



**MKU joins Esports As Universities Embrace Competitive Gaming**  
 Mount Kenya University (MKU) has unveiled a state-of-the-art gaming equipment at its Main campus in Thika town in a bid to fast track its students grab a stake in the fast rising world of electronic sports (Esports). Page 18

**THANK YOU FOR ADVERTISING WITH US**  
 For any news you would wish us to publish,  
 email us: [news@mountkenyatimes.co.ke](mailto:news@mountkenyatimes.co.ke)  
**For Adverts & Sponsorship**  
 email us: [ads@mountkenyatimes.co.ke](mailto:ads@mountkenyatimes.co.ke)

Where Investors Get Returns

# The MT. KENYA TIMES

Daily ePAPER

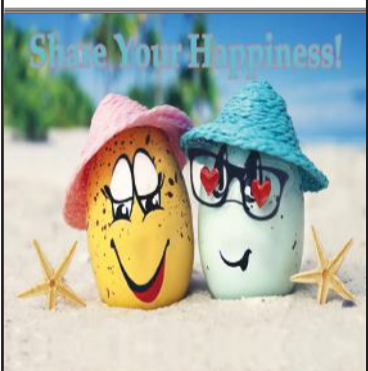
Wednesday, May 31, 2023 No. 00518 [www.mountkenyatimes.co.ke](http://www.mountkenyatimes.co.ke) [f](https://www.facebook.com/themtkenyatimes) [i](https://www.instagram.com/themtkenyatimes) [t](https://www.twitter.com/themtkenyatimes) themtkenyatimes



## Azimio Want Finance Bill Withdrawn; Threaten To Lead Opposition Against Proposals


**News>>Mudavadi: African Leaders Should Promote Constitutionalism, Democracy**

P. 9. Mudavadi: African Leaders Should Promote Constitutionalism, Democracy.



**Motivation>>Share Your Happiness**

P. 12. Happiness is something that multiplies when it is divided..... Paulo Coelho.

 **The Azimio coalition is calling for the withdrawal of the Finance bill 2023 saying it has failed the inclusivity test. A parliamentary group meeting of the Azimio la Umoja party, chaired by their leader Raila Odinga, resolved that the bill as currently drafted must be withdrawn in totality.**



Azimio la Umoja leader Raila Odinga

**STORY ON PAGE 8**

**nhif**  
 Afya Yetu. Bima Yetu

## AFYA YANGU

*Bifa stress*

Nobody is too old to register and enjoy the UHC Supa Cover

**REGISTER TODAY**

[0800 720 601](tel:0800720601) [www.nhif.or.ke](http://www.nhif.or.ke)



# TSC Needs 14 Billion Too Hire Teachers Annually

By: Our Reporter  
 @themtkenyatimes

**Worth Noting:**

- “To achieve this, the Commission requires annual budgetary allocation of Ksh14.8 billion for recruitment of teachers as an intervention measures.
- The TSC boss informed the committee that the Commission received Authority from the National Treasury to recruit 30,000 teachers to alleviate the shortage of teachers in the country in January 2023.
- Additionally, Macharia added, in the financial year 2022/2033 the Commission was allocated a budget for recruitment of 6000 teacher interns (4000 for Secondary and 2000 for primary) bringing the total to 36000 teachers recruited.



TSC CEO Nancy Macharia when she appeared in Parliament yesterday.



Senator James Lomenen during yesterday's session.

The Teachers Service Commission (TSC) requires Ksh14.8 billion annual budgetary allocation for recruitment of teachers.

TSC CEO Dr. Nancy Macharia said this when she appeared before the Senate Committee on National Cohesion, Equal Opportunity and Regional Integration to apprise them on the recent recruitment of Teachers.

She pointed out that currently the country is facing a shortage of 111,870 teachers who needs to be recruited over a period of five years.

“To achieve this, the Commission requires annual budgetary allocation of Ksh14.8 billion for recruitment of teachers as an intervention mea-

asures.

The TSC boss informed the committee that the Commission received Authority from the National Treasury to recruit 30,000 teachers to alleviate the shortage of teachers in the country in January 2023.

Additionally, Macharia added, in the financial year 2022/2033 the Commission was allocated a budget for recruitment of 6000 teacher interns (4000 for Secondary and 2000 for primary) bringing the total to 36000 teachers recruited.

In an interim report presented to the Committee which was led by Turkana Senator, James Lomenen also showed partial ethnic composition

of 20,990 who were recently hired.

The TSC asked the Committee for more time to bring a comprehensive report on ethnic composition of the over 36,000 teachers hired.

Uasin Gishu Senator Jackson Mandago and his Tharaka Nithi Counterpart Sen Gataya Mwenda Mo Fire said it was not financially viable for the government to set aside that amount of money for recruitment of teachers.

“TSC needs to defer recruitment of permanent and pensionable teachers and instead conduct mass recruitment of teachers on contract basis and gradually absorb them on permanent basis,” Sen Mandago sug-

gested.

Sen. Mofire opined that TSC should also hire interns and gradually absorb them on contract or permanent basis to alleviate the shortage of teachers.

Sen. Mandago also advised the TSC boss to bring any amendments to the Senate on any law that is impeding their work adding that education is a universal right to every citizen and nothing should stop Kenyans from enjoying those rights.

The Committee requested the TSC to provide

Editor's Desk

**The Mt. Kenya Times**

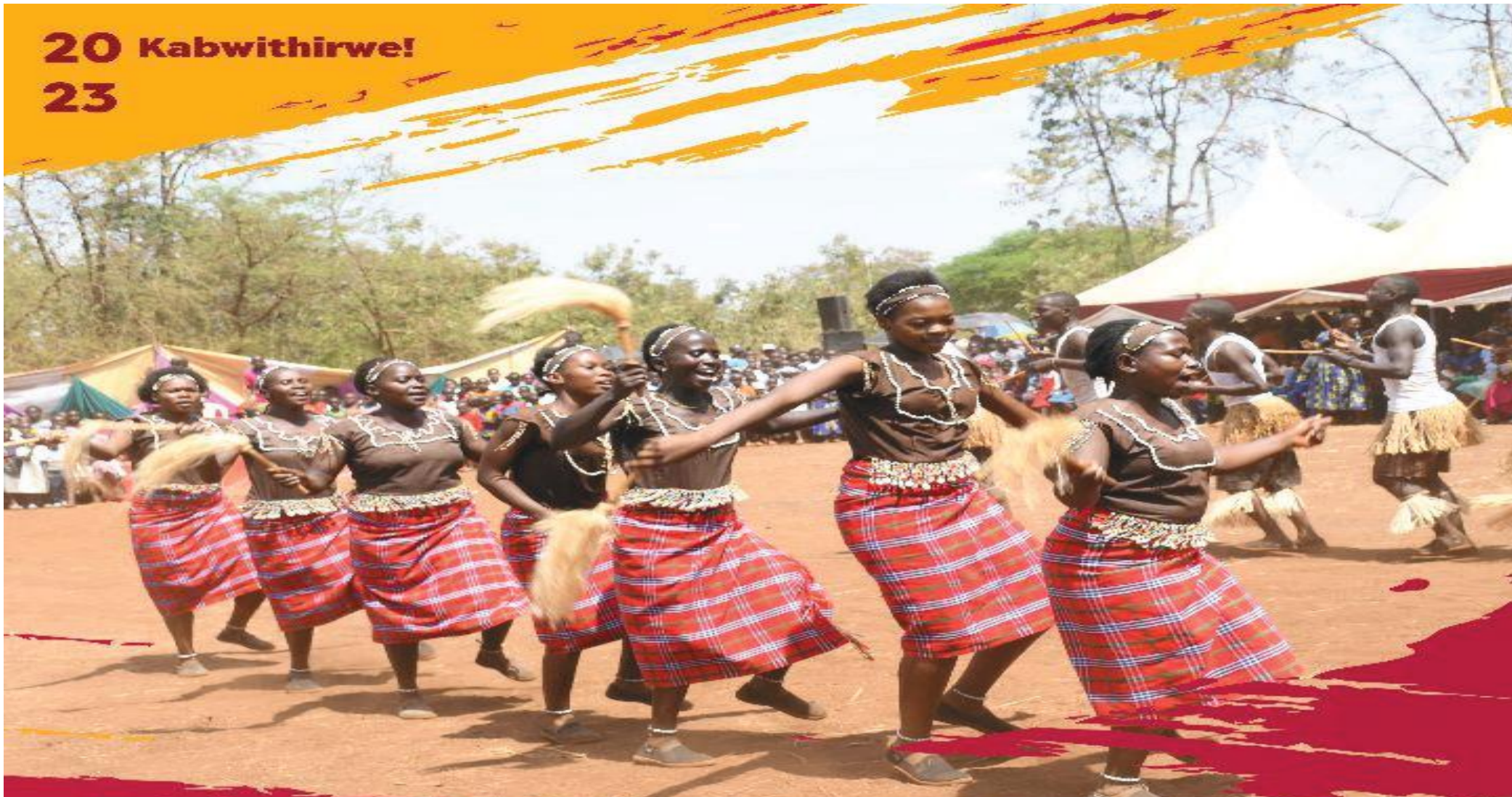
The Mt Kenya Times is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by **Exponential International Limited**, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

**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  
**Editorial Desk:** editorial@mtkenyatimes.co.ke, **Adverts:** ads@mtkenyatimes.co.ke,  
**News Desk:** news@mtkenyatimes.co.ke, **Web:** [www.mtkenyatimes.co.ke](http://www.mtkenyatimes.co.ke)

**Facebook:** Mt. Kenya Times, **Instagram:** Mt. Kenya Times, **Twitter:** @themtkenyatimes  
**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mt-kenya-times-a07999115/>

**20 Kabwithirwe!**  
**23**



# Tharaka Cultural Exhibition



**Nkondi Chapter 2**

**At: Nkondi Chief's Camp**  
**Date: June 8th, 9th & 10th**

**Come and Enjoy**

- **Authi** ● **Nchungo** ● **Njai** ● **Mboboi**

**And so much more...**

# Senate To Support Government In Manufacturing Electronic Devices In The Country



Some of the Senate Committee members.



Benton Technology Company Limited's Chief Executive Officer Mr Kevin Lee and his team.

By: Our Correspondent  
@themkenyatimes

The Senate Committee on Information, Communication and Technology, led by Trans Nzoia Senator Allan Chesang, has resolved to play its legislative and oversight role to

ensure the Government's pledge to manufacture electronic devices in the country is made a reality. While meeting with Benton Technology Company Limited's Chief Executive Officer Mr Kevin Lee at Parliament Buildings yesterday, members of the committee underscored the need for foreign investors

to set up factories in Kenya to create job opportunities for the Kenyan youth. "I urge Benton Technology Company Limited to set up a local factory here in Kenya where you can train local engineers so that there's local support for your products and services. So, you need to collaborate

with the Ministry of ICT and Digital Economy, the Ministry of Education and the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) to make it happen," Senator Kisang' said. "The government is doing over 14,000 digital hubs across the country. So, that is another thing that you need to invest in so that you build capacity for your factory. You can count on our support as the Senate ICT Committee," Senator Chesang added.

On his part, Mr Lee informed the Committee that his company is willing to set up a factory in Kenya and train the local engineers so that if some parts are broken, they can be replaced in good time. The Senators were meeting the technology company to deliberate on the Pritom MIO-MAX Tablet, which is a digital e-learning tablet specifically designed for educational purposes.



## MARY EDITH KIMAMA MEDICAL APPEAL

The family and fundraising committee invites you 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 2pm.

Kindly Send Your Contribution to:

**MARY KIMAMA  
MEDICAL FUND**

**PAYBILL NUMBER**  
8 0 5 3 3 9 3

**ACCOUNT NAME**  
YOUR NAME

R.S.V.P

Patricia Kimama, +254757810838, Njoki Maina +254721310774

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

#MkulimaKwanza

#TheCoffeeSummitKE



13<sup>th</sup> Parliament  
Coffee Caucus

# Coffee Reforms Conference

A bottom - up round table discussion by  
all players in the value-chain

Hosted by Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya,  
H.E. Rigathi Gachagua, EGH

June 8 - 10, 2023



Three Steers Hotel, Meru County

THE  
COFFEE  
SUMMIT

# I Hold Sensitive Office, Haji Declines TO State His Net Worth

By: Our Reporter  
 @themtkenyatimes

The grilling in Parliament is back just a few weeks after taking a commercial break, the head of state President William Ruto forwarded Haji's name as his proposed candidate to take off the sensitive seat after serving for close to six years as the director of public prosecution of the Republic of Kenya.

Haji faced huge challenge of answering to questions on the role he played in the withdrawal of several cases linked to high-profile politicians whose cases were withdrawn after President William Ruto assumed into office.

As per the 2010 constitution, Public and state officers are required to declare their financial status and interests during vetting On Tuesday May 30th 2023 Noordin Haji during his vetting in the National Assembly.

National Intelligence Service Director General nominee Noordin Haji, appeared before the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations for vetting on Tuesday, The outgoing director of public prosecution Noordin Haji faced the vetting panel in Parliament where he was grilled for his suitability to take up the national intelligence services as the director-general.

In a significant departure from protocol, the National Assembly committee made a decision to extend special consideration to Haji in regard to disclosures regarding his net



National Intelligence Service Director General nominee Noordin Haji



**Worth Noting:**

- In a significant departure from protocol, the National Assembly committee made a decision to extend special consideration to Haji in regard to disclosures regarding his net worth and sources of income.
- However, upon being requested to avail the information, Haji declined to share and requested that he submits the documents away from the glare of the media.
- Haji citing the sensitivity of his position and the need to safeguard national security, Haji argued that revealing his financial information could potentially be compromising.

worth and sources of income.

However, upon being requested to avail the information, Haji declined to share and requested that he submits the documents away from the glare of the media.

Haji citing the sensitivity of his position and the need to safeguard national security, Haji argued that revealing his financial information could potentially be compromising.

"Considering the sensitivity of the office I am going to hold, I request that I give it to the committee. It may be a national security issue at some point," he said.

One of the MPs who were present flagged Haji's choice of words, saying that the outgoing DPP had already assumed the committee would approve his nomination.

"I have the nominee say 'the office that I am going to hold'. It is as if we are done with our business and we should close shop and go," the MP put Haji on the spot, forcing him to apologise and adjust his language.

After consideration, the committee decided to break with tradition and grant Haji an exception, acknowledging the gravity of the concerns raised. The fate of Noordin Haji's

nomination now rests with the National Assembly, as they deliberate on whether to endorse his appointment as the Director General of the National Intelligence Haji is expected to take up his new mandate and lead the country as the new director of the National intelligence service which has come under sharp criticism for failing to combat some of the crimes including the deaths that happened in Shakahola Kilifi county where more than 200 plus bodies have been unburied, and over 500 individuals have been reported missing since the exercise commenced.

The Where Investors Get Returns

# MT. KENYA TIMES

**To advertise in Mt. Kenya Times read by discerning Kenyan professionals and the business community contact our exclusive UK & Europe Advertising and Marketing representatives.**



**ADLINK INTERNATIONAL**  
 (1989) MEDIA GROUP  
 GLOBAL PRINT, BROADCAST OUTDOOR & DIGITAL ADVERTISING  
 SERVING YOU SINCE 1989

**ADLINK INTERNATIONAL (1989) MEDIA GROUP**  
 16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0AF  
 Phone: 0330 606 1438 (44 330 606 1438)  
 Email: [media@adlinkinternational.com](mailto:media@adlinkinternational.com)  
[www.adlinkinternational.com](http://www.adlinkinternational.com)  
 Contact: Mr Shamlal Puri



# Come Join the best performing Sacco. we are open to all



- Enjoy high dividend rates
- Wide range of products
- Same day loan processing and disbursement
- Mobile banking services

## OUR BRANCHES

NAIROBI - NYERI - KARATINA - OTHAYA - NANYUKI

➔ (+254) 0725349343

[WWW.NEWFORTISACCO.COM](http://WWW.NEWFORTISACCO.COM)

**NewFortis**  **Sacco**

Because we are better together



# Azimio Want Finance Bill Withdrawn; Threaten To Lead Opposition Against Proposals

By: Nicholas Kigundu

to a housing fund as contained in the Finance Bill 2023.

Following the end of public participation, spearheaded by the departmental committee on finance and national planning, on the bill last Sunday, it is expected that issues of concern by the different stakeholders who participated in the exercise will be considered in amending the bill as part of public participation. It will then be tabled before Parliament for debate before it is signed into law by end of June with the proposals expected to take effect on 1 July 2023 after assent by the President.

The Bill has a timeline of approval of 30th June to coincide with the enactment of the Appropriation Law, 2023. It contains (84) clauses seeks to amend various tax laws and other related statutes to better the operations of financial sector as well as enhanced measures for raising national revenue.

The parliamentary meeting also upheld the suspension of the bipartisan talks between the government and

The Azimio coalition is calling for the withdrawal of the Finance bill 2023 saying it has failed the inclusivity test.

A parliamentary group meeting of the Azimio la Umoja party, chaired by their leader Raila Odinga, resolved that the bill as currently drafted must be withdrawn in totality.

According to the coalition, the finance Bill 2023 should instead be re-introduced in a manner that resonates with the plight of Kenyans.

Dubbed as among the most radical in the country's history, the bill, which was tabled before the national assembly on May 4th for the first reading, has ignited varied reactions with civil servants' unions threatening to stage a strike if the government fails to shelve a proposal to deduct a three percent levy on their salaries as a mandatory contribution



ODM Leader Raila Odinga.

the opposition aimed at addressing contentious issues. Representatives of the coalition in the talks had accused the government of not being sincere in addressing substantive issues including lowering the cost of

living, audit of electoral commission servers, interference with its affiliate parties and the reconstitution of IEBC.

The meeting also resolved to have Embakasi West MP Hon. Mark

Mwenje replace nominated MP Sabina Chege as the minority deputy whip Hon following the latter's decision to shift her allegiance to the ruling Kenya kwanza coalition.

# WFP To Support More Kenyans Reeling From Drought Impact

By: Margaret Kalekye

ing has washed away livestock, and destroyed farms, bringing yet more anguish for families," says Lauren Landis, WFP's Country Director in Kenya. "It will take years for farmlands and livestock to recover and humanitarian assistance remains a lifeline."

The United States Government, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), has contributed US\$390 million in 2022 and 2023 – the largest contribution by any single donor – to WFP's emergency drought response in Kenya.

Dubbed 'Lisha Jamii' (Kiswahili for 'feed families'), WFP's response is providing families with cash transfers and in-kind food, as well as treating malnutrition in pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five years of age.

"The generosity of the American people has enabled WFP to support the most vulnerable Kenyans through three years of drought and helped to prevent more people from

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is scaling up its emergency response to support hundreds of thousands of Kenyans affected by the impact of nearly three years of drought.

WFP is ramping up to support more than 940,000 drought-affected people – an increase from almost 600,000 people it supported last year.

The longest drought in the Horn of Africa's recorded history has left 4.4 million people in Kenya facing crisis levels of hunger or worse. Almost 1.5 million young children and women are acutely malnourished and nearly 3 million livestock have perished.

"The hunger emergency in Kenya is far from over. Years of drought has given way to rain, but flash flood-



WFP is ramping up to support more than 940,000 drought-affected people

falling into hunger and malnutrition – especially women and children," says Landis.

The Lisha Jamii response will support families for the next six months,

or until the next harvest season, in ten of the most drought-affected counties

The United States Government is also supporting more than 600,000

refugees in Kenya with food and cash assistance in Kakuma, Kalobeyei and Dadaab refugee camps.

# Mudavadi: African Leaders Should Promote Constitutionalism, Democracy

By: PCS



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi (C)..

## Worth Noting:

- Once African countries, through their leaders, embrace political competition to demonstrate the will of the people in progressive democratic growth, he affirmed that Africa will rise to be counted on the global map.

- “In democracy, you have to agree there is a moment you will win and there is a moment you will lose. Leaders should always remember that the will of the people through a transparent, credible, verifiable, legal and accepted process prevails over personal selfish interests. It is always paramount to let the will of the people be done,” he stated.

- He lobbied for an enhanced bi-lateral collaboration between Kenya and Nigeria, saying that the two countries continue to enjoy cordial relations cutting across many spheres.

African leaders should build strong political foundations for the growth of democracy and economic power in the continent, Prime Cabinet Secretary (PCS) Musalia Mudavadi has said.

He said it is high time that African leaders seize the opportunity being presented by the changing global dynamics to promote constitutionalism, progressive democracy and fidelity to the rule of law.

“The tenets of democracy call for fidelity in the rule of law and adhering to the set guidelines stipulated under the constitution. African leaders should rise to the occasion and be an example of leaders who mean well for their people by applying what is right at all the times,” said Mudavadi.

Mudavadi made the remarks in sideline bilateral talks, when he represented President William Ruto at the inauguration of the 16th President of Nigeria, Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

With the tough economic times being witnessed globally, Mudavadi said African countries have found themselves in a precarious situation.

This, he stated, calls for political stability, peace and sustainable democratic space if countries are to build a new economic frontier for sustainable growth.

Once African countries, through

their leaders, embrace political competition to demonstrate the will of the people in progressive democratic growth, he affirmed that Africa will rise to be counted on the global map.

“In democracy, you have to agree there is a moment you will win and there is a moment you will lose. Leaders should always remember that the will of the people through a transparent, credible, verifiable, legal and accepted process prevails over personal selfish interests. It is always paramount to let the will of the people be done,” he stated.

He lobbied for an enhanced bi-lateral collaboration between Kenya and Nigeria, saying that the two countries continue to enjoy cordial relations cutting across many spheres.

The PCS said Kenya and Nigeria have recently had extensive discussions on key areas of interest that will benefit citizens of not only both countries but also the continent.

He cited a number of instruments of cooperation signed between the two countries as an anchor to commitments in trade, service delivery and growth in democracy.

“We have signed quite a number of agreements including one that establishes a joint commission for cooperation dating back to 2013, one on cooperation in immigration matters signed in May 2014, and many

more,” pointed Mudavadi.

He called upon Ministries of Foreign Affairs in the two countries to work closely with respective High Commissions to ensure progressive evaluation and monitoring of resolutions when the instruments of cooperation were signed.

Mudavadi said there lies a huge potential if some of the other agreements can be fully actualized including the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Bilateral Air Service Agreement, the Bilateral Trade Agreement of 2014 and the MoU on a Five-Year multiple entry VISA for prominent business persons.

“Establishing a joint trade and investment committee as envisaged in the Bilateral Trade Agreement of 2014 is one of the areas we need to quickly operationalize. This will be a key starting point that will open critical areas of discussion and shape collaboration ties for Kenya and Nigeria,” said Mudavadi.

Also during the talks, the current situation in the transport connectivity between Kenya and Nigeria were deliberated upon, with the latter’s domestic flight sector said to have a massive potential in which Kenya’s national carrier, Kenya Airways can tap into.

Kenya and Nigeria are important

players in their respective regions.

While Nigeria is the largest economy in Africa, Kenya is a major economic hub in East Africa thus the many opportunities for trade and investment between the two countries.

The main exports from Kenya to Nigeria include tea, horticultural products, textiles, and processed foods, while Nigeria exports petroleum products, cement, and chemicals to Kenya.

Another area of interest is shared diplomacy of conflict management, where Kenya is ingrained in seeking solutions to conflicts in EAC and IGAD countries while Nigeria keeps watch on the volatile western rim of Africa.

Mudavadi presented congratulatory and message of good will to the new President, with the change of power as million of Nigerians and leaders from across the globe witnessed.

“Kenya is committed to continuous collaboration with Nigeria on bilateral, trade and diplomatic ties across many sectors ranging from agriculture, technology, renewable energy and the service industry,” said Mudavadi.

“I am honored to represent Ruto in the ceremony and delivered his message of good will and best wishes on behalf of Kenyans to the new President. We wish President Tinubu a successful and peaceful tenure moving into the future as this is the ultimate expression of democracy, constitutionalism and the rule of law,” Mudavadi stated.

Tinubu of All Peoples’ Congress (APC), won a hotly contested presidential election held on February 25 after garnering 8,794,726 votes.

Atiku Abubakar of the People’s Democratic Party (PDP) was second with 6,984,520 votes while Peter Obi of the Labour Party was third with 6,101,533 votes.

Tinubu, 70, was briefly the senator for Lagos West (1992-93) as well as the Governor of Lagos for two terms between 1999 and 2007.

# Reverent Soul Chatter Pt 1

The psalmist had revelation: “Sacrifice and offering you did not desire . . . burnt offerings and sin offerings

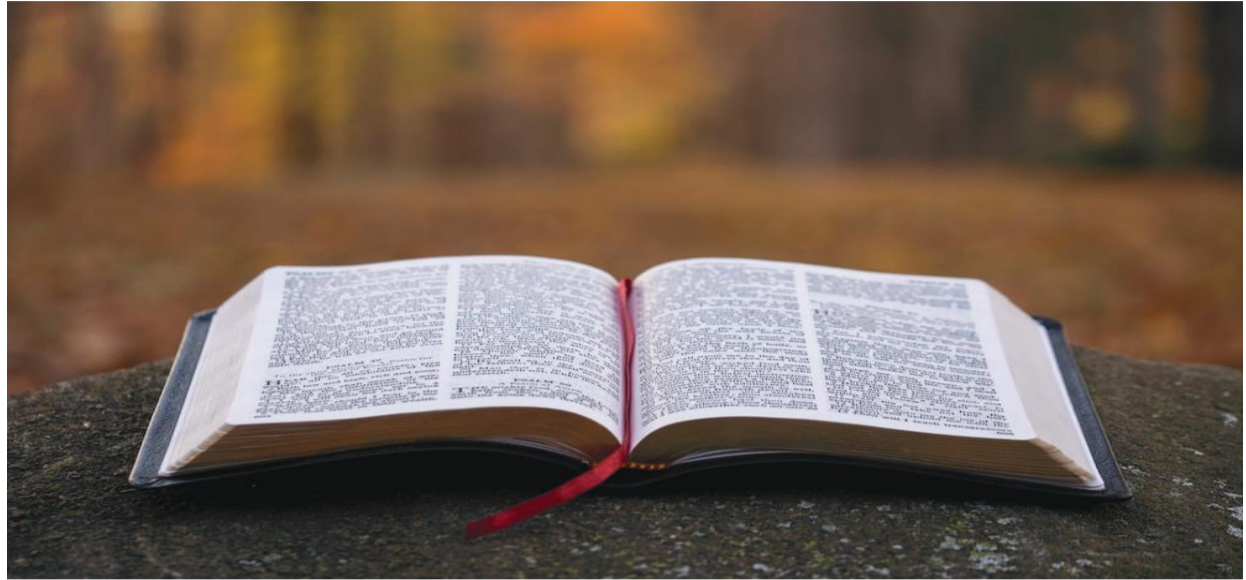


By: Eric Musa  
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

the scroll. To do your will, O my God, is my desire; your law is within my heart” (vv. 7, 8). The words of Scripture are not merely to be read but to be heard. They are meant to go to the heart! The importance of having our ears dug open comes to us from the lips of Jesus: “He who has an ear, let him hear . . .” (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22). We need to read God’s Word, but we must also pray that He will blast through our granite-block heads so we truly hear His Word.

you did not require.” The problem was that the Psalmist’s religious colleagues had read about how to do the rituals of sacrifice, but had missed the message. God had spoken, but they did not hear. So what does God do? He takes a pick and shovel and mines through the sides of the “cranial granite,” making openings through which His Word can pass to the mind and heart. The result is hearing, and the hearer responds, “Then I said, ‘Here I am, I have come — it is written about me in

When the Psalmist speaks of meditating on the Law of God day and night (Psalm 1:2), he uses a word which means “to mutter.”<sup>6</sup> This word was used to describe the murmurings of kings in Psalm 2:1, and for the chattering of doves in Isaiah 59:11. In fact, St. Augustine translated Psalm 1:2, “On his law he chatters day and night.”<sup>7</sup> Meditation is intrinsically verbal. This means the Psalmist memorized God’s Word — for one cannot continually mutter the Scripture without memorizing it, and vice versa. Personally applied, this tells us that along with our system-



atic reading of the Bible, we ought to select especially meaningful segments to reverently mutter over. Sometimes it may be a single verse — Philippians 3:10, for example, the four emphases of which I like to murmur in the NASB: “. . . THAT I MAY KNOW HIM, AND THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF HIS SUFFERINGS, BEING CONFORMED

TO HIS DEATH.”  
HALELUJAH ADONAI.  
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

# Preacher Arrested Over Seats Fund

By: The DCI

the suspect.  
Yesterday, Kariuki was arraigned at Wanguru law courts, where he answered to charges of obtaining money by false pretenses.  
FichuaKwaDCI Dial 0800 722 203

Police have arrested a clergyman suspected to have swindled the ACK Mwea Town Church, over Sh2 million, meant for the procurement of church seats.

On February 9, 2023, the church leadership contracted Apostle Blessed Gilbert Kariuki and his spouse to deliver 410 seats to the church on or before April 10, 2023 but the ‘Man of God’ neither delivered nor showed up.

As reported by the church faithful at Wang’uru Police station, the man of the cloth swindled them their money before disappearing. Efforts to reach him turned futile, prompting the church vicar to file the report.

Police immediately swung into action and successfully apprehended

Apostle Blessed Gilbert Kariuki .



# Ruto Housing Plan: Critics Were Peddling Propaganda And Half-Truth To Kill This Noble Idea



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



President Ruto's grand affordable housing plan.

## Worth Noting:

- The Bible says that God blesses the hand of a cheerful giver who contributes towards elevating the living standards of the poor and down-trodden.
- The Affordable Housing Plan is one of the proposals contained in the controversial Finance Bill 2023.
- The 'Hustlers' (those without a payslip) were excluded from paying the housing levy.
- The process starts with the drafting of the Bill which is then presented to the house for the first reading. No debate at this stage.
- First, the Bill has to be subjected to public participation. The relevant committees of house organize these forums and collect and collate the views of the people.

I have been listening to President William Ruto's tone while responding to the critics of his Affordable Housing Plan.

Contrary to the impression they created, Dr Ruto has been using the persuasive language to convince millions of the 'hustlers' that he means well for them.

During the campaigns, I promised you that I will work very hard to address the two main challenges: joblessness and lack of decent houses.

This mega infrastructure project resonates very well. It is set to create one million jobs every year.

Besides, 250,000 affordable housing units will be constructed within the same period.

When he visited Busia County a few days ago, he told the 'hustlers'.

The housing project is being opposed by those employed who received a payslip every month.

They do not want 3 per cent to be deducted from their salaries.

The same case applies to the top leaders of the Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Opposition coalition.

Each one pockets a pension of more than 1 million from the National Treasury every month.

These are the same personalities who say they love you and were ready to die for you. Really, do they?

When they oppose a deduction of 3 percent from their payslips, what

message are they sending?

They don't care. They want you to continue being poor and to live in a state of desperation and hopelessness.

As a born-again Christian, I agree with the President.

The Bible says that God blesses the hand of a cheerful giver who contributes towards elevating the living standards of the poor and down-trodden.

The Affordable Housing Plan is one of the proposals contained in the controversial Finance Bill 2023.

The 'Hustlers' (those without a payslip) were excluded from paying the housing levy.

The real estate developers are contracted to build these houses. Once completed, the government will buy them.

When selling the units, the state will give priority to the hustlers.

President Ruto has been reiterating. This will be a key milestone. For the first time in our history, the sons and daughters of the hustlers will own decent houses.

This will elevate them to the class of the wealthier and rich families.

For the critics, the push to derail Ruto plan is unstoppable.

Listen to this. President Ruto's position is that the deductions are compulsory. He is therefore imposing this plan down the throat of Ken-

yans.

I disagree. The president has no legal mandate to pass this proposal into law. This power is exercised by parliament.

The members will debate and thereafter each vote either in favor or against each of the clauses.

The process starts with the drafting of the Bill which is then presented to the house for the first reading. No debate at this stage.

First, the Bill has to be subjected to public participation. The relevant committees of house organize these forums and collect and collate the views of the people.

The Finance Bill 2023 has gone through the process.

Yes, I agree that Parliament is dominated by members of the ruling Kenya Kwanza alliance.

But I want to ask the critics. Are you suggesting the members did not understand their job? They were nothing but just a conveyor belt for the executive.

This is tantamount to insulting the intelligence of Kenyans. You are telling them they did not use their brains when they elected them.

For starters, the government is made up of three main arms: parliament, executive and Judiciary.

Though each is independent, the law requires them to always embrace the principle of interdependence and

complementarity.

Majorly, the role of a Member of Parliament is three pronged: Legislation, oversight and representation.

Regarding the Finance Bill 2023, one may ask. The President is drumming support for it. Does this amount to overstepping his legal mandate? No, he is not.

The law allows him to support the proposals, particularly those originating from the cabinet. This is because he is the head of the executive and chairs the cabinet meetings.

However, parliament has the final say. Members are at liberty to approve the proposals or reject some of the proposals, if not all.

Just like the President, the opposition leaders were entitled to discuss the Bill and come up with their position.

They will whip up their member to support this position when the Bill is tabled in parliament.

The Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Coalition leader Raila Odinga is opposed to it. His main point of concern is the proposal to deduct 3 percent from the basic salaries of the workers.

I would have expected him to be the last person to oppose this proposal? During the campaigns, the house plan proposal stood out as one of his main election pledges.

If elected President, I will roll out a massive affordable housing plan. Majority of our people, who migrated to urban centers, were living in poor and highly deplorable conditions in slums. 'My government' will build decent houses for them. This is a commitment I have given to you.

Raila would add: A huge chunk of money to build these houses will come from our pockets. He would single out those employed, civil servants, state officers and other workers. The Government will deduct 1.5 per cent from the payslip of each.

Yes, president Ruto has doubled the deductions to 3 per cent. This is well understood given the prevailing economic situation. If Raila won, many believe he could have done the same thing.

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

## Share Your Happiness

By: N. George

@themtkenyatimes



### Worth Noting:

- On the other hand acknowledging their contribution towards the success of the student motivates them to support him in future or other students with a similar need. They too wish to enjoy the fruits of their labour.
- When a parent is happy with his kids they too become happy with him and could easily open up to him telling him what their hobbies are and what circumstances they are undergoing through that the parent was not previously aware of. At this point he is able to advise them where need be. Once they heed to his advice his joy is multiplies as he feels honoured by acceptance of his ideas.

*Happiness is something that multiplies when it is divided..... Paulo Coelho.*

Laughing similar to coughing is contagious that is why once you do it someone near you will tend to react exactly as you have done even without you having instructed him to do so.

If you happen to laugh those in your midst would in turn feel happy and laugh back at you.

A child who is yet to learn how to talk usually smiles at the person he likes signaling that he is ready to embrace that him or he feels safe with that person. Full of happiness the stranger who the kid smiles at smiles back as a way of accepting the warm reception he has received from the kid.

People who are unable to understand your language can frown at

you to indicate that they do not want to associate with you otherwise any smile is a sign of welcome to feel appreciated and as an indicator to continue with the association. This way you would break the language barrier through a smile as your audience can easily understand this sign even without having to utter any single word.

When the national exam results are released the top candidates are happy for their performance and do not shy from openly celebrating. The public is eager to know those who have performed well. To achieve the exemplary performance it is usually combined efforts of the students, parents, guardians, teaching staff, subordinate staff and other stakeholders for example all those who provided conducive environment among them the fellow students.

Failure to recognize any stakeholder demoralizes them making them unwilling to offer their support in future to that person or other persons in need of their support.

On the other hand acknowledging their contribution towards the success of the student motivates them to support him in future or other students with a similar need. They too wish to enjoy the fruits of their labour.

When a parent is happy with his kids they too become happy with him and could easily open up to him telling him what their hobbies are and what circumstances they are undergoing through that the parent was not previously aware of. At this point he is able to advise them where need be. Once they heed to his advice his joy is multiplies as he feels honoured by acceptance of his ideas.

Whenever you share the joy of your success those who consider you as their role model will feel more attracted to you. They will wish to be like you or perform better than you so your success goes beyond you. Never fail to let others join you in celebrating your success.

If you have a cake and share it with other people everyone will attest that he knows the taste of it and will acknowledge that you have been generous to him.

Any story that motivates you has a potential of giving a similar effect to those you share it with. Do not ignore it perhaps it may motivate hundreds of thousands or millions of people who hear it and associate it with your success or who could be in a similar situation.

# Boost for SMEs as Pesapal Introduces Real-Time Settlement of Payments in Kenya

By: John Kariuki  
 @themtkenyatimes

Pesapal, a leader in building payments and business tools for Africa, has introduced real-time settlement for merchants in Kenya, enabling fast transfer of funds into their accounts.

Through Pesapal's e-wallet Openfloat, merchants who use the Pesapal platform can receive funds faster.

Real-time settlement offers several benefits to merchants, including quicker access to funds, improved cash flow management, reduced risk of fraud, and better customer experience. The development, therefore, empowers businesses, especially Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and large organizations, with the flexibility to manage their money and make time-sensitive payments.

Speaking during the launch, Pesapal CEO and Founder Agosta Liko said

this new feature ensures that funds are available to merchants immediately, enabling businesses to streamline their operations and make better financial decisions.

"We are thrilled to introduce real-time settlement on the Pesapal platform. From now on, our merchants will have quicker access to their funds, ultimately improving the health of their business." Pesapal Group CEO Agosta Liko said.

Merchants using Openfloat enjoy various benefits which include payouts to bank accounts and mobile money. One can view transaction reports and track their cash flow in real-time.

Pesapal has a footprint across Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda. The organization processes over 12 million transactions monthly and is on track to connect a million African entrepreneurs to e-commerce, digital payments and the global financial system by 2030.



A Nairobi shopper uses a Pesapal Sabi POS to make payments in a Niqnaq shop. Sabi POS is a countertop PDQ machine built with modern retailers and platforms in mind. Customers can tap, insert and swipe, while the merchants will instantly receive payment in their bank accounts.

# Kilimani Project Foundation Enters Into An MOU With Architectural Association Of Kenya

By: John Kariuki  
 @themtkenyatimes

The Kilimani Project Foundation is pleased to sign an MoU with the Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK) designed to identify the Kilimani area as the centre of innovation in the built environment so as to provide a template for planned development for the rest of Kenya.

AAK have been long-time friends of the foundation and have collaborated numerous times, especially on advocacy issues around planned development. This MoU formalises our collaboration on joint advocacy and communication initiatives pertaining to the built environment, with a particular focus on hosting joint Barazas & Stakeholder dialogues to discuss built environment industry-related matters and conducting joint media

campaigns for effective outreach.

"Virtually all emergent issues facing Kilimani are planning issues. As the Foundation, we are committed to ensuring that Kilimani gets a Local Physical Development Plan to ensure sustainable growth" said Daniel Nyakora, the Foundation Chairperson. "I'm excited about this partnership because it brings in professional voices that would help further our advocacy efforts towards an inclusive and sustainable Kilimani. The intention is to also inspire other urban communities to take a more active role towards the development of their neighbourhoods."

During the signing, AAK President, Arch. Florence Nyole said "This MoU cements the intention of AAK to collaborate and create synergy to pioneer a well-planned neighbourhood in recognition of the inevitable densification rapidly taking place. We trust that this joint advocacy will



Kilimani Project Foundation Enters Into An MOU With Architectural Association Of Kenya .

result in a sustainable urban area and present an example to be emulated by the rest of Nairobi and other rapidly urbanising areas in Kenya."

This MoU takes effect immediately and would be renewable in perpetuity as we continue to advocate for more sustainable, people-centred ur-

ban environments.

## A Great Gift



By: Raximboeva Mahliyo Omonboy

I go to the field every day.  
I look at the sky quietly and gently, and I am amazed at its purity and clarity. It was as if the Savzabots were smiling at me. I wrote down the birthdays of my dear grandmother while doing field work. And now I am suffering from the pain of my conscience.

I still haven't figured out what to give and what to buy.

I think that I never deserve to be my grandmother's grandson. When I say give money to my uncle, they say that they don't have enough money. My grandma's birthday is tomorrow and I'm still over the moon.

If I ask my friends for advice, they are all on vacation. And my parents will definitely tell my grandmother in advance that I am preparing a gift.

I lie down at night looking at the stars. The morning also became a father. At breakfast in the morning, everyone started congratulating my grandmother on her birthday.

My father gave me a shirt and a scarf, and my sister Zamira gave me a bunch of freshly cut red roses.

My grandmother's face lit up so much that tears began to fall from her eyes. I didn't eat breakfast. Because I didn't prepare any gift for my grandmother. I quietly left the back door of our yard. While I was walking on the street, the idea of what to give as a gift came to my mind, and I immediately rushed to the yard, that is, to my grandmother.

I jumped into my grandmother's arms and hugged them tightly. I hugged with all my love. I looked at them with a beautiful smile. I smiled so hard that tears of joy started to fall from my eyes. My grandmother was surprised. According to them:

- Grandmother, the reason why I hugged you tightly is because I gave my little love. My beautiful smile is also for you, grandmother. With this love and smile, I wish you eternal health. Your love, your smile, your health are very important to me.

My grandmother was so sad that I can't describe her condition. My grandmother said that she had never seen such a wonderful gift in her life. Every year I prepared wonderful gifts for my grandmother's birthdays.

## It Can't Be Like Me

Feelings of longing again engulf me  
If I can't find a way to sleep  
The sorrows of emigration are  
heartbreaking  
Remember you in the world

I miss you from my life  
I know we can't be together  
I know that sea-colored eyes do  
not look at me  
Beside you, others cheer you up

It can't be like me anyway  
If you remember me, you can't be  
like me anyway  
Let me hold your hand  
When talking about love pinkhon

Saida Ismoilova



## Mom, I Miss You



I don't sleep at night,  
A sadness fills my heart  
I don't know what kind of feeling it is?  
Mom, I miss you

Every morning I open my hands to pray  
I pray to God alone  
Let him take you to his shelter  
Mom, I miss you

Diyora Kholmajonova Bakhodir's daughter was born on October 27, 2009 in Nurafshon, Tashkent region. She is 14 years old now.

Official member of Egypt's Organization for Creativity, Argentina's Juntos por las letras international organization and Pakistan's IQRA Foundation  
Winner of more than 30 republican Olympiads

Official delegate of international forums. His creative works have been published in countries such as Kenya, Uzbekistan, and Moldova and are available for sale on online sites.

A feeling divides the heart  
I wish my way was near  
My heart still misses you  
Mom, I miss you

Let me be a guest  
I know what's in your heart  
What else do you want?  
Mom, I miss you

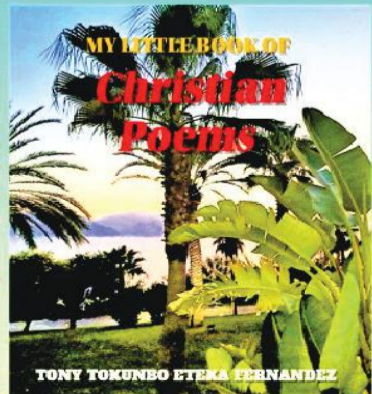
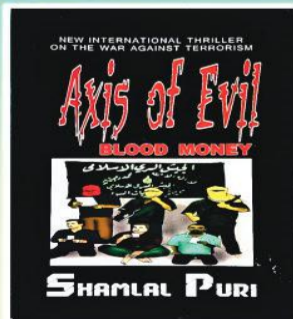
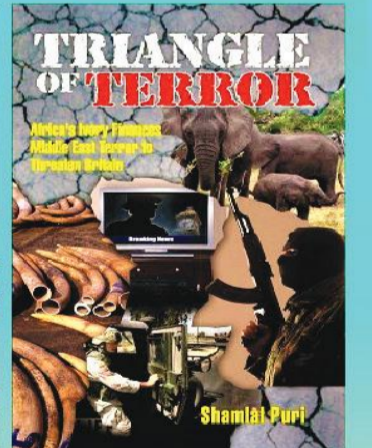
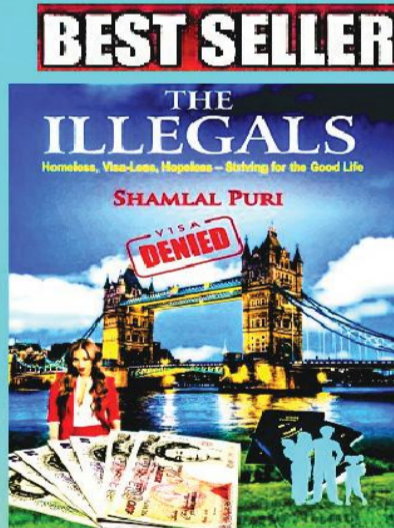
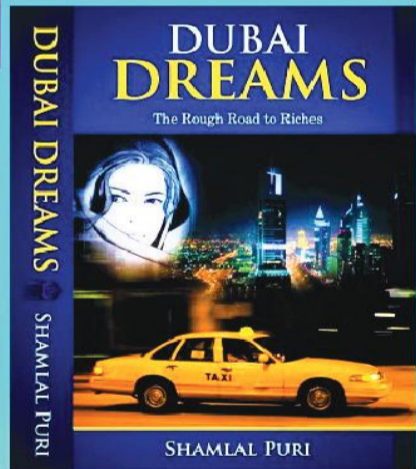
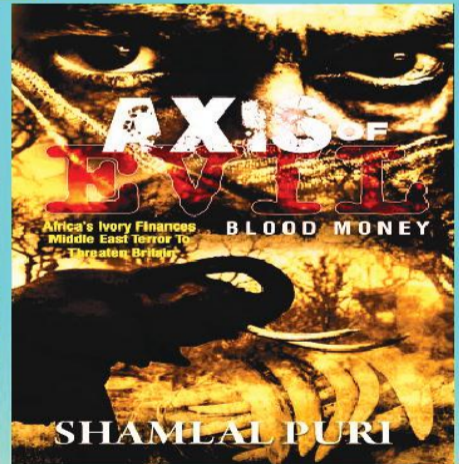
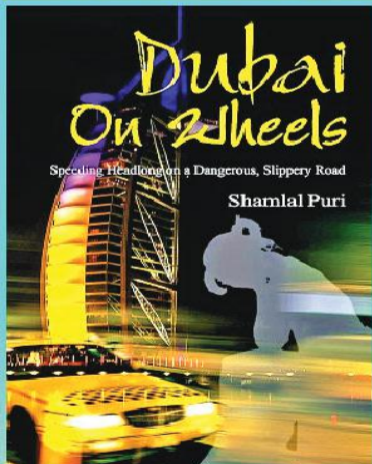
# DO YOU WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?

## ARE YOU A WRITER OR CORPORATE? Let Professional Editors and Authors turn your story into a Dream Book.

THRILLERS - FICTION - FACTION - BIOGRAPHIES - TRAVELOGUES - HUMOUR- COFFEE TABLE - BROCHURES

London-based contract Publishers for independent and self-publish authors.

We offer one-stop top notch Editing, Expert Design, Proof Reading, Book Covers, Artwork, Digital, Litho Printing, E-Books, Corporate Brochures and UK ISBN number. Reasonable costs. We print and deliver books. Authors retain 100% sales profits.



The Crownbird Publishers logo and imprint owned by Adlink International (1989) Media Group London

Copies of some books available for sale: hard copy/digital. Contact us: media@adlinkinternational.com Email Subject: Crownbird Books



ADLINK INTERNATIONAL (1989) MEDIA GROUP  
Books Division  
16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0AF (UK)  
Tel: 44 330 606 1438  
Email: media@adlinkinternational.com  
www.adlinkinternational.com

# WILDLIFE

## 2021 Census: 83% Of Wildlife In Mara Landscape Live In Conservancies

By: Beth Nyaga



Wildlife

### Worth Noting:

- According to the report which was released in Narok County, the most abundant species were the wildebeest which were 32,281, the common zebras (32,358), buffalos (11,604), Impalas (10,610), Thomson gazelles (8,278), Topi (6,923), Grants gazelles (3,892), elephants (2,595), giraffes (2,109) and the elands (1,280).
- Other rare animals which were opportunistically sighted include the rhinos, lesser kudu, wild dogs, klip-springer, cheetah and lions but their numbers were not reported as the aerial census is not the right method to count them.
- Speaking on the report, Samson Lenjir, National Elephant Programme Coordinator, WWF-Kenya said that animal census and data sharing are important for scientific research and monitoring the trends to help make policies for wildlife management.

There has been a general population increase of large mammal species over the last three decades.

This is according to the 2021 census of large mammals in the Maasai Mara ecosystem that revealed that the landscape still hosts a wide diversity of wildlife.

The report which was published in May 2022 by the Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI) and the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) with the support of WWF-Kenya noted that 83.7 per cent of the wildlife lives outside of protected areas in community and private owned lands while only 16.2 per cent live in the Maasai Mara National Reserve.

A total of 17 wildlife species were recorded during the census which was undertaken in May 2021 and covered 12,500 square kilometers.

According to the report which was released in Narok County, the most abundant species were the wildebeest which were 32,281, the common zebras (32,358), buffalos (11,604), Impalas (10,610), Thomson gazelles (8,278), Topi (6,923), Grants gazelles (3,892), elephants (2,595), giraffes (2,109) and the elands (1,280).

Other rare animals which were opportunistically sighted include the rhinos, lesser kudu, wild dogs, klip-springer, cheetah and lions but their numbers were not reported as the aerial census is not the right method to count them.

Speaking on the report, Samson Lenjir, National Elephant Programme Coordinator, WWF-Kenya said that animal census and data sharing are important for scientific research and monitoring the trends to help make policies for wildlife management.

“It is also important to engage communities throughout the process for them to understand and appreciate how the growth of wildlife numbers can translate to prosperity and improvement of their livelihoods. Conservation as a land use must be meaningful and beneficial to people for it to be sustainable,” he averred.

Meanwhile, the census also revealed that different environmentally destructive activities were observed. These include charcoal burning, tree felling and burned areas.

In addition, the report indicates that human footprints such as settlements, livestock, and infrastructural

development continue to affect wildlife habitats throughout the Mara ecosystem negatively. The major drivers of habitat loss are land division, improved infrastructure and changes in land use.

Further, it was noted that various human activities have gravely affected habitat connectivity between the conservancies and to a more considerable extent to the critical areas such as Mosiro and Loita Forest.

“The wildlife animal corridors between Naboisho and Siana, Olkinyei and Olarro have disappeared and are currently made worse by new permanent homes along the new tarmacked Narok-Sekenani road,” read the report in part.

On human-wildlife conflict, Captain Robert Obrien, KWS Senior Assistant Director, Community Relations and Outreach Division said that the Ministry of Wildlife, Tourism and Heritage is set to launch the National Human-Wildlife Coexistence Strategy that will address the issues of compensation, and provide elaborate mitigation strategies for dealing with human-wildlife co-existence.

“We’re working with the county wardens to specifically tackle the

issue of wildlife corridors in their respective county spatial plans. When this is addressed, this issue will be reduced. More importantly, partners in all wildlife ecosystems must work together in sharing research information for the better management of wildlife and their habitats,” he said.

Based on the results of the aerial census, WRTI and the KWS recommended that transboundary wildlife monitoring and census between Kenya and Tanzania be harmonised to get a more accurate status of wildlife in the entire ecosystem.

In addition, it was recommended that key habitat linkages and migratory pathways be secured and maintained by strengthening the institutional framework involvement.

The stakeholders’ dissemination meeting was attended by the Narok County Government, Kenya Wildlife Service, Wildlife Research and Training Institute, Kenya Wildlife Trust, and Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association.



**Stuck with  
your taxes?**

**We are one call away!**

**0711 099 999  
020 4 999 999**

**7am to 9pm - Monday - Friday**

**9am to 4pm - Saturday**

**9am to 1pm - Sunday**



 **020 4 999 999 / 0711 099 999**

 **callcentre@kra.go.ke**

 **www.kra.go.ke**

# MKU Joins Esports As Universities Embrace Competitive Gaming

By: James Wakahiu  
@themtkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- Esports, the competitive world of video gaming, offers numerous benefits and opportunities for students, universities, and corporates alike. Embracing this growing phenomenon can greatly enrich the educational experience and foster a thriving gaming community.
- Consequently, the university's Esports management team has commenced a recruitment drive for the upcoming season. "If you have a burning passion for competitive gaming and want to showcase your skills, this is your chance to shine," the team said in statement.
- The team is actively seeking talented individuals for the games of Tekken, NBA2K, and FIFA. Whether you're a master at executing combos in Tekken, a strategic genius in NBA2K, or a goal-scoring prodigy in FIFA, we want to hear from you.

Mount Kenya University (MKU) has unveiled a state-of-the-art gaming equipment at its Main campus in Thika town in a bid to fast track its students grab a stake in the fast rising world of electronic sports (Esports).

The new equipment was officially handed over to students by the Chairman Board of Directors, Prof Simon Gicharu. The launch event showcased the university's commitment to innovation, technology, and the holistic development of students. "By recognizing the potential of esports, universities in Kenya can create an inclusive environment that nurtures talent, empowers students, and prepares them for the ever-evolving digital landscape," Prof Gicharu said.

Esports, the competitive world of video gaming, offers numerous benefits and opportunities for students, universities, and corporates alike. Embracing this growing phenomenon can greatly enrich the educational experience and foster a thriving gaming community.

Consequently, the university's Esports management team has commenced a recruitment drive for the upcoming season. "If you have a burning passion for competitive gaming and want to showcase your skills, this is your chance to shine," the team said in statement.

The team is actively seeking talented individuals for the games of Tekken, NBA2K, and FIFA. Whether you're a master at executing combos in Tekken, a strategic genius in NBA2K, or a goal-scoring prodigy in FIFA, we want to hear from you.

In the traditional sports, MKU emerged Third Best Overall among Kenyan universities and subsequently the eighth best East African institution during the 12th edition of Eastern Africa Universities games that were held at Ndejje University, Uganda in December 2022. The event attracted 35 universities across Eastern Africa.

However, the world of esports is exploding in Kenya, with an increasing number of young people achieving success in competitive gaming. Although not well known, esports is gaining momentum — from diverse gaming models, innovative content development and dynamic relationships with the creative economy.

In 2022, Kenya made a debut in the Global Esports Games held in Istanbul, Turkey. Eight of Kenya's best gamers competed against African nations such as Ghana, Nigeria, Tu-



nia, Djibouti, Libya, Somalia and Namibia, and the world's best.

At the core of Esports is competitive gaming — whether video or online. Players face off against each other in a range of games, with various tournaments and leagues offering massive prize money. Popular games in Kenya include FIFATM, FortniteTM, and League of LegendsTM, with dedicated communities of players and fans.

The growth of esports in Kenya has been fuelled by factors such as high-speed internet availability, affordable gaming hardware and opportunities to connect and compete with gamers from all over the world. This is closely linked to the creative economy, which combines art, technology and storytelling to create an entertaining experience.

Experts say participating in esports enhances various transferable skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, teamwork, and communication, which are highly valued in today's job market. The exercise provides a platform for students to engage with cutting-edge technology, thereby promoting digital literacy and equipping them with valuable technical skills needed for the digital era.

By establishing an esports program, universities can create a vibrant community that brings together students with shared interests, fostering camaraderie, collaboration, and a sense of belonging.

The rise of esports has led to the emergence of professional teams, leagues, and tournaments worldwide. Universities can offer scholarships to talented players, providing a pathway for esports enthusiasts to pursue their dreams. Corporate Partnerships and Sponsorships

Universities can forge partnerships



Mount Kenya University (MKU) has unveiled a state-of-the-art gaming equipment at its Main campus in Thika town in a bid to fast track its students grab a stake in the fast rising world of electronic sports (Esports).

-Entry to the gaming room, a player displays some of the disks for the different games, and MKU founder and BOD chairman Prof Simon Gicharu during the launch. PHOTO; COURTESY.

with corporates and sponsors who are eager to invest in the growing esports industry, providing financial support, infrastructure, and valuable networking opportunities for students. By embracing esports, universities can enhance their brand image and attract potential students who are interested in pursuing gaming-related degrees and careers, thus boosting enrollment and institutional visibility.

Esports players, by and large, are paid well. For instance, a career in esports is currently one of the most sought-after jobs with the youth in India and while the industry is relatively new, the potential it presents in terms of popularity, reach and earning potential cannot be denied. South Korea has consistently produced some of the best competitive gaming stars the world has ever seen. There are no courses to become a professional. Basically, you need to practice playing for many hours and

analyze how the best players play. However, some academies look for new talents and clubs that train players to represent them in their teams.

The Esports Kenya Federation (ESKF) is a body licensed by the Government of Kenya to serve the Esports sector and form a nation-wide network of Esports players' clubs and regulate the sector. The industry players believe Esports in Kenya is a sunrise industry with its market size and economic importance set to bloom in the next few years and Kenya could harness its economic potentials in the long run. "Going forward, esports could potentially bring computer gaming from the private and uncontrolled sphere to the public controlled sphere within which youth benefit from the support network of senior/adults, such as coaches and trainers and peers alike," says the Federation.

# Explore Prior To Piercing and Tattooing



By: Dennis Wendo

Email: dambehi@gmail.com

Fashion is a less-enduring way of self-expression. A tattoo is an immutable form of fashion, it entails rupturing the skin with a needle to insert indelible colors that leave life-long marks. Variantly, tattoos hold rich historical and cultural gravity on the body, conveying personal, social and spiritual connotations.

Fashion and tattoos are intrinsically linked and have an almost magnetic appeal to many teens. By and large teens and their parents are often at odds over the acquisition of bodily decorations. For a teen, piercing or tattooing is personal adornment and beautification. To parents it is a battleground; they construe them as oppositional and enraging affronts to their authority.

Religious standpoints on tattooing encompass diverse attitudes within different religious traditions. Interpretations of tattooing vary widely, from acceptance and endorsement to strict prohibitions associating it with the desecration of the sacred body. For instance, in Christianity, opinions range from discouragement based on the sanctity of the body as a temple. Judaism prohibits tattooing as self-mutilation. Islam discourages tattoos as altering the natural state of the body.

Youngsters get enticed to tattoos through peer pressure, media influence or for personal expression. Presently, the trend is gradually on reverse with the trade of tattoo removal scaling up within cities and towns in the country. Complete tattoo removal is difficult, skin colour variation always remains, regardless of the specific method used.

Exceptionally, the process, cost and duration of removing tattoos is sturdy, agonizing, expensive and time consuming. There is a need to delve deeper and analyse the pros and cons of tattooing before embracing.

Disciplined forces such as national youth service, police, prisons and military do not entertain a prospective recruit bearing a tattoo. Majority of employers have followed suit and do not offer opportunities to candidates harbouring indelible body marks or designs, despite having the required qualifications. Such scenarios end up terminating careers and yield frustration to parents who have worked hard and invested in educating their children. Instances of stress and depression have been witnessed on teens that fail to secure opportunities because of tattoos. Many resolve into drug and substance abuse and criminal activities to vent anger



Piercing and Tattooing.

and make ends meet.

Strikingly, it takes 6 to 10 sessions, scheduled 6 to 8 weeks apart to 98 percent remove a tattoo. The length of time depends on various individual factors such as skin tone, age, size of tattoo and location, ink types and depth, aftercare, sun exposure and immune health. Common techniques used to remove tattoos include, salabrasion and dermabrasion, skin excision, subcutaneous injections of solutions, tattoo removal cream and laser surgery.

Salabrasion consists of the abrasion of the epidermis and dermis with a salt-based solution. Dermabrasion is similar except it uses a mechanical method that consists of the abrasion of the epidermis and dermis with a rotating mechanical instrument. Both processes are very painful and cause visible long-term damage to the epidermis.

Skin excision involves the surgical removal of the tattooed skin. It leaves

a scar, depending on the size of the tattoo. Subcutaneous injections, involves injecting solutions under the skin, with the intent of leaching out the tattoo ink. These solutions often have an effect on the epidermis and dermis and leave long-term scars or burn-like marks.

A tattoo removal cream is painless and attractive due to its low cost and perceived ease of use. However, it remains extremely difficult to remove ink from the dermis with a cream. Laser surgery involves releasing a single powerful pulse using a special type of laser.

As we admire and cuddle fashion, it remains key to understand threats that come along with it. Tattooing is a process that needs experts on initiating and clearing. This is not the case; quacks have taken advantage of the situations and are minting cash by offering these services to the many gullible youths.

The re-use of needles on various

clients has largely contributed to the re-infection of HIV/AIDS to the consumers. Able youths have lost lifelong opportunities by virtue of having these body marks that are unacceptable by different employers and forces. They have been exposed to health risks, permanent deformities, severe illness, and deaths.

In January, 2020, 10 students of St. Mary's Boys Secondary School in Nyeri were suspended for having tattoos. There is a need to have legal provisions to regulate this emerging trend as well as increased campaign awareness in our learning institutions championed by teachers, lecturers, student leaders and associations, media, inter-faith based organizations, civil societies as well as at family level units on the effects of tattoos.

Dennis Wendo  
 Founder- Integrated Development Network  
 Email: dambehi@gmail.com

## Worth Noting:

- Salabrasion consists of the abrasion of the epidermis and dermis with a salt-based solution. Dermabrasion is similar except it uses a mechanical method that consists of the abrasion of the epidermis and dermis with a rotating mechanical instrument. Both processes are very painful and cause visible long-term damage to the epidermis.
- Skin excision involves the surgical removal of the tattooed skin. It leaves a scar, depending on the size of the tattoo. Subcutaneous injections, involves injecting solutions under the skin, with the intent of leaching out the tattoo ink. These solutions often have an effect on the epidermis and dermis and leave long-term scars or burn-like marks.



15 & 16  
DEC  
2023

# Thembelani Majingo 4th annual tournament

## CHAMPION PRIZES :



### Prizez

- ✓ Soccer Kit Premier Set of 15 Branded TMT
- ✓ Trophy
- ✓ 20 Gold Medals
- ✓ Ball & 10 Beeps

### Time

09:00 AM

### VENUE

Green Central Sports Ground, Madibogo, NW

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE BEST FOOTBALL

# Upgrade Stadia For 2027 AFCON

By: Joseph Njuguna

@themkenyatimes

The announcement by President William Ruto that Kenya has joined Tanzania and Uganda in a bid to host the 2027 AFCON is certainly a balm to football lovers. It is my hope that this time around Kenya will be well prepared, as it has missed being a host before. In 1993, Kenya was chosen to host the 1996 AFCON; however, due to various challenges and issues, including delays in infrastructure development and concerns about security, the Confederation of African Football (CAF) decided to move the tournament to South Africa.

With the three nations bidding to host the competition, the benefits and exposure it will bring to the country cannot be overlooked. Our stadiums need to meet international standards in order to win the bid. Kasarani and Nyayo are far from ready when it comes to hosting a competition. This calls for quick action before the deadline to submit the bid expires



# Young People To Embrace Arts To Create More Opportunities

By: Joseph Njuguna

@themkenyatimes

In today's rapidly evolving world, the potential of art goes beyond creative expression. It has the ability to foster economic growth, empower communities, and create funding opportunities, particularly for the youth.

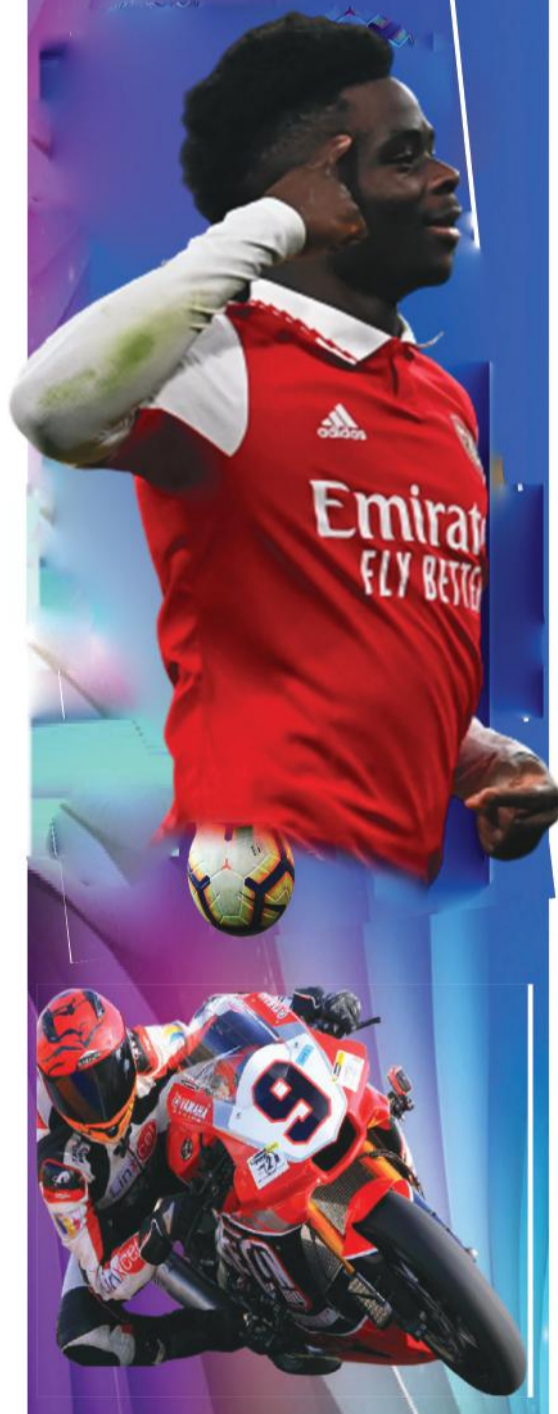
By embracing art in all its forms, young individuals can tap into a world of possibilities and open doors to financial independence and sustainable careers



Creative Arts

# SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS  
SCORES  
OPINIONS  
STATISTICS  
SCHEDULES  
BREAKING NEWS



## Bad Day In Office For Fastest Man Omanyala



Ferdinand Omanyala Omanyala finishes third in the 100m race in the Rabat Diamond League .

By: **Ishmael Nyanoti**

What a bad day in office for Africa's fastest man Ferdinand Omanyala Omanyala is optimistic after coming third in the 100m race in the Rabat Diamond League meet

Omanyala was beaten by World Champion Fred Kerley and South African sprinter Akani Simbine

The fastest human being looks to redeem himself in the next Diamond League later this week in Italy

Kenya's fastest man Ferdinand Omanyala has vowed to bounce back stronger after losing to World Champion, American Fred Kerley, in the Rabat Diamond League 100m showdown held in Morocco

Omanyala finished third in 10.05. Kerley set a new meet record of 9.94 seconds to come

first. Former Africa 100m champion and record holder Akani Simbine finished second in 9.99.

The Rabat Diamond League was set to be a showdown between Kerley and 2020 Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Marcell Jacobs. However, the Italian pulled out of the race. The two sprinters were engaged in some trash-talking leading up to the race, per Prefontaine Classic.

Omanyala's defeat was his first of the season but has a chance to bounce back to the track in the upcoming Diamond League meet in Florence, Italy, on Friday, June 2, 2023.

Ahead of the race boldly predicted that he will not lose another race this year, per Capital Sports. The Rabat showpiece was his second-ever Diamond League event. He made his debut in the Brussels Diamond League in 2021, where he timed

10.02 to finish fourth.

After Sunday's defeat, the fastest man in Africa was undeterred.

"Confidence looks like arrogance to people who don't believe in themselves. We shall rise again," he wrote on Instagram.

He recently revealed his goal is to win gold at the World Athletics Championships in Budapest, Hungary.

"The goal remains the gold in Budapest...we are going for the World Championships in Budapest," he said.

Omanyala's wife discusses their journey

When Omanyala stormed into the semi-finals of the 100-metre event of the Tokyo Olympics in August 2021, many thought he would be a passing facade.

Nearly 18 months later, the 27-year-old brought the African

record down to 9.77 seconds, won the African title, and then claimed the Commonwealth title.

Sports Brief conducted an exclusive interview with Omanyala's wife, Laventa Amutavi, who gave insight into how her husband became Africa's fastest man.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>** \*Athletics Kenya (AK) have been exalted as a model federation for other sports bodies in Kenya to emulate on how to cater for the welfare of their sportspersons under their jurisdiction

## Athletics Kenya Praised As Example Of A 'Serious' And 'Focused' Federation In Kenya



FROM LEFT: Athletics Kenya president Jack Tuwei, AK youth development chair Barnaba Korir and former Sports PS Jonathan Mueke. PHOTO/RAYMOND MAKHAYA.

Athletics Kenya (AK) have been exalted as a model federation for other sports bodies in Kenya to emulate on how to cater for the welfare of their sportspersons under their jurisdiction.

Sports Cabinet Secretary Ababu Namwamba said AK have distinguished themselves from other federations in the country for their keenness to athletes' affairs and dedication to bettering their lives beyond the track and field. "I want to challenge all the other federations to borrow a leaf from Athletics Kenya...borrow a leaf on how to manage affairs of a federation and how to manage the affairs of the young sportsmen and women under your care," the CS said.

Namwamba was speaking on Tuesday when he witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between AK and Housing Finance Corporation (HFC) Group, which seeks to provide athletes with houses at affordable rates.

The new partnership will enable athletes across the country, as well as other members of the federation, to access housing facilities at incentivised interest

rate of 9.5 per cent as per the Kenya Mortgage Refinancing Company (KMRC).

Namwamba exalted the partnership, noting that it aligns with the affordable housing programme of the Kenya Kwanza Administration.

"This partnership has the full backing of the government through the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs. My presence here today is testament to the government's backing for this initiative. We all know that decent, dignified shelter is not only a basic human requirement but a constitutional right. That is why affordable housing is a core item of the Bottoms Up transformation agenda," the CS said.

He added: "I want to encourage all athletes to take advantage of this programme...it is a very beautiful programme...I have looked at it. It offers a wide variety of selection including one, two or three bedroomed houses."

Speaking at the same function, AK president Jack Tuwei described the partnership as an idea whose time has come, noting the decades-long challenges that have ambushed Kenyan athletes.

"Nothing gives humans more peace in their hearts than the knowledge they will always have a roof over their heads for the rest of their lives. This is exactly what this partnership offers to tens of thousands of athletes in this country," Tuwei said.

He thanked the government for the affordable housing programme, adding that AK is more than ready to play its part in ensuring this vision is actualised — as far as Kenyan athletes are concerned.

"We have witnessed media reports of famous Kenyan sportsmen and women issuing Mpesa paybills for assistance to deal with various issues, such as illnesses, injuries as well as homelessness. Therefore, we thank the government for coming up with this noble idea (affordable housing) and for leading as others like us follow," Tuwei said.

On his part, HFC Group CEO Robert Kibaara expressed his personal pride at being part of a scheme to transform the lives of Kenyan athletes — some of who he idolised when growing up.

"I remember when I was young, I used to see John Ngugi (five-

time world cross country champion) passing near our house everyday as we went training. At some point I used to live along Langata Road and would often see Catherine Ndereba (two-time world marathon champion). Athletics has been a big source of pride for our country," Kibaara said.

He added: "When we identify a house for you, we will then help you to finance the purchase. We will not leave you alone but will guide you all through the way. When you see our world beaters cross the finish line, it is not by luck but by hard work. We have a duty to support our own and this is why we are here today."

To enlist into the scheme, athletes will have to open a Nyumba Yangu savings account with HFC to raise a minimum deposit of 12.5 per cent or as prescribed by the partners.

They will also benefit from training and awareness on prudent financial management.

Capital Sport

# SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS  
SCORES  
OPINIONS  
STATISTICS  
SCHEDULES  
BREAKING NEWS



# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



## Military Lesson (Харбий Дарс)

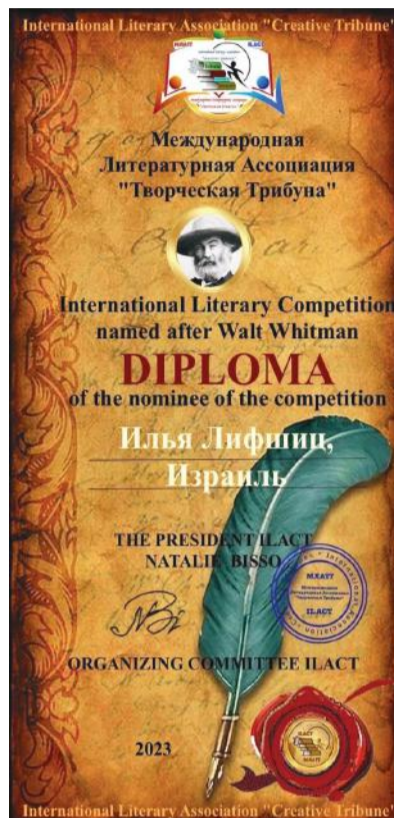


Reserve officer Gulom Abdiyev straighten up  
One, two, three ...  
One, two, One !...

Gulom Abdiyev.

Step forward  
One, two, three ...  
One, two, One !...  
Energize the soul  
Energize the eyes  
Let the tears go away  
from your body.  
Let it take place in the heart,  
endure with patience.  
Let's go !...  
One, two, One...  
A step forward  
One, two, three...  
One, two, One  
... Do not kick the ground hard  
Do not kick the country  
Don't let the ground bite your heel  
There is no enemy!  
Who do you want to revenge on?  
Step forward...!  
One, two, three...  
One, two, One  
Homeland is a place of worship  
It is "oh" in your heart  
Don't step on the grass, o,  
are innocent.  
Do not shoot the tree,  
do not shoot the birds.  
Do not sell grass,  
do not sell the sky.  
There is no life without sky,  
the grave is without sky.  
Do not sell your weapons even  
if you starve to death.  
Do not sell your dream  
do not sell yourself.  
Step forward

The ground is magical,  
Life is a secret!  
Do not shout and call,  
speak in a whisper.  
Do not wake up in fear from the  
ghost of your step  
Our sleeping infants !...  
An enemy spy is hidden,  
it is a secret,  
The cure is one bullet, be humble  
Step forward with noiseless!  
There is an enemy!  
Roaring lions, bears  
are ours  
Do not shoot in vain a bullet !...  
Foxes who deceive and mislead,  
suspicion .  
Do not shoot in vain a bullet !...  
...Stop, breathe freely...  
ten mo,  
Smell the air of the homeland !...  
Love this country,  
love this homeland  
Glorify the country...  
...Once they swear once;  
The guy is young and teenager!  
With the word of faith,  
With the eyes of love,  
With Allah himself,  
Straighten up officers  
Our life are sacrificed for the coun-  
try.  
We water the grass with our blood  
Step right up!  
One, two, three ...  
One, two, One!  
Why do we call motherland,



We give our lives for the country!  
Step forward!  
One, two, three...  
One, two, One!..

We are going in a line.  
From day to night,  
from night to morning,  
Thirty reserve officers!  
An order misled my soul  
Only Step right up!...  
Allah - one  
Allah - one  
Allah - one  
One, One, One!..."

Reserve officer  
Gulom Abdiyev straighten  
up!..

There is no enemy!  
The enemy within us...  
It is an ugly creature like lust!  
Step right up!  
One, two, One ...  
One, One, One!

□ Gulom Egamshukur  
Military lesson (Харбий дарс)

Reserve officer  
Gulom Abdiyev straighten up

Step forward  
One, two, three ...  
One, two, One !...  
Energize the soul

Energize the eyes  
Let the tears go away  
from your body.  
Let it take place in the heart,  
endure with patience.

Let's go !...  
One, two, One...  
A step forward  
One, two, three...  
One, two, One  
... Do not kick the ground hard  
Do not kick the country

Don't let the ground bite your heel  
There is no enemy!  
Who do you want to revenge on?  
Step forward...!  
One, two, three...  
One, two, One  
Homeland is a place of worship  
It is "oh" in your heart  
Don't step on the grass, o,  
are innocent.

Do not shoot the tree,  
do not shoot the birds.  
Do not sell grass,  
do not sell the sky.  
There is no life without sky,  
the grave is without sky.  
Do not sell your weapons even  
if you starve to death.  
Do not sell your dream  
do not sell yourself.

Step forward  
One, two, three ...  
One, two, One !...  
The ground is magical,  
Life is a secret!  
Do not shout and call,  
speak in a whisper.  
Do not wake up in fear from the  
ghost of your step  
Our sleeping infants !...  
An enemy spy is hidden,  
it is a secret,

The cure is one bullet, be humble  
Step forward with noiseless!  
There is an enemy!  
Roaring lions, bears  
are ours

Do not shoot in vain a bullet !...  
Foxes who deceive and mislead,  
suspicion .  
Do not shoot in vain a bullet !...  
...Stop, breathe freely...  
ten mo,

Smell the air of the homeland !...  
Love this country,  
love this homeland

Glorify the country...  
...Once they swear once;  
The guy is young and teenager!  
With the word of faith,  
With the eyes of love,  
With Allah himself,  
Straighten up officers  
Our life are sacrificed for the coun-  
try.  
We water the grass with our blood

Step right up!  
One, two, three ...  
One, two, One!  
Why do we call motherland,  
We give our lives for the country!  
Step forward!  
One, two, three...  
One, two, One!..  
We are going in a line.  
From day to night,  
from night to morning,  
Thirty reserve officers!  
An order misled my soul  
Only Step right up!...  
Allah - one  
Allah - one  
Allah - one  
One, One, One!..."

Reserve officer  
Gulom Abdiyev straighten  
up!..  
There is no enemy!  
The enemy within us...  
It is an ugly creature like lust!  
Step right up!  
One, two, One ...  
One, One, One!

□ Gulom Egamshukur

Translate by : Madina Makham-  
madrizoyeva

Gulom Abdiyev (Gulom Egam-  
shukur) was born in 1959 in the De-  
nov district of Surkhandarya region.  
He graduated from the Faculty of  
Journalism at Tashkent State Univer-  
sity (currently Uzbekistan National  
University). He began his career in  
1981 at Uzbekistan State Television  
and Radio. During his professional  
journey, he worked in responsible  
positions at republic newspapers and  
regional television and radio sta-  
tions.

Gulom Abdiyev is recognized as one  
of the renowned poets and writers in  
the country, known for his creative  
output. His poetry collections and  
dramatic works, such as "The Path  
of the Sun" (1997), "Anatomy of the  
Soul" (2018), "Cries of the Paper"  
(2022), and "The Patience Battle"  
(2023), have been published.

