerships.

The CS said KIICO2023 presents a significant opportunity for Kenya to showcase its potential as a key player in Africa's trade landscape and attract investment into the country.

"Kenya aims to play a critical role in boosting intra-African trade and

driving economic growth not only in the country but across the continent," said Kuria.

Speaking during the launch yesterday, the CS commended KenInvest under the Ministry of Investments, Trade, and Industry (MITI) saying it is playing a critical role in organizing the event, highlighting the government's commitment to promoting a conducive business environment and attracting investment into the country.

"The conference includes a working retreat for 54 Africa Trade Ministers to develop the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) implementation matrix and Road map that will play a key role in opening the 1.3-billion-person market in Africa for Kenya's Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and positioning Kenya as the gateway to Africa," said the CS.

Among areas of investment opportunities Kenya targets to pitch to investors include Special Economic Zones, Public Private Partnerships, Foreign Direct Investments in Energy, Affordable Housing, Agriculture, Health, Water, Roads, Transport including the LAPSSSET Corridor, Fi-



Cabinet Secretary (CS) for Investment, Trade and Industry Moses Kuria giving his remarks during the 3rd Kenya International Investment Conference (KIICO2023) hosted by Kenya Investment Authority.

ancial Services including the Nairobi International Financial Centre and ICT related investments including the Konza City.

The conference whose theme is "Unlocking Africa's Gateway" will also feature the Africa Private Sector Alliance (APSA) Forum that brings together top 100 businesses in Africa to deliberate on private sector growth and development in the con-

continent.

The Kenya delegation will be represented by President William Ruto, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria, Trade Principal Secretary Alfred K'Ombudo, Investment Promotion Principal Secretary Abubakar Hassan, and KenInvest Chair Sally Mahihu.

Other dignitaries expected during the conference include guest speaker, President Azali Assoumani of the Union of Comoros who also serves as the African Union Heads of States Summit chairman and AfCFTA Secretary General Wamkele Mene.

City Hall Pledges A Friendly Working Environment For Content Creators

By: Capital Correspondent

The Nairobi County Government has pledged to provide a favorable working environment for content creators.

According to Public Participation, Public and Citizen Engagement County Executive Suzanne Silantoi, these are young hustlers trying to earn an honest living and be able to put food on the table for their respective families.

She expressed Governor Johnson Sakaja's commitment to fully support youth empowerment and youth trying to make an honest upkeep

"The Nairobi County Government is

proactively working to promote the creative economy through initiatives like Nairobi Festival. The recent incident which saw two photographers getting arrested is highly regrettable. Governor Sakaja lifted the ban barring influencers and photographers taking photos in the CBD," she stated

She stressed that the County Government will continue "to partner with content creators to give them a friendly environment to create and innovate in their craft."





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Gov't Says New Universities, TVETs Funding Model Student Centered

By: Emily Kadzo
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- To facilitate the implementation of the new framework, Dr Belio disclosed that the State has increased funding for university education to Sh84.6 billion from Sh54 billion allocated in the financial year starting July as loans and grants.
- This translates to an allocation increase per student from Sh152,000 to Sh208,000. The budgetary allocation for TVETs will in the coming financial year increase from Sh5.2 billion to Sh10 billion, translating to Sh67,000 per year per trainee.
- On May 3, President William Ruto announced the new funding model and clarified that it will not raise the fees for the students.
- The announcement opens the doors for the process of admitting the 2022 KCSE candidates whose fate has been in limbo awaiting the resolution of the funding model.

State Department for Basic Education Principal Secretary Belio Kipsang has said that the new funding model for universities and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions was student-centered, predictable and will encourage the institutions to seek other revenue streams.

Dr Kipsang indicated that the funding model for higher education will see needy households get more support than those from well-off backgrounds.

The Principal Secretary said the new funding regime had been crafted to 'cure' the uniform and an inequitable capitation witnessed under the differentiated unit cost (DUC) model, where the rich and the poor student receive the same amount.

Unlike what has been the case, universities and TVETs will no longer receive block funding in the form of capitation based on the DUC whose sustainability has been a struggle following dipping in funding ratios from the government. Instead the government has resolved that university funding will be apportioned to individual students according to their level of need.

Addressing students and staff at Egerton University's Njoro Main Campus after a tree planting exercise Dr Kipsang explained that the new funding framework seeks to offer students whose households are at the bottom of the pyramid equal opportunity in accessing university education and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

Under the new funding model, the government will fully fund the vulnerable and extremely needy students joining universities and TVETs this year.

The funding for these students will be through scholarships, loans and bursaries.

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Principal Secretary Belio Kipsang.

The announcement opens the doors for the process of admitting the 2022 KCSE candidates whose fate has been in limbo awaiting the resolution of the funding model.

"Students will be categorized according to four levels of need; vulnerable, extremely needy, needy and less needy. All students shall be supported adequately to meet the cost of the programme they choose to pursue. No student will ever be left behind," Dr Ruto said.

About 92,350 students (29 per cent) who will join universities and TVET institutions this year have been identified as vulnerable and extremely needy and will receive full government support in terms of scholarships, loans and bursaries.

"Students whose households are at the bottom of the pyramid shall enjoy equal opportunity in accessing university and TVET education. Their households shall not make any contribution towards the education of their children," the President said.

"The new model of funding higher education, to be implemented effective this academic year 2023/2024, will commence with the new cohort of 173,127 students joining universities and 145,325 joining TVETs. All continuing government-sponsored students shall be supported in line with the previous existing funding model," Dr Ruto said.

Dr Ruto said that students who opt to study in private universities will qualify for Helb loans but will not be eligible for the scholarships.

The new funding framework according to Dr Kipsang will be based on four criteria, choice of the programme, household income band, affirmative performance and government priority areas.

Means Testing Instrument (MTI) will be applied to scientifically determine the need levels of students. The instrument has eight variables, which have been used over the years and have been strengthened and linked to other databases to boost reliability.

Dr Kipsang explained that the eight variables include parents' background, gender, course type, marginalization, disability as well as family size and composition.

"By combining these variables, it is envisaged that the State will be able to determine the needs of the various households and fund them appropriately. Based on MIT, students from rich backgrounds will get more loans than scholarships while the less able will get more scholarships than loans," added the Principal Secretary. Universities will be required to declare and publicize the actual cost of their programmes on the websites and share with Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Ser-

vice (KUCCPS) before every placement cycle.

Now, students from needy households joining universities will receive government scholarships (grants) of up to a maximum of 53 per cent and Helb loans of up to 40 per cent with the households paying the remaining seven per cent of the cost of a course.

The cheapest course is a Bachelor of Arts degree (Sh144,000). This means that the government will pay a maximum of Sh76,320 while students will get a Sh57,600 loan from Helb. The household will pay the remaining Sh10,080 per year.

For the most expensive programme, Bachelor of Dentistry at Sh720,000, the government will pay a maximum of Sh381,600, with the students getting a loan of Sh288,000 while the family pays the remaining Sh50,400 per year.

Students joining TVET institutions will receive government scholarships up to a maximum of 50 per cent and 30 per cent in loans while households will pay 20 per cent of the costs.

First Lady Urges Church Leaders To Partner With Gov't In Actualizing Bottom Up Agenda

By: Prudence Wanza

The First Lady, Mama Rachel Ruto, has urged leaders to support the actualization of the projects envisaged in the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda by the Government.

The First Lady was speaking in Nairobi during the 70th birthday celebrations for Bishop Dr. JB Masinde, the founder and senior pastor of Deliverance Church International, Umoja.

Mama Rachel Ruto singled out a multistorey residential housing development that will be built on Kangundo Road by Deliverance Church Umoja.

She urged other leaders present to identify similar potential projects alongside the priority areas of agriculture, MSME housing and settlement, manufacturing, the digital superhighway and creative economy, the service economy, and environ-

ment and climate change.

She further expressed optimism for the nation's full economic recovery from the effects of the prolonged drought that was the worst in 40 years, with some areas missing rainfall for more than five consecutive years.

The First Lady was accompanied by Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, Nairobi Deputy Governor Njoroge Muchiri, Spouse to the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi and Embakasi West Member of Parliament Mark Mwenje among other leaders.

First Lady Rachel Ruto



Shakahola Probe Suffers Hitch As Court Suspends Commission Of Inquiry

By: Our Reporter

@themkenyatimes

The government has suffered a blow after the High Court temporarily suspended the Commission of Inquiry into Shakahola deaths.

The Justice Jessi Lessit-led commission will know its fate on Monday when Justice Lawrence Mugambi will deliver a substantive ruling on the case filed by Azimio la Umoja coalition.

Raila, who is challenging the formation of the commission, through his lawyer, Paul Mwangi sued the state saying the appointment of the members of the commission by President William Ruto is illegal and unconstitutional.

The opposition leader accused the Head of State of undermining the authority of the National Intelligence Service under Article 242 of

the Constitution of Kenya.

"The formation of the Commission of Inquiry Into the Shakahola Tragedy is a usurpation of the powers and undermining of the authority of the Senate which has already commissioned an ad-hoc Committee to investigate the Shakahola Massacre whose mandates have been duplicated," the petition stated.

On May 5, President Ruto appointed a commission of inquiry into the Shakohola deaths and religious organisations through a gazette notice.

Lady Justice Jessie Lessit will chair the commission, together with seven others namely Lady Justice Mary Kasango, Eric Gumbo, Bishop Catherine Mutua, and Jonathan Lodompui.

Additional reporting by Ruth Wamboi





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Is Loss And Damage A Gender Issue?



By: Twongirwe Ireen
ireentwongirwe64@gmail.com
CEO - WoGEM Uganda



Loss and damage from a gender equality perspective

Worth Noting:

- Another factor is that women are seldom involved in decision-making processes to access and utilize land and livelihood resources, which furthers their vulnerability to the impacts of natural disasters.
- Women lack access to information on the impacts of climate change and related policies. In addition, women contribute more to the non-economic Loss and damage climate impacts since there are non-monetary however their efforts go unnoticed and this has created gender gap and inequalities.
- Noteworthy, there is only minimal involvement from women in discussions and policy development on climate issues, from the community level up to the international level. Meanwhile, women themselves often lack confidence, given limits on freedom of expression and this has limited them to participate actively in the struggles of fighting climate change impacts.

Loss and Damage is a priority for many climate-vulnerable countries in the UN climate negotiations due to the severe climate effects they are experiencing. In definition according to the UN, Loss and Damage refers to negative consequences that arise from the unavoidable risks of climate change like rising water levels, prolonged heat waves, desertification, cyclones, hurricanes, acidification of sea and extreme events such as bushfires, poor farming methods, deforestation and crop failures among others.

More so, Loss and Damage is the destructive impacts of climate change that cannot be addressed through adaptation and mitigation measures. It's important to note that Loss and damage is often divided into economic loss and damage, which includes harms to livelihoods and property, and non-economic loss and damage, which includes loss of life and losses to biodiversity and cultural heritage.

The extent of current global loss and damage is difficult to quantify. It ranges from damage to infrastructure

as a result of flooding to loss of life due to extreme heat. However, it is clear that loss and damage is already occurring on a large scale, and that it will only worsen as global warming increases and this continues to affect women and girls.

Ironically, although women are the most vulnerable, they are not equipped with sufficient knowledge or skills to prepare themselves to face the impacts of climate change and various policies on climate change still embed a gender bias.

It's important to know that women endure greater ongoing suffering from the impacts of climate change. For example, failed crops causing food scarcity has further resulted in a sharp increase in malnutrition among women and girls as many traditions prioritize food for men and boys as the breadwinners of the family. During long droughts, women must walk long distances in search of food and water for their families.

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further their vulnerability to the impacts of natural disasters.

Women lack access to information on the impacts of climate change and related policies. In addition, women contribute more to the non-economic Loss and damage climate impacts since there are non-monetary however their efforts go unnoticed and this has created gender gap and inequalities.

Noteworthy, there is only minimal involvement from women in discussions and policy development on climate issues, from the community level up to the international level. Meanwhile, women themselves often lack confidence, given limits on freedom of expression and this has limited them to participate actively in the struggles of fighting climate change impacts. It's also important to note that there is higher illiteracy rate in women that has greatly created difficulties in accessing information on climate change and this has made them more vulnerable.

In my opinion, the information on climate change should be provided in the form of brochures, leaflets

or other print media to give a clear information to vulnerable women in rural communities. However it's very unfortunate that the government apparently does not take into consideration the fact that the literacy rate of women remains low.

With high risk of natural disasters and climate change, Uganda should empower women to play a more significant role in adapting and mitigating climate change. There is also need to start collecting gender-segregated data that includes data on the people's level of understanding of climate change, their various concerns, the initiatives taken and other relevant issues. With this data pool, issues related to disaster mitigation and adaptation for both men and women could be addressed.

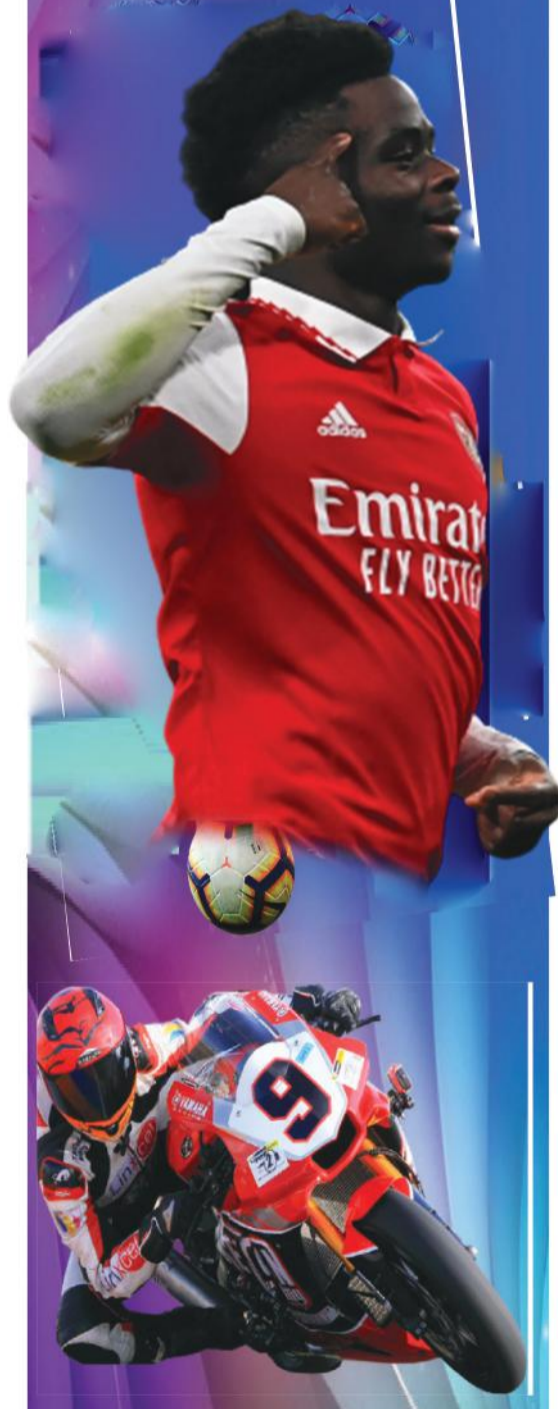
Secondly, women should be involved in developing policies and decision making on climate issues with their indigenous knowledge. More so, information on climate issues should be accessible and simplified particularly to those in rural areas that depend on agriculture and forest products as their source of livelihood, in which the climate is an important factor in determining successful harvest or crop failure.

Thirdly, through cultural reconstruction in the community, women should have equal rights to education and healthcare and be provided with the skills to survive independently. This would encourage women not only to help themselves but also to contribute to their society in mitigating the impacts of disasters and climate change. With this drive, women can become assets rather than a burden in any disaster or climate change mitigation efforts. As Mary Robinson and Wangari Maathai stated in the Huffington Post in 2010, "The battle to protect the environment is not solely about technological innovation it is also about empowering women and their communities to hold their governments accountable for results."

For God my country
Ireen Twongirwe
Executive Director
Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda. (WoGEM Uganda)

SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *Paris Saint-Germain all but secured the Ligue 1 title on Sunday as a Kylian Mbappe brace gave them a 2-1 win away to Auxerre that left the Qatar-owned club six points clear at the top of the table with two games remaining.

Mbappe Goals See PSG All But Secure Ligue 1 Title



Kylian Mbappe celebrates his goal.

Paris Saint-Germain all but secured the Ligue 1 title on Sunday as a Kylian Mbappe brace gave them a 2-1 win away to Auxerre that left the Qatar-owned club six points clear at the top of the table with two games remaining.

PSG had hoped to officially confirm a second straight championship triumph, and a ninth in the last 11 seasons, but they needed closest rivals Lens to slip up earlier in the day.

Lens won 3-1 at Lorient, and so PSG still require one point from their final two matches to secure a French record 11th title overall.

However, a goal difference advantage of 16 over Lens means they are almost certain to win the title even if they end the season level on points with their closest rivals.

PSG, whose final two matches are away at Strasbourg and at home to Clermont, will move ahead of Saint-Etienne's previous record of 10 titles which

they equalled last year.

Mbappe's goals both came in the first eight minutes in Burgundy as he moved on to 28 for the season, two ahead of Lyon's Alexandre Lacazette on top of the Ligue 1 scorers' chart.

He struck in the sixth minute, collecting a Fabian Ruiz pass and turning home defender Gauthier Hein inside out before shooting high into the net.

It was 2-0 two minutes later, as Hugo Ekitike left a Lionel Messi pass for Mbappe to rifle in a shot from the edge of the area.

Auxerre saw Rayan Raveloson hit the bar late in the first half and Lassine Sinayoko pulled one back six minutes after the break.

"My players have their hands on the trophy. Now we need to finish on a high in the next two matches and lift the trophy at home on the last day," PSG coach Christophe Galtier told broadcaster Amazon Prime.

Galtier and PSG have come in for criticism during a challeng-

ing second half of the season, in which they have lost six times in Ligue 1 and were knocked out of the Champions League by Bayern Munich in the last 16.

"When we look back and analyse the season, we had a very difficult period after the World Cup with injuries to key players," Galtier added.

"Our squad was severely weakened in big games and that led to us playing badly, but believe me, it is still a performance to win the league."

– Lens set for Champions League –

Lens came from behind to win their game and move a step closer to securing a place in next season's Champions League group stage.

Romain Faivre put Lorient ahead inside six minutes, pouncing to score after Lens goalkeeper Brice Samba was put under pressure at a throw-in. Yet Lens came roaring back

to record a fifth straight victory, equalising when a Florian Sotoca shot deflected in on 20 minutes.

Adrien Thomasson capitalised on poor defending to put Lens in front five minutes later, with captain Seko Fofana wrapping up the points late on.

Lens have won nine of their last 10 games, the exception being a 3-1 defeat away to PSG.

They have been chiefly focused on securing second place and direct qualification for next season's Champions League group stage, a level the club last appeared at two decades ago.

They are five points ahead of third-placed Marseille with two games to go. Third place enters the Champions League in the third qualifying round.

"There is no such thing as 'almost' in the Champions League in the mind of a coach," said prudent Lens manager Franck Haise.

"You are either qualified or you're not, and for the moment we are not."

Rennes kept alive their hopes of qualifying for Europe as Amine Gouiri scored a hat-trick in their 5-0 win at already-relegated Ajaccio.

Rennes remain sixth with two games left, and with only the top five qualifying for Europe.

However, they are just a point adrift of Lille and three behind fourth-placed Monaco, who they face next.

Folarin Balogun, who this week switched international allegiance from England to the United States, scored his 20th Ligue 1 goal this season for Reims as they drew 2-2 with Angers.

AFP

Sports >> * El Salvador soccer fans were mourning Sunday after 12 people died and hundreds were injured in a stampede at a stadium, with the country's president vowing an investigation.

El Salvador Mourns 12 Killed In Soccer Stadium Stampede



The match was suspended as emergency personnel evacuated people from the stadium, where hundreds of police officers and soldiers gathered as ambulance sirens wailed..

El Salvador soccer fans were mourning Sunday after 12 people died and hundreds were injured in a stampede at a stadium, with the country's president vowing an investigation.

Authorities said initial reports pointed to a crush of fans who tried to enter the 35,000-seat Cuscatlan Stadium in the Central American country's capital San Salvador to watch a game between two local teams, Alianza and FAS.

The match was suspended as emergency personnel evacuated people from the stadium, where hundreds of police officers and soldiers gathered as ambulance sirens wailed.

Carlos Fuentes, spokesman for the emergency services group Comandos de Salvamento, said they were treating more than 500 people for various injuries, while civil protection authorities said 88 people in total were hospitalized.

The stampede started after a stadium gate fell, causing people to

crowd together, Fuentes said.

Fredy Alexander Ruiz, a 28-year-old survivor, said he was "traumatized from seeing people thrown on the ground, dead, bruised, with their faces stepped on."

The stampede started 10 minutes into the game and after it was suspended even the players joined in the frantic rescue efforts.

"I had five people on top of me that were suffocating me," said Ruiz. "Thank God, I was able to grab the foot of a policeman, and he and a friend of mine pulled me out."

On Sunday night, dozens of Alianza fans set up a memorial to victims, placing a "Rest in peace" banner on the stadium wall, where they also left flowers and 12 candles to represent the dead.

After saying a prayer, the fans left, some of them in tears.

El Salvador's President Nayib Bukele said Saturday that authorities would investigate the

incident and those responsible would be punished.

"Everyone will be investigated: teams, managers, stadium, box office, league, federation," Bukele said on Twitter.

He warned that "whoever the culprits are, they will not go unpunished."

– 'I couldn't even breathe' –

Survivor Sandra Guzman described chaos at the stadium in the moments the stampede began.

"A huge crowd of people fell on me. I couldn't even breathe, they were choking me," Guzman, 40, told AFP early Sunday as she was leaving the Rosales National Hospital.

When she was in front of the stadium gate that collapsed, she said, "people were pushing me to get in. They did not give me a chance to go back."

She panicked when people toppled onto her, Guzman said. "I fainted, and when I woke up I

was in the hospital."

The Salvadoran Football Federation (Fesfut) said in a statement it "deeply regrets" the events that occurred at the stadium and "expresses its solidarity" with the families of those "affected and killed."

"Fesfut will immediately request a report of what happened and will communicate the relevant information as soon as possible," it said.

Due to the incident, the federation said "all soccer is suspended at the national level" on Sunday.

The chief of world soccer body FIFA offered his condolences after the "tragic" stampede.

The tragedy comes seven months after 135 people, including more than 40 children, were killed in a stampede following a football match in Malang, Indonesia.

Capital Sport

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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



IHRC's High-Level Delegation Visit To Nigeria's Interior Minister, Rauf Aregbesola



Paula.O.M Otukile
paula200500293@gmail.com
Senior Editor Botswana & S. Africa



Worth Noting:

- In response, the Honourable Minister, Ogbeni Rauf Aregbesola, commended the International Human Rights Commission, eulogizing the caliber of the team members and their unrelenting commitment to the fight for human rights across the globe, even noting that Nigeria is one of the Member States of the UDHR Treaties promoting the culture and education of human rights.
- “Your Organization has a major role to play in Nigeria regarding the people whose rights are abused, ensuring their dignities are protected and restoring normalcy. You must therefore be a major advocate, and observer of the treaties and rights that guarantee we are human”, he added.



Honourable Minister for Interior, Rauf Aregbesola (R) and IHRC Ambassador at Large to Nigeria, Dr Duru Hezekiah (L).



Towards advancing corporate partnership with the Federal Government of Nigeria on the scope and objectives of the International Human Rights Commission (IHRC) and jointly exploring avenues of possible cooperation in international diplomacy, protection of the fundamental human rights of people, and continued comprehensive security cooperation, and reforms to support economic growth in Nigeria, the

Ambassador at Large and Head of Diplomatic Mission to the International Human Rights Commission in Nigeria, H.E. Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah has outlined antecedents of the Organization before the Nigerian Minister of Interior, H.E. Ogbeni Rauf Adesoji Aregbesola on Friday in Abuja.

Speaking during the high-level delegation meeting, the Ambassador at Large, noted that the International



The Honourable Minister for Interior Rauf Aregbesola (M) in a Group Photograph with IHRC Delegates led by Dr. Duru Hezekiah.

al Human Rights Commission is a Transnational Intergovernmental Organization with world headquarters in Switzerland established to uphold the dignity and human rights of people, providing humanitarian aid and maintaining peaceful dialogue between government and citizens.

He maintained that changing things for the Nigerian people is the priority of IHRC, emphasizing the numerous humanitarian interventions in the area of disaster relief and advocacy programs in education, human rights, leadership, and governance carried out by the Organization including facilitating the release of inmates from Nigeria Correctional Centre.

While appealing to the Federal Government for effective cooperation with IHRC, Dr. Duru added that the Organization is ready to help Nigeria in providing humanitarian interventions, supporting government policies and inclusive leadership that represent all Nigerians.

In response, the Honourable Minister, Ogbeni Rauf Aregbesola, commended the International Human Rights Commission, eulogizing the caliber of the team members and their unrelenting commitment to the fight for human rights across the globe, even noting that Nigeria is one of the Member States of the UDHR Treaties promoting the cul-

ture and education of human rights. “Your Organization has a major role to play in Nigeria regarding the people whose rights are abused, ensuring their dignities are protected and restoring normalcy. You must therefore be a major advocate, and observer of the treaties and rights that guarantee we are human”, he added.

He stressed that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes the equality and dignity of every human being and stipulates that every Government has a core duty to enable all people to enjoy all their inalienable rights and freedoms, urging that interventions should not be limited to relief materials alone but should also focus on advocacy, monitoring and observing the compliance of human rights against abuses; “be rest assured of our partnership whenever we are called upon to do so”, he summed up.

Staffs of the Ministry Present at the meeting were Babajide Atolagbe (Chief Superintendent of Implementation), Kania Maliki Andeyaba (AD Press), and Chugbo Florence Ifeanyichukwu (Head of Protocol), amongst others.

*By Fidelis Onakpoma
Head of Media and Strategic Communications, IHRC Nigeria*