



Taekwondo: 37 Players To Represent Kenya In World Championship

The Kenya Taekwondo Federation has selected the Kenya team that will represent the country in the forthcoming 2023 World Taekwondo Championship set for May 29th to June 6th in Baku, Azerbaijan. Page 18

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News>>Nakuru County Prepares To Pay Sh1.5 Billion In Pending Bills

P. 8. Nakuru County government has commenced the processing and payment of Sh1.5 billion in pending bills out of the Sh3.5 billion it owes suppliers and contractors.



Motivation>>Every Encounter Has A Lesson

P. 12. So, I love you because the entire universe conspired to help me find you. Paulo Coelho.

IMF Hails Kenya's Economic Recovery Program

The President said the government has deliberately invested in agriculture and MSEs to create opportunities, income and wealth for as many Kenyans as possible in line with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda.



President Ruto said the government is committed to managing the country's debt to sustainable levels.

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International Firefighters' Day (IFFD) Celebrations In Nyeri County

By: Our Correspondent
 @themkenyatimes



Nyeri fire fighters pose for a photo during the IFFD celebrations yesterday.

Worth Noting:

- Joe Gethi, a Chief Officer in Nyeri government described the firefighters as the epitome of bravery, terming their commitment to serving our communities as nothing short of heroic.
- He noted that they work tirelessly, often in the face of great danger and risk, to keep everyone safe and protect homes and businesses from the devastating effects of fire.
- Gethi acknowledged that the community owes a debt of gratitude to the brave individuals who often go unnoticed and unrecognized.

The Department of Gender, Youth, Social Services and Sports held the International Fire Fighters Day (IFFD) Celebrations to honour the firefighters yesterday at Whispers Park.

The event brought together the firefighters from Nyeri and Karatina fire stations for the celebrations that were attended by dozens of Nyeri residents.

International Firefighters' Day is a day set aside to recognize and honor the sacrifices made by firefighters all over the world.

The day is celebrated annually on 4th day in the month of May and is used in among other thing, paying tribute to the brave men and women who risk their lives to protect the communities from fire and other

emergencies.

This year's theme of "Honoring the Heroes Who Protect Us" reflects the importance of recognizing the bravery and dedication of firefighters who risk their lives to keep communities safe.

Firefighters are ranked amongst the most courageous individuals in the society where they are adored for their prowess in rushing into burning buildings where they put their lives on the line to save people and animals.

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often in the face of great danger and risk, to keep everyone safe and protect homes and businesses from the devastating effects of fire.

Gethi acknowledged that the community owes a debt of gratitude to the brave individuals who often go unnoticed and unrecognized.

During the event, the public was sensitized on the causes of fire, fire protection and prevention, Fire alarming and extinguishing, fire exit and assembly point, mitigation, social enquiry and response, first aid and fire and rescue hotline numbers among other issues.

The main activities also involved tree planting, procession, exhibition and fire drills and public sensitization.

In her remarks, the Director of

Social Services, Monica Thumbi acknowledged the numerous challenges the fire fighters face on daily basis, from battling towering infernos to responding to medical emergencies and natural disasters.

She further observed the emotional and mental toll that firefighting take on firefighters everyday, noting that no matter the challenge, the fire-fighters always rise to the occasion with skill, determination, and a deep sense of duty to their communities.

She pledged the commitment of the County Government of Nyeri in supporting the fire fighters through training, provision of equipment, and resources they need to do their jobs effectively and efficiently.

Editor's Desk




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KEMI To Receive A University Charter To Offer Online Courses

By: Ali Sheikh Mohamed and
Emma Jolly Wambui
@themkenyatimes



Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu.

The government is in the process of upgrading the Kenya Education Management Institute (KEMI) by giving it a charter to offer undergraduate, postgraduate and doctorate courses.

Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu confirmed that the Kenya kwanza government through the ministry of education was in the process of opening six undergraduate and a few diploma programs at the facility to enable students pursue studies at the comfort of their homes. "Latest June this year, President Dr. William Ruto will award a charter to KEMI so that they will have a Vice Chancellor and professors who will be teaching online," said Machogu.

The CS who graced the 7th KEMI graduation ceremony at Jamhuri High School said that since its inception in 1981 and subsequent upgrade

to a state cooperation, accepting training and research consultancy,

the institution has played a critical role in continuous upscaling of ed-

ucation stakeholders, thereby filling the gap of human resource capacity.

Machogu encouraged the graduands to uphold national values and ethics and implement skills as well as knowledge that they have acquired from the institution.

In addition, he stated that they were in the process of providing transport services to the county directors of education and their deputies, where each of them will receive a new vehicle this year to enable them carry out the necessary monitoring and supervisory roles.

"I would also like to urge teachers to follow the ministry directives by ensuring that there is no corporal punishment to students," said Machogu.

The CS at the same time encouraged principals and head teachers to make sure water and food in their respective schools is properly inspected to ensure they were fit for human consumption.

On his part, KEMI Chief Executive Officer Dr. Maurice Oondo

said from the year 2011 to date, the institution has engaged in capacity building and improvement of managerial and competence skills of institutional managers through a diploma programme.

He stated that the programme is offered through open distance and flexible learning at county levels, supported with online mode of training, noting that since then they have equipped over 40,000 school leaders with diploma awards.

The CEO stated that they are working in collaboration with like-minded institutions in order to tap into synergy.

He said that together with the Aga Khan university they are working on a programme that targets head teachers.

KEMI council chair Dr. Mercy Karogo thanked the government for funding the institution and supporting their programmes.

Marsabit Leaders Cautioned Against Instigating Ethnic Wars

By: Sebastian Miriti
@themkenyatimes

The Marsabit county security team has been directed to expedite investigations into ethnic conflicts that have continued to lead to loss of lives and property in the area.

Internal Security and National Administration CS Prof. Kithure Kindiki also warned leaders in the troubled county, found fanning ethnic tensions for their own selfish ends, that this time round they won't be spared.

Prof. Kindiki ordered the county security and intelligence committee to conduct thorough investigations into the current spate of crime in the area, with a view to having criminals behind the heinous acts brought to justice.

The CS who held a day-long security meeting at a Marsabit hotel amid escalating inter-ethnic tensions, which has in the past two weeks

claimed seven lives in Marsabit Central sub-county, said community and political leaders believed to be sponsors of the same will not be spared.

He warned that the government will no longer condone negative ethnicity to grow in the country as was happening in Marsabit County, pointing out that elsewhere countries have been destroyed and communities whipped out, owing to sponsored tribal conflicts.

The CS told the county security team headed by the county commissioner, Nibert Komora that both the current and previous leaders suspected of having incited communal strife, must be investigated and punished, without further delay.

Prof. Kindiki noted with concern that inter-community relations were stained due to inflammatory and profiling activities funded by tribal warlords, adding that the government could not afford to entertain the insecurity menace any further.

"We as government will not sit back as Marsabit escalates inter-tribal ten-



Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki addressing the media in Marsabit.

sions," said Prof. Kindiki adding that tranquility of the nation was neither optional nor political.

The CS pledged decisive action to dismantle tribal warlords whom he said were being accused of perpetrating hostile activities, which have seen innocent residents of Marsabit

lose lives and property.

"There will be no political, religious or ethnic persuasions in the fight against this menace," said the CS, adding that all those found culpable will be treated as criminals.

Meanwhile, CS Kindiki affirmed that the government is committed

in providing security to all Kenyans who have every right to live anywhere in the country and added that proactive action was being taken to ensure peace and stability in every corner of the republic to ensure accelerated growth and decent living for the people.

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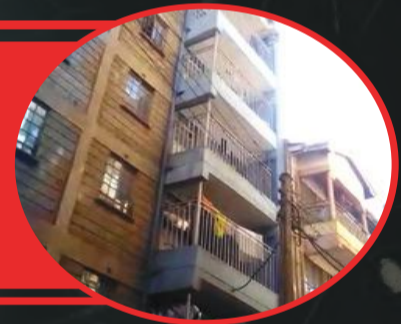
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Why We Should Always Let The Children Play

By: Lucy Simiyu

@themkenyatimes



Lucy Simiyu.

Worth Noting:

- The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) define play as an activity where children show their remarkable ability for exploration, imagination and decision-making, and is intensely enjoyable for them.
- The two definitions emphasize play as a source of enjoyment for children and it is because of this that most children will not need any external motivation to engage in play. Play comes naturally to children, whether they play alone or with other children.

How much play is enough? How can we balance between play and schoolwork? Is play less important than a child's academic progress? What are the benefits of play?

These are among the many questions parents juggle when it comes to the question of play for their children. While a few parents will give their children both the space and the time to play, most parents will fill up their child's free time with extra tuition and a rigorous revision program. Surprisingly, children under the age of 12 are also caught up in their parents' need for excellent academic performance, with children barely having time to play.

Definition and importance of play according to the Oxford dictionary, play is an "activity engaged in for

enjoyment and recreation, especially by children."

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The two definitions emphasize play as a source of enjoyment for children and it is because of this that most children will not need any external motivation to engage in play. Play comes naturally to children, whether they play alone or with other children.

Play is critical in the physical, social, emotional and cognitive development of children. Physical play such as running, jumping, stretching

and skipping supports the general well-being of children as well as instills in them an appreciation for being active.

Different forms of play also contribute to the development of children's fine and gross motor skills.

When children play with others, they develop positive social skills.

Playing with others provides them with opportunities to learn how to work with other children by sharing and negotiating ideas, asking and answering questions, as well as making choices.

Instances of fights are expected but they are also an opportunity for children to learn how to respect differing opinions, share common play items such as balls, paint, colors, and resolve conflict among themselves.

Children learn how to hold conversations with their peers during play and this sets a foundation for the development of effective communication skills.

In addition, play helps children to develop better and healthy relationships with their peers and family members.

Playing significantly contributes to the emotional development of children. Playing offers a safe space for children to experiment with an array of feelings. These feelings include happiness, sadness, excitement, anger and fear as children explore their surroundings and make sense of the world around them.

Imaginative play offers children an opportunity to show empathy, cope with varying emotions as well as

build a healthy self-esteem. During play, children learn how to deal with acceptance and rejection from peers; how they navigate these two responses prepares them for the older stages of life.

Children's cognitive skills are developed through play, either alone or with peers. Some of the skills developed during play include paying attention, remembering, thinking, problem-solving, memory, creativity, and concept development such as counting, letter recognition, measuring, shapes and colors.

While play is often viewed as less important than academic pursuits, it is important to remember that play contributes significantly to children's growth and skill development.

The physical, social, emotional and cognitive skills that children develop during play prepare them to become successful adults.

It is important that school holidays are not viewed as an opportunity to pump more academic knowledge into children's minds.

A holiday routine that gives no time and space for play denies children the opportunity to explore, imagine, create and enjoy. As parents and guardians, we should be delighted and excited to see children playing; after all, "play is the work of the child," said Maria Montessori.

Lucy Simiyu is a Crawford International School Psychologist

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Nakuru County Prepares To Pay Sh1.5 Billion In Pending Bills

By: Esther Mwangi
@themkenyatimes

Nakuru County government has commenced the processing and payment of Sh1.5 billion in pending bills out of the Sh3.5 billion it owes suppliers and contractors.

Governor Susan Kihika said an audit will be done, including verification of construction works and goods and services supplied to the county, to ensure only genuine suppliers and contractors are paid.

She clarified that contractors and suppliers who have no sufficient documents to support their claims will be deemed to have engaged in corruption or were awarded tenders in circumstances that violated procurement laws and the Public Finance Management Act.

“All pending bills must bear crucial records such as engineers’ reports and certificates, project inspection reports, and joint measurements, among others,” stated the governor.

While voicing her government’s commitment to meeting all its obligations with regard to pending bills, Kihika warned that her administration will not entertain cases of highly inflated bills, fictitious deliveries, or conflicts of interest in the payment process.

The governor said her government

inherited in excess of Sh3.5 billion in pending bills and admitted that her administration had to take the bold step of its financial obligations despite the cash crunch being experienced across the country.

Kihika, however, assured residents that her administration was putting in place structures that would ensure prudent debt management practices and efficiency in expenditure management to avoid unnecessary debt accumulation.

At the same time, the governor called on contractors who are awarded construction tenders to ensure they deliver quality work, warning that those who do shoddy jobs risk being blacklisted.

“I urge those who have been awarded various contracts to move with speed to ensure their completion. We want serious and honest contractors who meet the expected national standards and specifications,” she added.

While calling on Nakuru residents to report to her office any cases of corruption in the tendering process, Kihika warned that any officers in her government found engaging in corrupt practices would be sacked.

She, however, promised to ensure that qualified local contractors residing in the county would be given first priority when awarding tenders.

According to a report on the medium-term and debt management strategy paper for 2022, the Nakuru County debt is classified into two



Nakuru County Governor Susan Kihika with other senior officials during a developmental tour.

categories: debts inherited from the defunct local authorities, as compiled by the Transitional Authority, amounting to Sh865.9 million, and the current debts.

The report recommended that the devolved unit invite former clerks and treasurers of the defunct authorities to shed light on the nature, purpose, and status of the inherited debts to ensure the debts are fully authenticated.

Other recommendations included

pushing for a waiver of interest and penalties to settle statutory creditors, prudence in the use of the resources, strengthening fiscal discipline, and stepping up revenue collection.

“Some pending bills emanate from shortfalls in local revenue collections that have a significant bearing on the budget framework,” reads part of the report.

Meanwhile, some of the debts date back to the 2013–14 financial year and cut across the regimes of former

Governors Kinuthia Mbugua and Lee Kinyanjui and the current leadership.

Under the Public Finance Management Act of 2012, the county government is required to monitor, evaluate, and oversee the management of public finances and economic affairs in addition to managing its public debt and developing a framework for its debt control.

Gov’t Promises Better Prices For Macadamia Nuts

By: Samuel Waititu
@themkenyatimes

The Government has promised macadamia nut farmers better prices in the days to come following months of a slump in prices to as low as Sh20 per kilo.

Local processors have been buying macadamia nuts from farmers at a throw away price following the ban on exportation of unprocessed nuts by the government.

However, with the lifting of the ban three weeks ago by Trade Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria, prices have started showing signs of improvement as competition rises with the

opening up of market outlets across the world.

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mithika Linturi said following the government intervention, prices had started rising with a kilo currently selling at Sh65 up from Sh20 a month ago.

Speaking in Embu Town when he accompanied International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) President Dr. Alvaro Lario on a tour of IFAD funded projects under Upper Tana Natural Resource Management Project, Linturi said the government was keen on ensuring farmers’ earnings keep improving.

The CS said they push for further increment of macadamia prices this month from the current Sh65 to

Sh100, noting that they were in talks with buyers to ensure they don’t exploit farmers.

Linturi further said depending on the output of the report of SGS, a leading Global inspection, verification, testing and certification body on the quality of the macadamia in the country, the prices could jump to Sh150 by June.

“We are really concerned about the welfare of our farmers so that they really appreciate that farming is a business,” he said.

The CS reported that other key areas they are seeking to address include grading and value addition that are all geared towards boosting farmers’ earnings.



Macadamia Nuts.

IMF Hails Kenya's Economic Recovery Program

By: PCS

International Monetary Fund (IMF) has exuded confidence in the government's economic recovery program.

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva lauded Kenya's decision to prioritize investment in agriculture and Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) that offer quick turnaround results.

Ms Georgieva said the government's dynamism of investment; prudent fiscal measures and transparency in governance have set the country on the path of success.

"We commend you for what you are doing on your fiscal measures. The country is certainly headed in the right direction," she said.

She said IMF is ready to support the government to fast-track the country's economic recovery programs.

Ms Georgieva made the remarks during a meeting with President Wil-

liam Ruto at State House Nairobi.

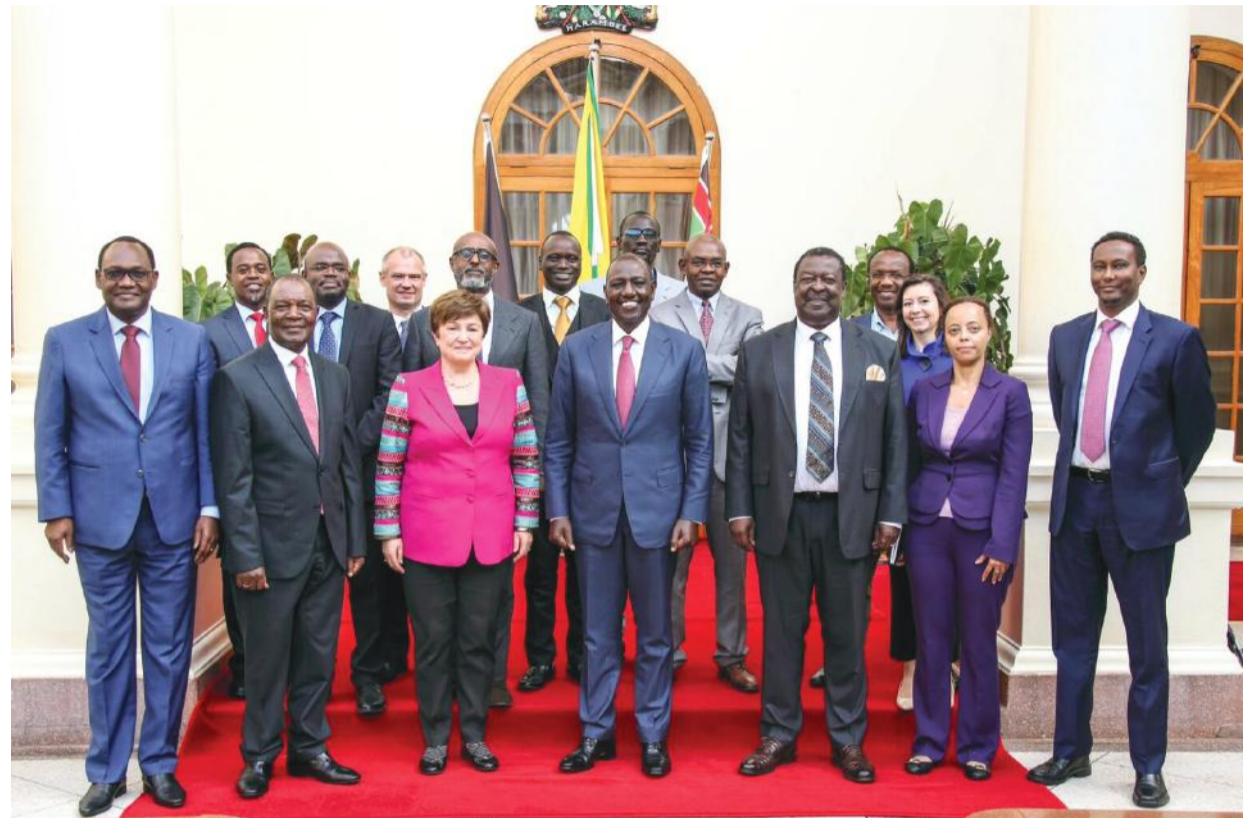
President Ruto said the government is committed to managing the country's debt to sustainable levels.

The President said the government has cut down on new projects and stopped subsidy programs that were draining the country's resources.

He said the government has deliberately invested in agriculture and MSEs to create opportunities, income and wealth for as many Kenyans as possible in line with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda.

"We commit to stay the course, especially on fiscal discipline and giving priority to projects that will have circulation of money," he said.

The President thanked IMF for its continued support pledging to work towards making the country's domestic market attractive through the management of interest rates.



President Ruto said the government is committed to managing the country's debt to sustainable levels..

Potato Consumers To Dig Deeper In Their Pockets Following Increased Prices

By: Dickson Mwiti and Winjoy Makena @themkenyatimes

Potato lovers in Meru County will have to dig deeper into their pockets following a price hike of the commodity in the region by over 200 per cent.

Residents are now complaining due to their inability to buy the same quantities as they used to buy before.

Mr James Murithi, a trader at Gakoromone market said following inadequate rains during the last season, there has been a shortage right from the potato-producing regions which includes Githongo and Kiirua.

As a result, he said, potato farming had become a reserve of the few farmers who can afford water for irrigation, leading to a low supply of potatoes hence the price increase.

At the moment a 50-kg bag of po-

tatoes is retailing at Sh7500 while a 2-kg tin goes for Sh250 whereas two months ago, the same measures used to fetch Sh2500 and Sh90 respectively.

Rose Karimi, a potato dealer at Gakoromone market, says she is experiencing a supply problem since there is less production to meet the demand.

She also says that the market has seen a shortage of the product for some days leaving the business people with a price prediction problem.

Jackson Kiogora, also a potato supplier at the same market says that he is hopeful that the prices will come down due to the rains currently being experienced in Meru County.

The suppliers and sellers have promised residents to expect a decrease in the price of potatoes if the rain season continues which is great news to the potato consumers either at home or businesses.



Caroline Kairi, a potato dealer at the same market said the other reason behind the potato price increase is the unbearable transportation cost.

"The cost of transporting potatoes from farms to the market has increased with the rise in fuel prices experienced country-wide. As a re-

sult, the costs are passed through the supply chain to the consumers hence the rise in potato price," said Ms Kaari.

Kenya Launches GAP Guides For Avocado, Beans And Peas

By: Wangari Ndirangu

@themtkenyatimes

The government through the National Horticulture Task force (NHT) has launched Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) guidelines for Avocado, Beans and Peas in pods.

The guidelines will go a long way in addressing the challenges farmers face in relating to the commercial quality and the regulatory requirements as well as enhance opportunities in the horticulture sub sector.

National Horticulture Taskforce Chairman, Clement Tulezi said that the good agricultural guides have come at a critical moment in the horticultural sector of Kenya which is currently facing major bottlenecks that need to be addressed to enable it to competitively thrive in the marketplace.

“The Good Agricultural Practice Guides have been developed by the stakeholders to address the challenges relating to the commercial quality and the regulatory requirements for beans, peas and avocado.

These challenges, he added include compliance with sanitary and phytosanitary requirements such as

presence of harmful organisms and maximum residue limits for pesticides, use of quality and true to type planting materials and adoption of good hygiene practices.

Additionally, Tulezi noted that there has been disease prevalence which has led to un-ripening of mature fruits or hardening.

“Some farmers have been harvesting immature avocados which has led to flagging of the avocado exports to the niche markets. The good practice guides contain strategies on addressing these challenges,” he said.

Harsama Kello, the Principal Secretary, State Department for Crop Development said that horticulture is the fastest growing sub-sector in Agriculture and has been on a steady rise in terms of production volumes and revenue for the last 10 years.

He added that the foreign earnings from the subsector have surpassed the tea industry which has been a major foreign exchange and income earner and the gap in earnings has since been widening.

“In 2022, the country earned Sh146 billion from horticulture exports, with flowers contributing Sh103 billion, vegetables Sh23 billion and fruits Sh20 billion,” Kello said.

The PS acknowledged that the private sector plays a very big role in the industry of exporting Beans, Peas, Avocado and other horticulture products with more than 150,000 small scale farmers participating in value chains for the export market and with large scale farmers-small scale linkages as a driving force as well as marketing strength.

Kello said the Ministry will continue creating an enabling environment for the sub sector to thrive and ensure that the country realizes the desired agriculture transformation.

The good practices involved other partners namely the NEXt Kenya Programme, European Union, Kenya Flower Council and the COLEAD (Committee Linking Entrepreneurship Agriculture Development) among others.

Director General, COLEAD, Jeremy Knops said the Good Practice Guides developed will be subjected to review from time to time to make it compliant with changes in the market as they emerge.

“This document belongs to the industry and therefore professionals from the sector should disseminate and help in its implementation and ensure it is updated regularly,” Knops said



Program Coordinator for the NEXt Kenya Programme Dr. Kedera Chagema urged the stakeholders within the avocado, beans and peas value chains to be aware, read, comprehend and adopt the practice as indicated within the guides.

“Full implementation of the good practice guides will ensure and assure compliance with requirements thereby enhance the competitiveness of the horticultural sector in the local, regional and international market”, said Dr. Chagema.

The National Horticulture Taskforce (NHT) is a multi-stakeholder forum with representation of about 20 organizations from both public and private sector in the horticulture sub sector, promoting private-public

sector dialogue and whose goal is to ensure Kenya’s horticultural produce complies with market requirements and sustains its reputation as a leading grower and exporter of horticultural produce.

The horticulture industry brings into the country an average of Sh150 billion annually. The sub sector has registered tremendous growth driven by increased demand for high quality and safe produce for local and export markets.

According to experts, sustaining this growth for the benefit of the actors and the government will require a paradigm shift in the horticultural value chains to ensure efficiency and quality assurance.

The Ambitious Plan Of Expanding Infrastructure In Nakuru

By: Veronica Bosibori

@themtkenyatimes

The Nakuru County government has embarked on an ambitious plan of expanding infrastructure development and connectivity to the south region through the rehabilitation of Roads, Air, and Railways network to attract investors.

Speaking yesterday during the county’s investment forum organized by Kenya Investment Authority, the county Chief of Staff Dr. Peter Ketyenya said reliable and uncongested roads have the capacity of enticing more business to spur the economy in rural areas.

Apart from an improved infrastructure, he said the county was keen on creating a conducive environment for investors including expedited

registration of businesses and a dependable workforce.

Dr. Ketyenya appealed to the National Government to hasten the expansion to dual carriage of Rironi-Mau Summit Road to assist in the decongestion, and heavy traffic on the Nairobi- Nakuru highway.

Additionally, he said the completion of the Lanet Airport has the capacity of doubling the city’s tourist attraction and boosting the faster movement of flowers to the international market.

He noted that the heavy jam on the Nairobi-Nakuru highway was not only a discouragement for exporters due to the slow movement of goods, but has also turned out to be a nightmare for local travelers, who are forced to spend an inordinate amount of time while traveling.

The Chief of Staff also urged the Kenya Railways Corporation (KRC) to expand the Standard- Gauge Rail-

ways up to the city of Nakuru as a more rapid way of reducing the congestion, and several heavy commercial trucks on the highway.

Furthermore, Dr. Ketyenya added that a reliable and efficient public transport network is the backbone of the city’s mobility system and is crucial in creating a healthy environment, including the removal of several matatus and personal cars from the central business district.

Present during the meeting was Bernard Odhiambo, Senior Policy Advocacy Officer at the Kenya Investment Authority, who challenged counties to formulate County Investment Units that would act as a one-stop information centers for investors.

In the recent past, the National Government has aggressively invested in the road network, which has been scaled up to build more highways, and urban and rural roads to open up



Dr Peter Ketyenya.

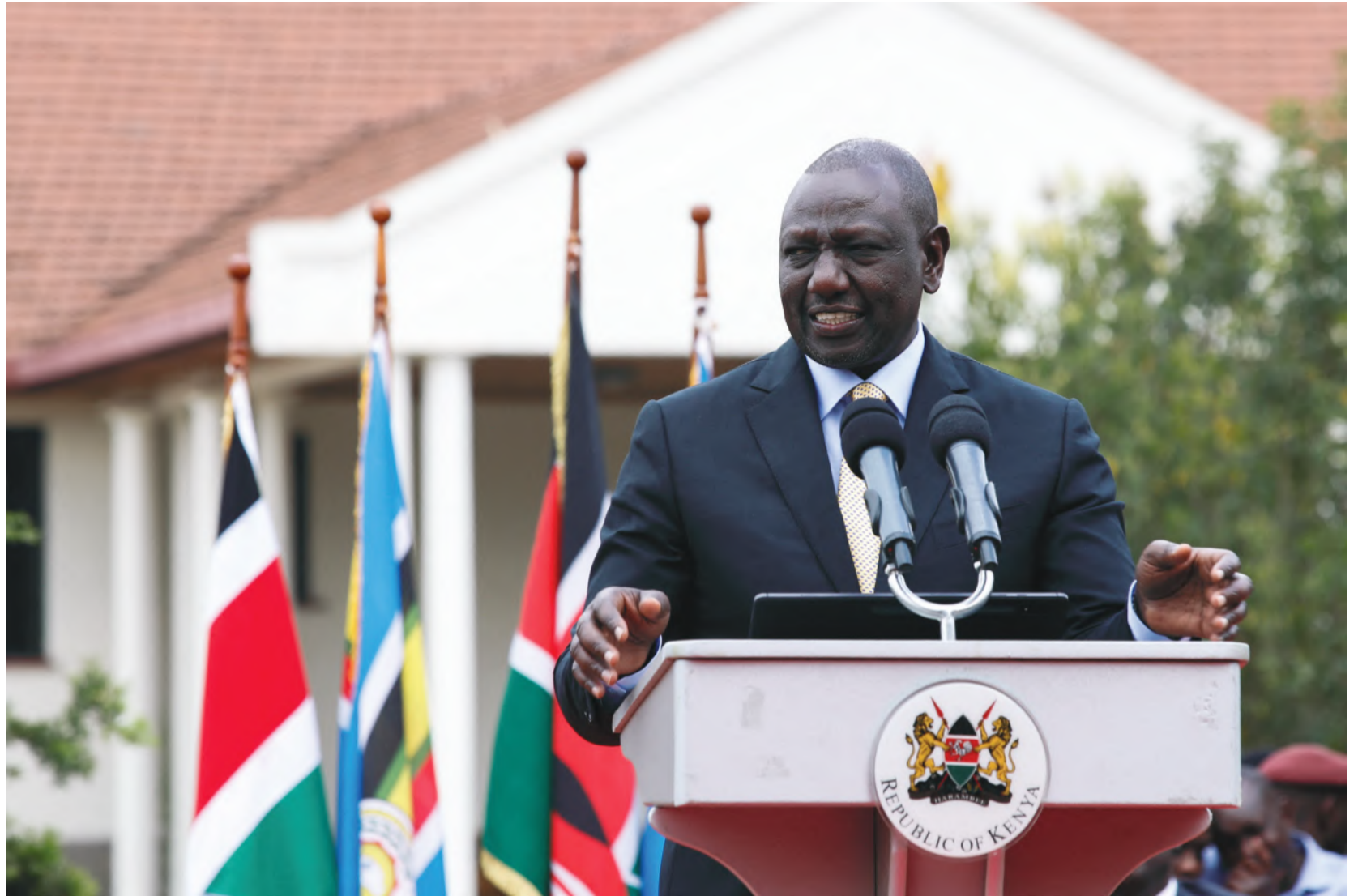
areas to economic activity and trade. However, the rainy seasons have always proved a challenge in the

maintenance of the roads since a number of them are always washed out during heavy floods.

Ruto's New Funding Model For Universities And TVET Well Thought Out



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
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President William Ruto .

Worth Noting:

- The other day president Ruto held a meeting at State House that brought together members of the team and other education experts.
- The Education Cabinet Secretary and other state officials he has entrusted with managing education matters and ensuring the rolling out of the new CBC curriculum goes on as planned were also present.
- In his speech, Dr Ruto focused on interventions meant to ensure education in the institutions of high learning is aligned to bottom-up economic model of the Kenya Kwanza government.
- In the new funding model unveiled by President, the students would be categorized according to four levels of need: Vulnerable, extremely needy, needy and less needy.

Since he assumed power, President William Ruto has been keeping the tab on the promises he made to Kenya during the electioneering period.

The challenges facing the newly introduced system of education-Competency-Based-Curriculum (CBC) - had topped the list.

The parents, guardians' major concern were the high cost involved. It is beyond the reach of most of us.

The outgoing President Uhuru Kenyatta had turned deaf to this reality. The system had replaced the 8-4-4 introduced in 1985.

The system is not bad. Being skill and market based, it is equipping our children with relevant and enormous knowledge.

The skills acquired would help greatly the learners who opt to venture into self-employment after completing their studies.

President Ruto would give this matter priority. He set the ball rolling when formed and unveiled The Presidential Working Party On Education Reforms.

The team led by scholars, academicians and other stakeholders convened public hearings in 47 counties.

It later retreated to write the final report based on memorandum, papers presented and views and opinions collected and collated.

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The Education Cabinet Secretary and other state officials he has entrusted with managing education matters and ensuring the rolling out of the new CBC curriculum goes on as planned were also present.

In his speech, Dr Ruto focused on interventions meant to ensure education in the institutions of high learning is aligned to bottom-up economic model of the Kenya Kwanza government.

In the new funding model unveiled by President, the students would be categorized according to four levels of need: Vulnerable, extremely needy, needy and less needy.

He reiterated that his government will focus more in funding the education need of those at the bottom of pyramid.

I'm committed to ensure none of the student will be left out.

To meet this objective, he announced an increase of the budget for Universities and TVET education from Sh54 billion to Sh84 billion.

This once again demonstrated the commitment of the President to walk the talk.

The poor parents and their needy students now have reason to smile.

The funding of the education will be through government grants (scholarships), student loans, bursaries and household contributions.

The earlier initial media reports had indicated that the fate of education in the universities hangs in balance.

Reason? The president was not keen to support the education.

The stories would allege that his position was. The state would no longer fund the universities' education.

The varsities will be expected to improve innovative ways of generating their own funds.

Those with no sources of income should shut down. The Helb loans will also be scrapped.

It is now clear these stories had been cooked and made in bad in faith.

I'm sure this was the work of his political rivals who were envious of big strides he had made towards addressing the challenges facing Kenyans.

They thought these half-truths and propaganda will help them to put him in a collision course with Kenyans.

During the campaigns, President Ruto reiterated that he was a beneficiary of grants and loans offered by the public Universities.

If you elect me as your President, I will strive to ensure the universities and TVETs were well funded.

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

Every Encounter Has A Lesson

By: N. George

@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- When in your family you have brothers and sisters the friends, schoolmates, playmates and general associates of your other siblings are well known to you as some of them are regular visitors to your sibling hence you have got used to meeting with them and sharing stories.
- Constant interaction among all these people will make them friends for either short term when they are in the same geographical location or long time. Those of opposite sex will go ahead and marry each other. Had conditions never allowed them to meet at all then they could have not developed friendship. They could have remained unknown to each other.



So, I love you because the entire universe conspired to help me find you. Paulo Coelho.

There are people you can claim that you went to the same school, in specific class with including the same stream. If at basic school more than seven years you spent together while others you met at secondary school and spent around four years together. They are generally your age mates.

In the estate there are those who neighbours you and you constantly meet and share a word or two. Some of them you attend the same playground and religious institutions. You may belong to either the same or different ages.

When in your family you have brothers and sisters the friends, schoolmates, playmates and general associates of your other siblings are well known to you as some of them are regular visitors to your sibling hence you have got used to meeting

with them and sharing stories.

Constant interaction among all these people will make them friends for either short term when they are in the same geographical location or long time. Those of opposite sex will go ahead and marry each other. Had conditions never allowed them to meet at all then they could have not developed friendship. They could have remained unknown to each other.

Someone may fall in love with you just because you love a certain genre of music that he like so that you could be attending live concerts together or be singing certain songs for him as well as never getting bored as she plays and sings songs on daily basis. A similar case would apply for the diehard lovers of soccer, athletes, boxers, car racers or admirers of any other sport.

It is easy for a farmer to fall in love with a fellow farmer as they have a

lot of common interests. They could meet at agricultural shows and markets and have a lot to share be the stories revolve around changes in climatic conditions, government intervention in agriculture, pests and diseases in both plants and animals, mechanization in agriculture, emerging marketing strategies for agricultural products among other issues affecting this sector. Over time their friendship will be cemented and topics to discuss will never be tackled exhaustively.

Those in judiciary like magistrates, lawyers, prosecutors regularly meet with the ones dealing with law enforcement among them prison warders and police officers as they handle cases. It is not a wonder to find members of these teams developing friendships over time even going ahead to marry each other. The location where they meet may not be the friendliest one but all of them see

this as a common denominator and make the best use of it.

You hear stories of people who meet for the first time at hospital, develop friendship which lasts for decades. None of these persons had planned for this meeting which turned to be an important point that ignited the love which they nurtured and grew into a strong bond with some culminating into marriage.

Awareness that you have similar interests or someone has something you like makes you to love him more and more once he reciprocates the bond between the two of you becomes strong and strong.

Ruring'u Stadium Contractor Given Ultimatum To Complete Facility

By: Wangari Mwangi
@themtkenyatimes

Sports Principal Secretary, Jonathan Mueke, has pledged to deliver a complete Ruring'u stadium within the next one year.

Mueke has at the same time put the contractor working on the 20,000-seater capacity facility on notice to either complete the pending construction works or face the axe.

Speaking when he toured the stadium, the PS revealed that the Ministry of Sports would be taking a leading role in ensuring that the stadium is completed before the end of this year.

He said that he would be partnering with the Nyeri County government, Sports Kenya and the local elected leaders to resolve the stalemate that has seen the facility's completion stall for six years.

"We have seen a lot of challenges. The first challenge is obvious, which is the fact that the construction has been behind schedule for a very long time. Very little has been done compared to what had been planned,"

said Mueke.

"We are going to sit down jointly with the County Government of Nyeri, Sports Kenya plus the local leadership so that we can put our heads together and solve the challenges to ensure that we complete this facility in the shortest time possible," he added.

Earlier, Mueke together with Sports Kenya Officials, Nyeri Town legislator Duncan Maina, Nyeri County Deputy County Commissioner Joseph Mwangi, and the County Sports Chief Officer, Joe Gethi inspected the different parts of the stadium and expressed disappointment over the slow progress of construction and the poor quality of work done in sections of the stadium.

"We have challenges with the pitch and we have advised the contractor to redo it because the grass is not done to our standards. The artificial track is also peeling off. The biggest issue is the schedule and we have asked the contractor to draw a new program of works that is going to specify every task and milestone until the stadium is complete to our specifications. That program should come with very clear timelines that

we should follow," said the PS.

The stadium was commissioned by retired President Uhuru Kenyatta in June 2017, and was poised to be the biggest sporting facility in the Mount Kenya region featuring a modern changing room, a sports shop, a restaurant, spectator terraces and a VIP terrace.

Initially the project was supposed to be completed in December 2020, but has stalled thrice owing to various reasons including delayed payment to the initial contractor.

At the time of the commissioning, the uplift was to take place in two phases with the first phase costing Sh230 million, while Sh220 million was set aside for the final phase.

In all, the upgrade was to cost the taxpayer Sh450 million. The Sports PS however stated that funding for the flagship project was still available and placed the blame squarely on the contractor for failing to work within the stipulated timelines.

"There is no cash delay. In fact, this is one of the projects in the country whose problem is not money. The problem is elsewhere and it is both unique and sad that a project whose money is committed and available is



behind schedule six years down the line," said Mueke.

The Nyeri Town MP said the delay was denying the county the opportunity to host national events and called for the project to be completed expeditiously.

He termed the current status of the facility as an example of how government projects should not be done adding that the structure had turned the county to an embarrassment amongst the sports fraternity.

"This year we lost the opportuni-

ty to host the Kenya Inter-Counties Sports and Cultural Association Games. Unfortunately, when they came and assessed the stadium, we lost to Narok. My dream is that by the time we are hosting the Africa Cup of Nations, Ruringu stadium will be ready for consideration. At this point all parties should come up with a consensus on how to complete this facility," stated Maina.

Wang'uru Stadium To Open Doors For Public Use In Three Months

By: Irungu Mwangi
@themtkenyatimes

The refurbished Wang'uru International Stadium in Kirinyaga County is set to open its doors for use by the public in three months' time.

Kirinyaga Deputy Governor, David Githanda made the revelation when he accompanied the Principal Secretary for Sports and Arts, Jonathan Mueke, on an inspection tour of the stadium.

Githanda said that the completion of the 15,000-seater stadium will bring immense benefits to the Kirinyaga people, especially the youth who will use it to nurture and develop their sports talent.

He noted that the stadium, which is about 99 per cent complete, would be ready to usher in players and fans after undergoing a few final touches that the inspection team, composed of Ministry of Sports officials, Sports

Kenya officials, the contractor and Mwea Member of Parliament Mary Maingi, had recommended.

"We are looking forward to the opening of the stadium since it will be of great benefit to our people. The county has about 200 sports teams who compete from the ward level to the county level," he noted.

He pointed out that the stadium came as a result of intense lobbying by Governor Anne Waiguru whose commitment to supporting sports talent in the county has been consistent over the years she has been in leadership.

The deputy governor also hailed the consideration to have a Sports Academy established at the stadium noting that it will go a long way in identification and nurturing of the local sports talent.

He said that engaging the youth in sports is a way of keeping them away from engaging in criminal activities borne out of idleness. He said the stadium will contribute to the coun-

ty's economic development through initiatives such as 'Hustler Stalls' that will host various demand-driven business ventures within the stadium. Other economic activities that will be brought about by the stadium include hospitality and camping.

The PS said that the world-class stadium would be hosting premium sports leagues as well as local leagues. It will also be used as a training ground for the national team Harambee Stars in preparation for international matches.

"We are happy with the way the stadium has come out and we will be handing over a quality and high-standard facility to the people of Kirinyaga. The community is very eager to have a world-class facility in the county," said the P.S.

He said through the National Government-run Talanta Hela program, talent among the youth will be identified and harnessed with the aim of enabling them to generate money out of their talents, noting that a stadium



forms the hardware of monetizing sports talent.

Mueke reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring that all the regions in Kenya have adequate sporting infrastructure for use by young people.

The Mwea MP said the stadium will not only help in promoting sports in the county but also contribute to the economy of the county and raise its GDP through various business opportunities brought about by a facili-

ty of such magnitude.

"This facility will be bringing together tens of thousands of people who will be spending money in our county, thus growing our county's economy," she added.

The stadium has a standard pitch, racetracks, and recreation facilities, changing rooms, VIP holding rooms, a VIP pavilion, and a police post among others.

OUR HEROES

Parent. Those people are the best grateful assistant in our life. They are protect us from all calamities, diseases. I can even say that, they ready to give his life for us! If someone hurts us, they will very upset more than us. And they will proud of us when we win. They work with nonstop for us, for our prosperous future. When we encounter with problems, they find a solution to the problem immediately. They are first teacher in our life, they teach us about challenges of life since our childhood. We can't imagine our life without them. Because, parent - the meaning of our lives. No one can appreciate us more than our parents. It's obligatory for each of us to take care of our parents! Whoever honors his parent, that person will live in the honor of children in the future.

My dad and mum! They are the best supportive people in my world. When I succeed they proud of me more than all. They're passionate people who encourage me when I fail and lift my spirit to get back up. They're in the true sense my heroes!

FERUZA HIKMATULLAYEVNA

21:54



Oh People, Respect Your Parents



By: Toshtemirova Dildora Hakim

The affairs of the world are very interesting. Even if a parent raises ten children, even if one of them does not

look after them when they grow old. What a child they are. If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I probably wouldn't have believed it. I was very impressed by the treatment of the eighty-year-old father.

The things said to his father, these hands trying to hit his father.

What will this person answer in the afterlife?

The father taught his children and made them do good things, but now instead of thanking him, he hears rude words. Shouldn't this person, who is not free to speak to his child, raise his hand, should be raised by his children?

After all, aren't parents what we are?

Shouldn't you receive their blessings when they are old? Appreciate people as much as you live in this world. Appreciate them. The conclusion is from yourself.

Social Activism Or Exemplary Education



We ambitious youngsters must conquer the highest peaks. Of course, in order to achieve these results, we need a clear structure. "Youth Union" organization helps us lay this solid foundation.

Every student who joins the organization develops a number of skills, such as working with a team, thinking deeply, and speaking fluently, and these skills will always be useful to the student in the future, regardless of what kind of work they will do. In addition, this organization provides us with unforgettable childhood memories, and always calls for activity and unity. Every student who steps into the leadership system can't get out of it again, because a person who has found his place in a society does not want to leave the system at all.

The leaders of Uzbekistan are a big, united and inseparable family! Organizing projects and motivational training together with them gives me energy.

Another pillar of leadership is that it teaches students to be positive, because a positive person can lead those around them to a brighter future. I can say without hesitation that the first step to leadership begins with "Youth Union". I am proud to join this organization, and I encourage all my peers to join this system!

Let's unite youngsters and leave the past behind and move towards the future.

Let's try so that our name will take place in the pages of history!!!

Ibodullayeva Donoxon Marsur

By: Ibodullayeva Donoxon Marsur
In the fast-paced world, it is completely wrong to think that the "Youth Union" and voluntary organizations consist of idleness and only taking the time of students. I think that every student should be socially active along with education, because sharing the knowledge and skills that they have with others, organizing various creative projects for their peers, and sharing news there is no bad side, on the contrary, it is very useful. But some teachers are against it, in their opinion, the knowledge of the student who joins the organization decreases and his grades fall. Unfortunately, through such wrong ideas, they are withdrawing students from social activity. After all, if they don't share their knowledges with others, why are they studying, just to enter the university? Well, let's say he or she is a student, if they do not have initiative, if they can not speak fluently, what kind of staff will they become?

At My New Girlfriend's Birthday

By: Shabnam Shukhratova

At my new girlfriend's birthday party, I unexpectedly ran into my ex-girlfriend. Although it may seem odd, we ended up having a fantastic conversation about our past experiences. Regardless of the convenient timing, I truly enjoyed talking with her because I had missed her too much.

What made our conversation exceptional was the fact that we were able to openly discuss our shared history without any lingering tension or animosity. It was accessible for us to reminisce about old times and discuss how we have both grown as individuals since then.

What impressed me was the wide range of experiences my ex-girlfriend had participated in since we last saw each other. She keeps active by pursuing various hobbies and employing herself in unique and challenging fields, which means she is continuously improving herself. As a resident of this city, she engages with numerous opportunities and

is an asset to her community. Her commitment to self-improvement is a great source of inspiration for anyone pursuing careers in any field.

Overall, I highly recommend talking with individuals who have unique life experiences like my ex-girlfriend. It is an excellent opportunity to broaden your perspective and learn from others' experiences.

Shabnam Shukhratova

She was born in Navai region Navbahor district on 13th of August, 2008. She is a pupil of 21st of school. She is also captain of her class. In addition to this she is a volunteer. Her creative works have been published in international anthologies. She is Holder of international certificates.

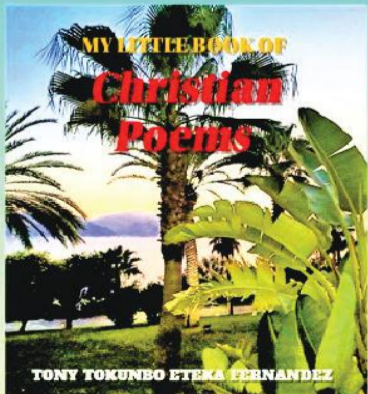
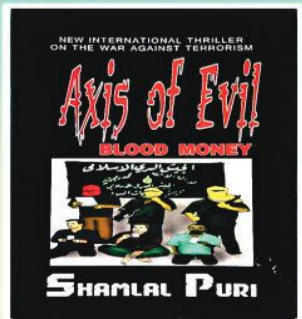
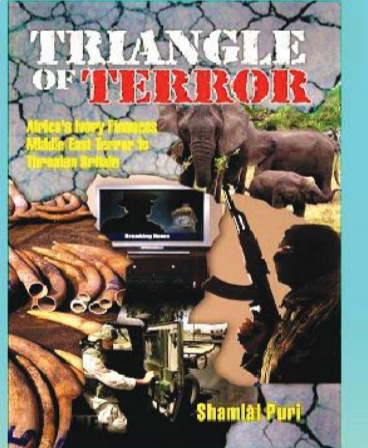
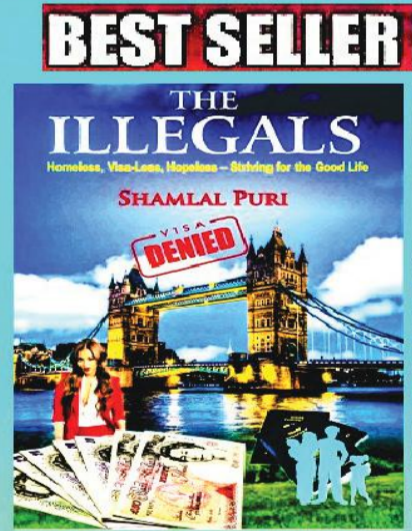
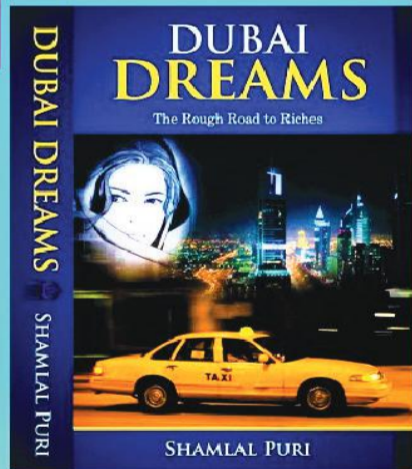
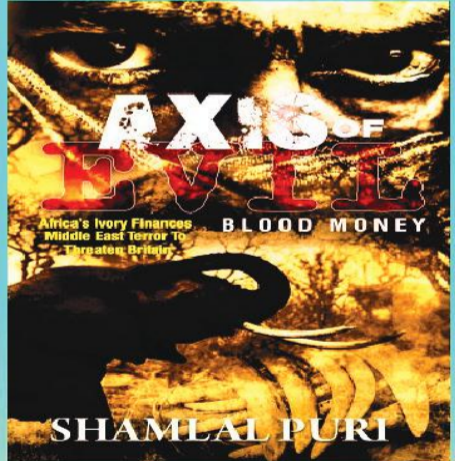
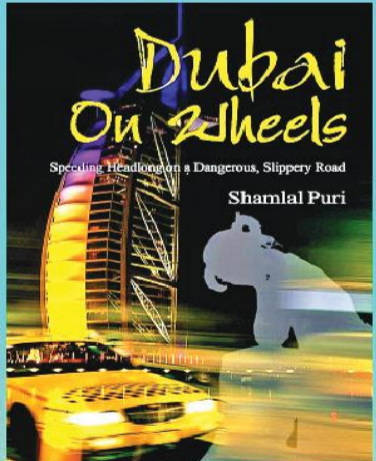
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CONSERVATION

From Disaster to Opportunity: Harnessing the Power of Flash Floods for Sustainable Water Management in Kenya

By: John Kariuki
 @themtkenyatimes



Said Adan AKA Shakiti.

Worth Noting:

- Imagine a world where every drop of rain was captured and used to sustain crops, provide drinking water, and create energy. This is the world we could create if we learn how to tap into the power of flash floods.
- Firstly, we could capture and store the water from flash floods in dams and reservoirs. This harvested water could then be used for irrigation, providing a reliable source of water for agriculture even during times of drought. With proper management and planning, farmers could use the water from flash floods to produce more crops and generate sustainable wealth for their communities.

Said Adan. AKA Shakiti was the Manderu County Senatorial Candidate in the 2022 General Election. He shares with us his thoughts on the need to harvest and conserve rain water for future use.

“In the recent week, the sky finally opened up in Kenya, bringing much-needed relief to a country that was suffering from severe drought caused by four seasons of rain failure. As I sit here watching the rain pour down outside my window, I can’t help but feel grateful for every drop that falls. As the rain poured down, it reminded me of nature’s unrelenting power and beauty and the importance of harvesting rainwater.

But with the rain comes new challenges. Flash floods have become all too common in recent weeks. Roads are washed out, homes are flooded, and people are displaced. It’s easy to see the damage caused by these floods, but what if we looked at them

as opportunities instead of disasters?

In the midst of the worst drought in recent memory, it’s hard to imagine a world where water is abundant. But what if we could harness the power of flash floods to create sustainable wealth and lessen the burden of drought in the future?

Imagine a world where every drop of rain was captured and used to sustain crops, provide drinking water, and create energy. This is the world we could create if we learn how to tap into the power of flash floods.

Firstly, we could capture and store the water from flash floods in dams and reservoirs. This harvested water could then be used for irrigation, providing a reliable source of water for agriculture even during times of drought. With proper management and planning, farmers could use the water from flash floods to produce more crops and generate sustainable wealth for their communities.

Similarly, there are many other simple and cost-effective ways to collect and store rainwater at the household level. These methods not only provide a reliable source of water during droughts, but can also help mitigate the impacts of flash floods. One such method is using rain barrels or tanks to collect rainwater from rooftops. This water can then be used for irrigation, washing, and other household needs. In addition to reducing reliance on unreliable piped water, this method also helps to prevent runoff and soil erosion during heavy rains like the ones we are experiencing in recent days.

Another approach is to use swales or trenches to capture and retain rainwater in the landscape. By strategically directing the flow of water, these structures can help recharge groundwater, prevent erosion, and provide moisture for crops and vegetation during dry periods.

In addition to providing a reliable source of water, rainwater harvesting can also generate economic benefits for communities. For example, with proper treatment and filtration, harvested rainwater can be sold as drinking water or used for irrigation in small-scale agriculture. This can create jobs and improve livelihoods, particularly for women and youth.

Finally, How do we go about tapping into the power of flash floods? It starts with education and awareness. By teaching people about the importance of water conservation and the potential benefits of harvesting rainwater, we can change the way people see flash floods and inspire action. Harvesting rainwater is like planting a garden. You have to prepare the soil, plant the seeds, and give it time to grow. It involves collecting and storing rainwater in a systematic and sustainable manner. You have to identify potential sources of water, design and implement a system that captures and stores it efficiently, and manage it properly to ensure that it lasts through the dry season.

And it’s not just about capturing water during times of excess. We can also implement measures to reduce runoff during heavy rains, such as planting trees and creating green roofs to absorb and retain water.

Lastly, rainwater harvesting is not a panacea for all water problems. It requires a holistic approach that involves addressing the root causes of water scarcity, such as deforestation, land degradation, and climate change. It also requires political will, financial investment, and community participation.

The recent flash floods in Kenya also demonstrate the need for better water management. The floods caused massive destruction, claiming lives, displacing communities, and damaging infrastructure. They serve as a stark reminder that water, although a precious resource, can also be a deadly force of nature.

So, as we celebrate the arrival of the long-awaited rains, let us also reflect on the importance of rainwater harvesting and better water management. Let us work together to build a more resilient and sustainable future, where everyone has access to clean and safe water, regardless of their location or socio-economic status.”



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Taekwondo: 37 Players To Represent Kenya In World Championship

By: Rebecca Ominde

@themkenyatimes



Taekwondo players during a training session

Worth Noting:

- Men's players selected for the fin weight category are George Williams and Samuel Onyango, both from Regional Club, and Haji Ombayo from Black Kings; those in the fly weight category are Wycliffe Okoth from Regional Club, Daniel Odhiambo, and Gabriel Otieno, both from Shofco Mathare.
- Selected in the Bantam weight are Wizeck Opiyo and Collins Munene from Kenya Police and David Memusi from Regional Club.
- Those representing the country in Feather weight are Kevin Kinyingwa and Dennis Omasava, both from the Regional Club, and Samuel Njau from Waithaka. Light weight is Evans Oduor from Kenya Police, Pascal John from Waithaka Club, and John Francis from Kibabii University.

The Kenya Taekwondo Federation has selected the Kenya team that will represent the country in the forthcoming 2023 World Taekwondo Championship set for May 29th to June 6th in Baku, Azerbaijan.

A total of 37 players, comprising 14 ladies and 23 men, were selected during the just-concluded trials for the championships that were held over the weekend at Kenyatta University.

The Head Coach of Taekwondo at Kibabii University, Mr. Eliakim Otieno, said participants who competed in the trials competition included the Kenya Police, Regional Club, Shofco Mathare, Kenyatta University, Masai Taekwondo Club, Chalbi, Kibabii University, Black Kings, Waithaka Club, and the Integrity Center for the Youth.

Speaking to journalists, Otieno said the competition brought together some of the most skilled practitioners of taekwondo to compete in various categories.

The categories included fin weight, fly weight, bantam weight, feather weight, light weight, welter weight, middle weight, and heavy weight.

"We are happy that the audience was awed as players executed high-flying kicks, devastating strikes, and intricate forms that demonstrated their mastery of Taekwondo," he stated.

While congratulating the selected team, Coach Otieno said he was delighted that the country has players who will participate in the championships and told the players to wait for communication on when they will report to the camp for training.

The Chairman of Nairobi Taekwondo, Master Benson Voiya, warned the players against using drugs that can affect their performance, noting that the law has been amended so that all players will be required to undertake a mandatory test for doping before participating in any tournament.

Voiya also urged the players to train hard, adding that many participants worldwide were preparing for the upcoming tournaments, including the Olympics that will be held in Paris in 2024.

"Work hard in the local tournaments before traveling for international tournaments," he encouraged.

Men's players selected for the fin

weight category are George Williams and Samuel Onyango, both from Regional Club, and Haji Ombayo from Black Kings; those in the fly weight category are Wycliffe Okoth from Regional Club, Daniel Odhiambo, and Gabriel Otieno, both from Shofco Mathare.

Selected in the Bantam weight are Wizeck Opiyo and Collins Munene from Kenya Police and David Memusi from Regional Club.

Those representing the country in Feather weight are Kevin Kinyingwa and Dennis Omasava, both from the Regional Club, and Samuel Njau from Waithaka. Light weight are Evans Oduor from Kenya Police, Pascal John from Waithaka Club, and John Francis from Kibabii University.

Welterweights are Leonard Mukanda and Frank Odhiambo from Kibabii University, and Collin Odhiambo from Shofco Mathare. Middleweights are innocent Wafula from Black Kings, Newton Maliro from Kenya Defence Forces, and Elijah Kimani from Regional Club, while heavyweights are Moses Kibara from Black Kings and Billy Otieno

from Kibabii University.

In the ladies fin weight category are Everlyne Atieno and Ednar Sischangi, both from Kenya Police, and Cynthia Wekesa from Kibabii University. The fly weight was reserved, while those selected in the Bantam weight were Ann Omolo from Chalbi Club, Teresia Ochieng from Kenyatta University, and Light weight was Mildred Akinyi from Chalbi and Linda Kimutai from Kibabii University.

Those in Feather weight are Dock Stacey from Integrity Centre for Youth and Coco Hawi from Kenyatta University, whereas those in Welter weight are Pauline Zawadi from Chalbi and Sophie Clay from Integrity Centre for Youth. Jully Musangi from Kibabii University, who was contesting for middleweight, was given a walkover for lack of an opponent.

Faith Ogallo from Kenya Police and Rebecca Ominde from the Regional Club were selected for the heavy-weight category.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Women Role In Society



By: Bakhora Bakhtiyorova

[@themtkenyatimes](#)

Gender equality was made part of International human rights law by the universal Declaration of Human rights which was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 10 December 1948. As an international feminist movement began to gain momentum during 1970 as the international Women's year and organized the first World Conference on Women, held in Mexico City. At the urging of the Conference, it subsequently declared the years 1976-1985 as the UN support for the rights of women began with Organization's founding Charter. Among the purposes of the UN declared. Through history, the central role in women in society had ensured the stability, progress and long-term developed in nations.

Globally women comprise 43 percent of the world's agriculture labor force -rising to 70 percent in some countries.

For example, across Africa 80 percent of the agricultural production comes from small farmers, Most of whom small farmers. It is widely accepted that agriculture can be the

engine of growths and poverty reduction in developing nations.

Women, notably mothers play the largest role in decision-making about family meal planning and diet. And women self-report more often their initiative in preserving child health and nutrition. Without women nothing is possible for men they are basic unit of the society, they make, family make a home and ultimately societies make a country. So the contribution of women is everywhere from taking birth and giving birth to be a child to the care for whole life and areas.

Despite showing proficiency in all their roles, in today's modern are women seem to be standing behind men. In a male dominated society the ability of a woman is seen as less than that of a man despite the government running away awareness programs, the life of a woman has a become much more complicated than that of men.

If we compare the condition of women today with the condition of mythological society, then it is clear-

ly visible that there has been some improvements in the situation. Day by day the girls are making such records on which not only the whole country is feeling proud. Consequently,

Women are the primary caregivers of children and elders in every country or the world. International studies demonstrate that when the economy and political organization of society change women take the lead in helping the family adjust to new realities and challenges.

In addition to, "When women are improved and can claim their rights and access to land, leadership, opportunities and choices, economies grow, food security is enhanced and prospects are improved for current and future generations."

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Improving Speech Culture

Abdullaeyva Madina Davronqul

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Speech culture as a part of culture is also a criterion that determines the intellectual level of an intellectual. For this, first of all, it is necessary to know the prestige, place and importance of the Uzbek language. My language is one of the ancient and enlightened languages. 75-80% of the words found in Mahmud Koshgari's "Devani Lug'ati Turk" written in the 11th century, Yusuf Khos Hajib's "Kutadgu Bilig" written in the 12th century, and "Hibat ul Haqayiq" by Ahmed Yugnaki are found in my language.

In the 15th century, our language was degraded. Hazrat Mir Alisher Navoi created a beautiful "Khamasa"

in Turkish. Speech culture involves the use of words in their proper place, the grammatical construction of sentences in accordance with the standards of the literary language, and the expression of thoughts in a concise, concise and understandable form. If a person does not make mistakes in pronouncing words, using word forms and making sentences from them, such a speech is considered correct. But even if the speech is correct, it should be in accordance with the conditions and purpose of communication.

Today, when human consciousness and thinking are highly developed, having a speech culture is a very important requirement of the time. Speech activity of a person is manifested in 3 ways. These are speaking, reading and listening. When

speaking, the speaker's knowledge, culture, morals and manners come to the fore. Reading is the student's communication with the author and characters of the work through written speech. In speech culture classes held in upper grades, students should be taught to analyze cases of violations of literary standards. Analysis can be oral or written. In the written form of analysis, students are asked to find examples of violations of literary standards in literary works, newspapers, magazines, radio and television speech. The oral type of analysis consists in determining whether the orthoepic norm is violated in the speech. Emphasis is placed on using synonyms, phonetics and morphological variants, phraseological expressions, proverbs, and agorisms, which ensure the richness and

appropriateness of speech. In the lessons, students are recommended to compose texts, write short stories, write essays on free topics, use impressive, figurative, expressions, phrases and sentences. The idea will reach the listener only if the student is able to clearly, beautifully, appropriately and logically structure and express the speech.

In addition, every teacher's speech should be an example for the student. Therefore, teaching should have high level of speaking skills along with patriotism and high culture.

Abdullaeyva Madina Davronqul Qizi



WE MUST NOT PREVARICATE: RECEIVING THE JURIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

By: Njonjo Mue



Worth Noting:

- I am delighted and deeply humbled to be able to accept the Jurist of the Year Award for 2000. I come to this place from a point of distinct disadvantage on two scores. Not only shall I be attempting to walk in the giant footsteps of such luminaries as Pheroze Nowrojee, Martha Karua, James Orengo and Kivutha Kibwana, I am also somewhat of an outsider having spent the last three-and-a-half years working from South Africa. You will therefore forgive me tonight if I come across as being a little intimidated.
- Let me start by pointing out that in electing me Jurist of the Year, ICJ-K has taken two bold steps in one, for which I would like to pause and congratulate you.

I felt exhausted and in need of change. This might come as a bit of a surprise as I had worked in Johannesburg for only three and a half years.

However, it was a time not only of hard work setting up and running the regional office of ARTICLE 19, which was my day job, I was also at the forefront of mobilizing Kenyans in the Diaspora to do their part to push for democratic reforms back at home. Both roles involved a really busy travel schedule which was rewarding but also very demanding on my body which struggled to keep up with being in so many time zones.

As I was preparing to return home to Kenya after resigning my position with ARTICLE 19, I received unexpected good tidings that my hard work on behalf of the motherland had been recognised and was about to be rewarded.

It was early December 2000 when I received a call from my old friend, Kagwiria Mbogori in Nairobi, who was then serving as the Executive Director of the Kenya Section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ – Kenya).

“I have some good news for you, my friend,” she said after asking me how I was, “You have been elected the Jurist of the Year!”

It took me a while to absorb the news. The Jurist of the Year award is one of the most coveted and prestigious awards that is given annually by members of ICJ – Kenya to a jurist “who has demonstrated unparalleled courage, determination for the preservation and restoration of human dignity, and realization of the tenets of democracy and the rule of law.”

“The awardee needs to have consistently, fearlessly and impartially promoted the rule of law, democracy and human rights in Kenya.”

The award had been previously been awarded to such luminaries as Pheroze Nowrojee, Professor Kivutha Kibwana, Martha Karua, and James Orengo.

I would be the first Jurist of the Year in the twenty-first century and, at the age of 33, I was going to be by far the youngest recipient of the award.

“Are you still there?” Kagwiria’s voice brought me back to the present.

“Yes, I am,” I replied, “I am just a bit shocked, to be honest.”

“Why should you be?” she asked matter-of-factly, “You have been really consistent, whether at home or

abroad, in standing up for the values that ICJ – K stands for and, needless to say, you have had quite a year of writing, giving speeches, rallying the troops and keeping hope alive.”

She informed me that the ceremony for the presentation of the award would normally take place on the day the world celebrated International Human Rights Day.

The 10th of December that year, however, fell on a Sunday, which meant that the ceremony would be brought forward to Friday, 8 December 2000.

I confirmed that I would be available on the said date to receive the award in person in Nairobi.

A light wind was blowing over a cloudy city in the early evening of Thursday 7 December 2000 when my flight landed at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport from Johannesburg.

I was picked up from the airport by my friend and long-time ICJ – Kenya driver, David Kimani, who drove me through Mombasa Road and Uhuru Highway until Museum Hill where we branched off, joined Ojijo Road and headed towards Parklands Sports Club where I was booked to stay for the next two nights.

The following day, I fought off the nervousness that was creeping up on me when I was picked up by one of the ICJ – K Council members to be driven to the ICJ-K offices in Kileleshwa where the award ceremony was to be held.

We drove in to the compound to find a number of tents and tables set up for food and drinks ready for the cocktail party with music playing as if to announce to all and sundry that the Christmas season had officially began.

A few guests had already arrived and were exchanging pleasantries over drinks and snacks.

I asked for a quiet office where I took a few minutes to finish typing and printing my acceptance speech before joining the growing number of guests outside.

They were clearly the who’s who of the legal and civil society fraternities who were joined by some notable diplomats and the odd government official.

I enjoyed mingling and catching up with old friends whom I had not seen in a while as well as current ICJ – Kenya staff members who were clearly enjoying the flagship, and final, event of what must have been a busy year.

My animated conversation with my friend, the TV journalist Linus Kaikai, was interrupted by the tapping of a wine glass to call the guests to attention and direct our gaze to the podium where the speeches were about to begin.

Kagwiria gave a brief welcoming speech and invited the ICJ – K Chair, Mohamed Nyaoga, who then invited the Guest of Honour to deliver his remarks.

Finally, the citation of that year’s awardee was read out to the curious audience. It was long and detailed. In addition to explaining the achievements that had led to my selection it also gave three specific reasons why over and above the traditional criteria, that year’s selection was unique. “This year’s recipient of the Jurist of the Year award is remarkable in three respects:

“Firstly, he is by far the youngest person to receive this award at only 33 years of age.

“Secondly, although many of his efforts in the advancement of human rights have clearly impacted in Kenya, the recipient has been resident in South Africa for the last three years. Despite his relative young age, he has been a critical force in getting Kenyans outside the country... to rally together for democracy and human rights back at home.

“Thirdly, as a prolific writer, he has been at the forefront in the use of electronic mail and the Internet to advance the cause of human rights in Kenya. In this way, he has opened our eyes to the unlimited potential that exists in these new technologies. “It is thus with great pride and pleasure that the ICJ-K presents the 2000 Jurist of the Year Award to Mr. Njonjo Mue.”

When the applause finally died down and those around me enthusiastically gave me congratulatory handshakes and pats on the back, I was invited to receive the award and deliver my address.

In my remarks, I spoke not only of the importance of new technologies in advancing human rights; I also spoke of the necessity of freedom in pushing back against poverty and underdevelopment.

I quoted authors such as Thomas L. Friedman and Nobel Prize winning economist Amartya Sen to buttress the case for creating a stable political, legal and economic environment friendly to entrepreneurship and investment, in which people can start businesses and raise their productiv-

ity, which is the precursor to effectively fighting poverty.

I critiqued globalization yet called upon African countries to make the right choices that would take advantage of it and encourage prosperity to come and stay.

I called on our governments to be more tolerant to criticism from citizens disaffected by their decisions and challenged civil society to be courageous in identifying the issues to take up and pursue on behalf of their constituencies.

I concluded my remarks by pointing to three challenges that faced us as we embraced the opportunities presented by the dawn of a new century.

First, we needed to organise the unorganised (not disorganised!). The role of education, I noted, was not to speak for the voiceless because the best people to speak for the voiceless are the voiceless themselves.

“In this context then,” I said. “The real challenge is to help the excluded and the marginalized to find their own voice and to articulate their own concerns, for this enables the people themselves to become the guarantors of their own liberty.”

The second challenge was that of dragging all our issues out into the public domain to enable us to deal with them as a society.

I pointed out that the human rights movement was sometimes selective in choosing the issues to articulate partly based on convenience and practical considerations such as availability of funding.

“But we cannot choose our battles only because they can be won,” I said. “We must choose our battles because they must be fought.”

Thirdly, I told the audience, we needed to be more robust in reclaiming public places for peaceful protest because no meaningful change could take place in society unless people were free to express their choices in public without fearing violence or victimization.

This not only called for the necessary law reform to guarantee this right but a less insecure executive arm of the government and vigorous education of people across all cadres of our society on the value, philosophy and practice of nonviolent direct action.

Finally, I told my audience that these were just some of the challeng-

WE MUST NOT PREVARICATE: RECEIVING THE JURIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

Contd from Page 20.

es that we needed to rise up to if we were to realize our vision of building a strong, free and united African country where liberty, human dignity and respect for the rights of all would form the basis of social behaviour by both the citizen and the State alike.

“In meeting these challenges we must not prevaricate,” I concluded. “In staying this course, we dare not fail.”

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY NJONJO MUE, JURIST OF THE YEAR 2000

Fellow human rights crusaders, ladies and gentlemen, good evening.

I am delighted and deeply humbled to be able to accept the Jurist of the Year Award for 2000. I come to this place from a point of distinct disadvantage on two scores. Not only shall I be attempting to walk in the giant footsteps of such luminaries as Pheroze Nowrojee, Martha Karua, James Orengo and Kivutha Kibwana, I am also somewhat of an outsider having spent the last three-and-a-half years working from South Africa. You will therefore forgive me tonight if I come across as being a little intimidated.

Let me start by pointing out that in electing me Jurist of the Year, ICJ-K has taken two bold steps in one, for which I would like to pause and congratulate you.

First, you have this year chosen by far the youngest person to hold this coveted title. This is a rare show of confidence in the young people of our country – those I like to call The Uhuru Generation – just like you broke another barrier last year when you named Ms. Martha Karua the first woman Jurist of the Year.

I am aware that neither age nor gender should qualify or disqualify one for any office, position or title, least of all a human rights achievement award. However, in a country that has traditionally elevated old males sometimes far above their deserved status by virtue of their age and gender alone, the election of a woman or a relatively young man is an important symbolic assertion that Kenya belongs to all who live in it and who work to improve the lives of its peo-

ple, young and old, male and female. Second, it is clear that my selection as Jurist of the Year was based in part on my contribution and that of my colleagues to the cause of democracy and human rights during the last three years while I was resident in South Africa. This is a recognition of the universality and indivisibility of our struggle and the fact that what matters is not where one is but what one stands for.

It is also an acknowledgement of the role of technology in advancing that struggle. For it is technology that has enabled me to reach countless Kenyans here and around the world with my writings and my view of the challenges facing us; and it is technology that has enabled us in South Africa to share what we were doing for our cause with many people here at home and throughout the world.

And yet it has to be said that we in Africa have fallen woefully behind in exploiting the potential of new technologies. The human rights movement has been at the forefront in using electronic mail and the Internet to advance our cause, but we have not done nearly enough.

These new technologies offer almost unlimited potential in breaking down traditional barriers in a world without walls. While it is true that Africa faces many challenges of connectivity and high costs of communication, it is still the case that we are not fully exploiting what is already available to us. It is a question of mind-set rather than access that needs most urgently to be addressed if we are to stake our claim to this heritage of humankind and to deploy it to tackle the twin challenges of poverty and underdevelopment. I would like to challenge us here to take the lead in this regard.

But as journalist and author Thomas L. Friedman reminds us in his excellent book on globalization, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, technology, or its absence, is not the only variable in combating poverty and underdevelopment. How societies are governed remains the most important variable.

Creating a stable political, legal and economic environment friendly to entrepreneurship and investment, in which people can start businesses and raise their productivity, is the precursor for effectively fighting poverty.

Nobel Prize economist Amartya Sen makes this clear in his book, *Development as Freedom*. He argues that

freedom, the ability of a person to make decisions about his or her life, is not only the most efficient means for building a healthy, developed society, but also its ultimate goal.

When you put assets in the hands of the poor in a politically distorted environment, not much happens. (And for that reason, we can pour all the money at our disposal into so-called poverty eradication initiatives, but without addressing the distortions in our political environment, we shall be wasting precious time and resources.)

But when we do summon up the courage and political will to create a reasonably stable and free socio-political environment, a few assets in the hands of the poor will go a long way towards combating underdevelopment and eradicating poverty.

As Sen points out, there has never been a famine in a country that is democratic, has multi-party politics and a free media.

“Political freedom,” Sen notes, “gives voice to the vulnerable sections of the population and provides them with the power to demand and receive support in times of emergency crisis.”

In recent years, we have watched neighbouring countries we once regarded as examples of ruin and degradation make great strides in improving the lot of their people, and we have publicly or privately wondered what went wrong with the Kenyan dream.

It is not that Uganda has suddenly discovered a special gene that enables people to advance. Rather, Kenya has fallen behind in the globalization era because we have failed to put in place even the minimum political, economic and legal infrastructure to take advantage of globalization. Prosperity did not run away from us; we failed to make the choices that would encourage it to stay. Countries like Uganda, Poland and South Korea have made the right choices and reaped the benefits.

But what are the right choices, you ask, and do they include the massive retrenchments that are causing so much social dislocation? And where do we strike the balance between massive lay-offs on the one hand and, on the other, the old centralized planning, regulation and price controls that attempted to guarantee everyone a job at the expense of costly inefficiencies in the system, and that are now threatening to come riding on the back of an inevitable back-

lash?

The paradigm of a global free market has been called seriously into question all over the world and it would be premature to suggest that globalization will have the final say in regulating human affairs in this millennium. But for the foreseeable future, it is the defining socio-economic formation of our time.

Thus, while in the long run, we must work to promulgate a more just and inclusive world order, in the interim, we have to make difficult choices if we are to take advantage of the global free market paradigm.

But the more difficult the choices we have to make, the more seriously we need to reach political consensus on the direction to take as a country. We cannot massively lay off people and then violently prevent them from expressing their anger and frustration as we did outside Harambee House last week.

Reasonable people anywhere will only support that which they have had a part in deciding. That is why to attempt economic reform without fundamentally altering our political landscape to make it more inclusive and accountable is to put the plough before the ox. This will simply not work.

Nor am I here merely referring to the need for meaningful constitutional reform. Such reform is a necessary but not sufficient condition for realizing the fundamental changes of which I speak. Indeed the most sustainable constitution-making processes have been those where the people have risen up and asserted their rights, with the writing of the actual document coming at the tail end. Any effort to do the opposite in Kenya will be doomed to fail no matter who leads it.

We can borrow or craft the best document in the world and make it our Basic Law, but until our people are sufficiently empowered to enforce their own rights, such a constitution shall be a document full of purpose and promise but signifying nothing.

For this reason, even in this age of globalization and technological advancement, the vital challenges that face us today are quite simple to grasp. In my view, they fall into three categories:

First, we must robustly embark upon the task of organizing the unorganized. I was once led to believe that the role of education was to enable us to speak for the voiceless; but I have since come to know that the

best people to speak for the voiceless are the voiceless themselves.

In this context then, the real challenge is to help the excluded and the marginalized to find their own voice and to articulate their own concerns, for this enables the people themselves to become the guarantors of their own liberty.

The second challenge is that of dragging our issues – all our issues – out into the public domain to enable us to deal with them as a society. The human rights movement has sometimes tended to be selective in choosing the issues to articulate partly based on convenience and practical considerations.

But we cannot choose our battles only because they can be won. We must choose our battles because they must be fought. In this regard, we must place the rights of people with disability right up there with the right to political expression or to popular participation in constitution making.

Thirdly, we need to be more robust in reclaiming public places for peaceful protest. In Kenya today, the right to peacefully demonstrate in public places is virtually non-existent. Indeed the very word demonstration has come to be associated in the minds of people with riot and violence.

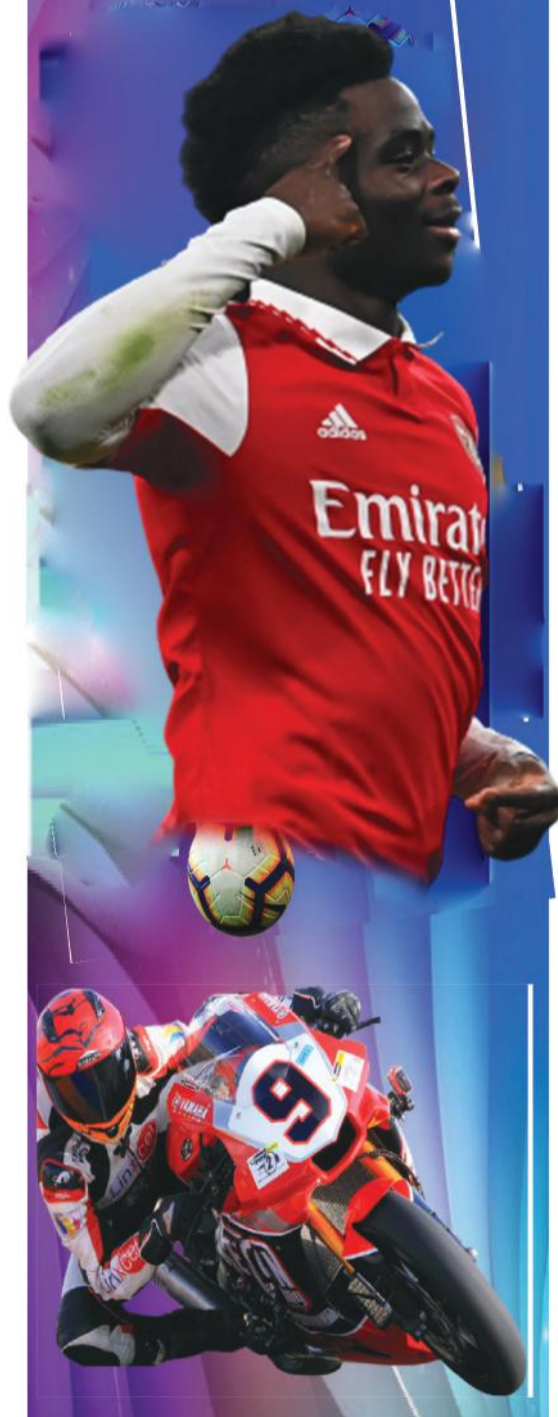
And yet, no meaningful change can take place in a society unless people are free to express their choices in public without fearing violence or victimization. This calls not only for law reform to guarantee this right, but a less insecure executive arm of the government and vigorous education of people across all cares of our society on the value, philosophy and practice of non-violent direct action.

These are just some of the challenges that we must rise up to if we are to realize our vision of building a strong, free and united African country where liberty, human dignity and respect for the rights of all shall form the basis of social behaviour by both the citizen and the State alike.

In meeting these challenges we must not prevaricate; in staying this course, we dare not fail.

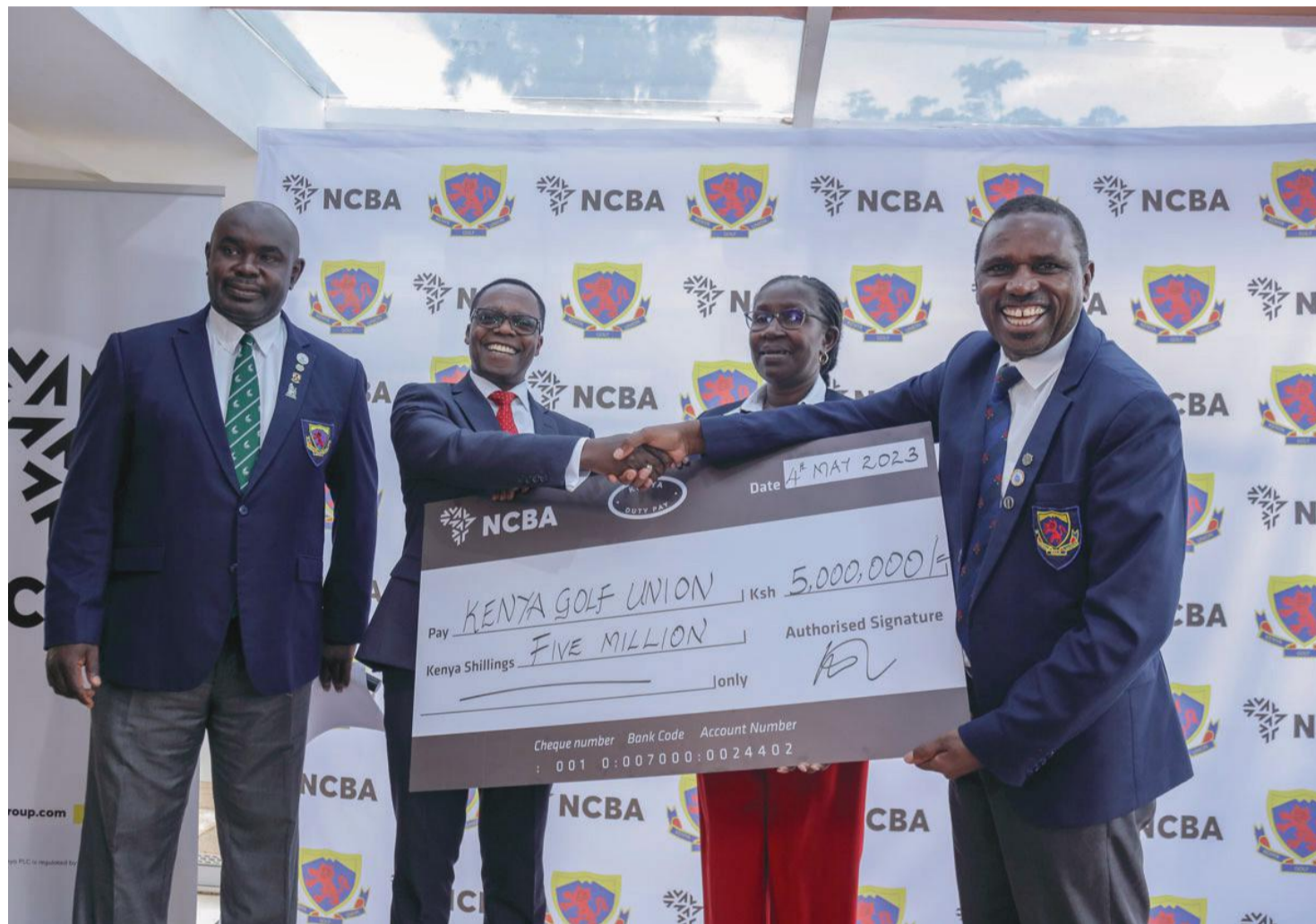
I thank you.

*Njonjo Mue
Nairobi
8 December 2000.*

SPORTS
NEWSPHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *NCBA has on Thursday announced its partnership with the Kenya Golf Union (KGU) to support the growth and development of golf in Kenya.

NCBA Injects Ksh 5 million to KGU 2023 Kenya Amateur Golf Championships



From left, Kenya Golf Union Vice Chairman and Tournaments Director, Philip Ochola, Group Managing Director and CEO at NCBA Group, John Gachora, presenting a cheque worth KSH 5 million to Kenya Ladies Golf Union Chairman, Lydia Otieno and Kenya Golf Union, Chairman Dr. Njani Nderitu in sponsorship of the Amateur Golf Tournament at Railways Golf Club.

NCBA has on Thursday announced its partnership with the Kenya Golf Union (KGU) to support the growth and development of golf in Kenya.

The partnership will see NCBA sponsor the 2023 Kenya Amateur Golf Championship events, marking a significant step towards professionalizing the sport.

The NCBA Golf Series aims to create a platform for amateur golfers to showcase their talent and provide a pathway to the professional ranks. By partnering with KGU, NCBA continues to reaffirm its commitment to growing and professionalizing the sport in the country.

Speaking during the cheque handover ceremony to announce the partnership, NCBA Group

Managing Director John Gachora said, "At NCBA, we recognize the importance of sports development in our society, and we are committed to supporting initiatives that promote growth and development in this area."

"We are excited to partner with Kenya Golf Union in this endeavor and our sponsorship of the 2023 Kenya Amateur Golf Championship events is part of our commitment to supporting the growth of the sport and the players who participate in it."

"The NCBA Golf Series now includes the Amateur competition with a finale in December, Mug and Club Nites, juniors with JGF, and now partnering on the Elite-Amateur category with KGU."

"This would bring us to a To-

tal Annual golf activity of more than 60 Golf events across the East Africa Region and an investment of close to KES 60 million with a diverse list of participants, both male and female."

Also present at the event was KGU Chairman, Njiani Ndiritu, who welcomed the partnership and noted the importance of private-sector support in promoting golf development in the country.

"We are grateful for NCBA's support, which will go a long way in professionalizing golf in Kenya. We believe that through this partnership, we will be able to nurture talent and grow the sport to greater heights," he said.

The partnership between

NCBA Bank and KGU demonstrates the commitment of both organizations to promote golf development in Kenya, ensuring that the sport is accessible to all and creating a platform for players to showcase their skills.

The best player will be announced in December and will represent Kenya in the Magical Open Tournament in 2024.

AFP

Sports >> *Lucas Onyango, the father of Manchester City's academy player Aymen, has not ruled out the prospect of his upcoming superstar son playing for the national football team Harambee Stars in future.

Will Manchester City's Upcoming Youngster Aymen Onyango Play For Harambee Stars?



Aymal Onyango displaying his autographed jersey.
Photo/MANCHESTER CITY.

Lucas Onyango, the father of Manchester City's academy player Aymen, has not ruled out the prospect of his upcoming superstar son playing for the national football team Harambee Stars in future.

The nine-year-old Aymen hit international headlines early last month when he signed up for the English Premier League defending champions, an announcement made by both the club and his father on Twitter.

Lucas is a former Kenya rugby sevens winger who has represented the country in various international competitions.

He seems to not only have passed his sporting genes to Aymen but also to his elder son, Yakubu, who has more precisely followed his father's footsteps by playing rugby.

Though both of them were born and raised in the United Kingdom, their dad is hopeful they will one day play for their motherland Kenya.

"I knew the Manchester City deal could happen one day. I put it there in public because I wanted to share the good news with my country Kenya... that there are talents out here," Lucas says.

The dream to see his sons wear the colours of their motherland, Lucas insists that Kenyan federations should embrace professionalism in the running of sports if they are to cast their nets wider and net in as many talents as pos-

sible.

"Regardless of where they are, these boys are Kenyans. They can play for our national teams; Aymen can play for Harambee Stars and Yakubu for the Kenya 7s, if they get themselves in order... it's all about choices. Federations should get their houses in order because there is a lot of talent out here who are willing to representing the country. They are sons of the soils and it will be good if they could go back home to represent their country," he explains.

As far as football is concerned, Kenya has birthed several world-class talents over the years who have unfortunately declared allegiance to other countries for who they have turned out at various international competitions.

A case in point is AC Milan striker Divock Origi who played for Belgium at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, wisely opting against the option to follow in the footsteps of his father Mike Okoth, who was lethal forward for Harambee Stars during his playing days.

-Where did it all start? -

When Onyango moved to the United Kingdom after the 2002 Commonwealth Games hosted in Manchester, he did not know that his son Aymen would sign for one of the most successful football clubs in the world in recent years.

The former national rugby sevens star had envisioned his own flesh and blood embracing the oval ball and charting the same career path.

However, the nine-year-old's mum had other ideas.

"The journey with Aymen started with his mum to be honest, I wanted him to play rugby as usual since him and his brother always played rugby when they were babies. One day, the mum came and asked me why don't I let them play football, I said its okay but as long as he is training on Monday and the other (rugby) on Sunday so that is how it started because he was always kicking a ball since he was young," Lucas narrates.

In a strange twist of fate, the burly Lucas was swept away by the new football wave taking over in his household and was soon joining his family in attending matches.

"So, I started taking them for training and before I knew it, they started falling in love with the game. I have always been a Chelsea supporter because when I moved to London after the Commonwealth Games, I fell in love with Chelsea because when you live in London it's either you are a Chelsea or Arsenal fan, I used to be a big fan of Drogba," he explains.

-How did he join Manchester City? -

Aymen is a go-getter and had to put in a lot of hard work for the deal to materialize, having been at Liverpool and Manchester United academies before falling in love with The Cityzens.

"The academies every year they have to step up and it is a lot of hard work that is put in. For him (Aymen), it is all about working hard...he is one person who is not scared of hard work. I have seen him come from rugby to football when he was five years," Lucas says.

He adds: "This journey started three years ago, it's only that he signed the deal the other day. So, we said let the world know because it motivates other kids back home in Kenya. Manchester City is the best academy to be honest, we have been at Manchester, Liverpool, and every academy has its positives and negatives, but it is where the child felt comfortable and

Aymen was comfortable at City."

He says that the training programme and facilities at City provide the best conditions for coaches to get the best out of their players.

"At Manchester City, they get the best training, they have played against Arsenal, Chelsea, and other teams and they beat all of them. Manchester City Academy has a good set up, the kids are taken good care of, they are taken to big matches when the senior team plays so that they get the opportunity to watch players who were in the academy," he explains.

Aymen's role model is Manchester City's midfielder Phil Foden:

"He loves Foden because he is a local boy; he used to live next to where my warehouse was, he sees himself going through that. Yakubu has always been giving his brother a lot of support in whatever he does. He has been a lover of rugby...he used to come watch me train and play rugby, Aymen would have wished to watch me play," the father says.

-Why did Lucas Onyango move out of Kenya? -

Lucas Onyango was part of the Kenya Sevens team that represented the country at the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, which was the second edition in which it was competed since its introduction at the Kuala Lumpur Games in 1998.

Although Kenya bowed out in the bowl semi-final after losing 41-10 to Tonga, the Manchester games provided an opportunity for Onyango to sign for Manchester R.F.C. before moving to rugby league club Widnes Vikings in 2005.

"I left home because the opportunities were not there. We came for the Commonwealth Games... we knew we were good enough but the environment was not conducive to succeed. For my sons to be born in the United Kingdom is a big milestone. I have taken them to Kisumu, they have been to Nairobi, Eastlands, they know the hood, they know how hard it is to make it and that motivates them to work hard," 41-year-old Onyango states.

Capital Sport

SPORTS NEWS



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LITERATURE IS HERE TO STAY: Mufamadi Successfully Publishes Four Books In A Day



By: Mulamuleli Tshitangano

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076 568 0493

Tshimangadzo Mufamadi

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Worth Noting:

- “It took me a lot of time and a lot of energy to compile the books. Writing and editing are not child’s plays. When you look at the final product you must be proud,” he said.
- Although most of people prefer to read English books, Tshimangadzo is so determined to promote reading culture in schools by means of encouraging learners to use their mother tongue so they grasp the content of the book easier. “I am ready to take Tshiven a to new heights, our children should know their native languages as much as they do in English,” he added.

Tshimangadzo Mufamadi is from Ha-Mashau village in Venḁa, Limpopo, South Africa. He’s a teacher, an author and currently furthering his studies at university of South Africa doing LLB degree. As a passionate teacher, Tshimangadzo always had a wish to help his students succeed by means of adapting to the reading culture. Growing up, he was passionate about writing, hence

he never thought one day he would be a published author. In 2020 after thinking long and hard, Tshimangadzo saw his previous work that he used to write in high school fit to be published with the knowledge he has for the curriculum. He therefore published his first book titled Tsumbandila in his African mother tongue. According to Tshimangadzo, the aim for Tsumbandila is to

guide learners and parents to have a broad understanding of their syllabus as well as helping improve their grammar, reading skills and the use of language in a more appropriate way. Tsumbandila is not just a book, it further received the global honoree awards on the fifth African annual Global Honoree author awards July 2022 as well as receiving a recognition from the department of education in Gauteng for learners in primary. The progress of his first book motivated him to publish more books of which he later published 4 books in one day early 2023 leaving him breaking the record in the writing industry. The four books are: Education is treasure, Pfunzo ndi ifa, Tsumbandila ya mirele yothe and Tsumbandila ya grade 1 to 3.

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Apart from all that he has achieved, Tshimangadzo calls himself a life-long learner and educator. Through his books, he wishes to see lives transformed and a better development in schools when it comes to reading and writing. “Writing is not my career but instead something I enjoy doing in my free time. My journey as a writer was not motivated by a place of comfort zone. Now, I have some knowledge and will keep spreading the knowledge through writing,” he concluded.

ABOUT THE BOOK: TSUMBUNḂILA

The book starts with encouraging learners and highlighting the vital importance of EDUCATION. It is a book that is written to help learners who struggle with reading and writing. Through it all its written in a way that parents can also help their children in bettering their vocabulary by means of helping them with pronunciation of words.