



Education Sector Biggest Beneficiary In The 2023/2024 Budget, Says Nyoro
The Parliamentary Budget Committee chairperson Ndindi Nyoro has said the education sector is set to benefit hugely in the next financial budget.

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News>>>The Three Day Coffee Stakeholders Conference Held In Meru County Ended On A High Note with identification of legal, policy, regulative and administrative measures. P.8



Motivation>>>To Fully Enjoy Freedom Accept Criticism

P. 12. The greatest threat to freedom is the absence of criticism.
..... Wole Soyinka



Business>>>Pathways Policy Institute Collaborates With Government To Enhance Transparency And Accountability In Accessing Information P.16

DP Gachagua: Gov't Ready To Implement Coffee Sector Recommendations

⚡ The DP said beyond the legal, policy and operational measures, there is a need to have capacity building and strengthening between and among farmers in improving production.

The recommendations will be reviewed and included in Coffee Bill 2023 for presentation before Parliament. Coffee reforms are unstoppable, the farmer must prevail and win.
"DP Gachagua said.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua



STORY ON PAGE 9

Nakuru County Automates Laboratory Information Systems

By: Esther Mwangi and Merceline Khaemba

Nakuru County Government has contracted ELSMED Healthcare Solutions to automate its laboratory

information and inventory management systems to ensure data security.

The County Executive Committee Member for Health, Ms. Jacqueline Osoro, said the devolved unit

was exploring a system whose key features will be workflow and data tracking, flexible architecture, data exchange interfaces, data mining, data analysis, and an electronic lab-

STORY ON PAGE 13



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By: Christine Muchira

- President Ruto said, Djibouti people visiting Kenya will not be required to have visas.
- “This is part of our contribution to easing the movement of people, goods and services in Africa,” he added.
- He announced that Kenya and Djibouti will also build synergy on tourism and hospitality to boost their earnings.
- The Head of State observed that the development will be underpinned by the resumption of air transport between Nairobi and Djibouti.



President William Ruto and his counterpart Ismaïl Omar Guelleh at the Palais Présidentiel in Djibouti.

He said the operationalisation of a Pan-African Parliament will further “help Africa meet the challenges of our time”.



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Governor Kihika Approves Key Documents For Financial Growth, Development And Climate Action

By: Suleiman Mbatiah
 @themkenyatimes

Nakuru Governor Susan Kihika has approved significant documents that will drive sustainable development, effective governance, and prudent financial management in the region. During a recent Cabinet meeting, she stressed that those measures are aimed at propelling the county’s development, enhancing revenue generation, and addressing the challenges posed by climate change.

Of particular importance was the Finance Bill - 2023 due to its recognition of the crucial role played by maximizing revenue streams through Own Source Revenue (OSR) and directing it towards efficient service delivery.

“I am determined to close all loopholes that hinder the optimal collection of revenue and its allocation for service delivery. The county has not passed a Finance Bill since 2019,” she remarked.



The County Government of Nakuru cabinet in a session chaired by Governor Susan Kihika.

Article 209 of the Constitution of Kenya strengthens the counties’ capacity to optimize own revenue streams, leading to increased financial independence and sustainable development.

Governor Kihika also approved the framework for establishing and implementing County Aggregation and Industrial Parks (CAIPS) and Special Economic Zones (SEZ). This ambitious plan aims to accelerate economic growth and combat unemployment by providing strategic platforms for industrialization and business development within the county.

“Through dedicated spaces for industries and businesses, these zones significantly contribute to the overall progress and prosperity of the county and its residents,” she affirmed.

To demonstrate the county’s commitment to climate change mitigation, the Cabinet also sanctioned the County Participatory Climate Risk Assessment (PCRA) and Climate Change Action Plan for the period 2023-2027. These documents provide a comprehensive framework for implementing robust strategies to tackle the challenges posed by climate change.

Governor Kihika emphasized the importance of involving various stakeholders in the participatory risk assessment, stating that the county aims to ensure effective adaptation and resilience-building measures that will safeguard both the environment and the welfare of its residents.

To highlight her administration’s dedication to upholding integrity, accountability and transparency, the Cabinet further approved the Code of Conduct and Ethics for Public Officers.

This code establishes a set of Ethical Standards for public officers, promoting professionalism, responsible decision-making, and the highest level of public service.

“By fostering a culture of ethical conduct, the county aims to strengthen public trust, inspire confidence, and ensure the efficient delivery of services to its constituents,” she emphasized.

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FUTURE IMPRESSION

Shakahola Deaths Are Criminal Not Religion, Committee Is Told

By: Our Correspondent
 @themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- “There was massive security failure in preventing the Shakahola massacre and the same government has lost the moral authority to investigate the matter,” said the KCCB in a submission delivered to the committee by Fr. Wilybard Lagho of Malindi Diocese.
- Religious organisations subscribe to a specific mode of administration and organisation vastly from others mostly because they are heavily informed by their religious belief and the Bishops argue that it is difficult to come up with a common regulation that aligns with all of the religious organisations practices.



Senate Adhoc Committee on the Proliferation of Religious Organisations.

Christian religious groups have distanced themselves from the deaths in Shakahola Forest saying they are isolated cases warning the state against using the killings to regulate or clamp down on religious dominations in the country.

In fact, the groups maintained that Pastor Paul Mackenzie activities within the Shakahola Forest, in which nearly 265 bodies have so far been discovered, were criminal acts which are punishable by the law.

In a presentation to the Senate Adhoc Committee on the Proliferation of Religious Organisations, which is investigating the killings, the groups noted that the killings were occasioned by massive security failure on the part of state agencies.

The groups which appeared before the committee, which is chaired by Tana River Senator Danson Mun-

gatana last Friday, were the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK), Evangelical Alliance of Kenya (EAK) and Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB).

“There was massive security failure in preventing the Shakahola massacre and the same government has lost the moral authority to investigate the matter,” said the KCCB in a submission delivered to the committee by Fr. Wilybard Lagho of Malindi Diocese.

Religious organisations subscribe to a specific mode of administration and organisation vastly from others mostly because they are heavily informed by their religious belief and the Bishops argue that it is difficult to come up with a common regulation that aligns with all of the religious organisations practices.

“Efforts towards regulation of re-



Senate Adnoc committee chairman Danstan Buya Mungatana during the session.

ligious organisations in Kenya will very likely open up the different religions to manipulation by different groups, especially to politicians who will likely attempt to control the activities of the various religions to fit their interests.”

In its presentations, EAK, which was represented by Dr Nelson Makanda, insisted that the Shakahola case is a criminal case and should be handled as such attributing the killings on the failure or refusal by Mackenzie to submit and be held accountable by other bodies and leaders.

They also argued that the killings symbolize the spiritual and psychosocial challenges on the part of both Mackenzie and his victims and a dysfunctional communal security and administrative structures.

“The Shakahola case should not be

generalized but treated as a separate and exclusive incidence even though grievous,” said Dr Makanda.

EAK proposed that there is need to separate of regulation of religious bodies from the provisions of the Societies Act, 1968, and that all religious institutions submit under an umbrella body which will be mandated to self-regulate.

Any institution not an under an umbrella body be made subject to strict monitoring of relevant government bodies and that the law only recognizes umbrella bodies as those religious coordinating bodies forming the Inter Religious Council of Kenya and which must have existed by 2014.

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Coffee Stakeholders Conference in Photographs

The three day Coffee Stakeholders Conference held in Meru County ended on a high note with identification of legal, policy, regulative and administrative measures that will be worked on for lasting solutions to dignifying the coffee farmer.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua who convened the meeting, that took place at The Three Steers Hotel in Meru town also had a busy schedule where he visited a coffee farm and held a series of meetings with local leadership.

Here, we have selected several photos depicting what transpired in and out of the conference hall.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua when he appeared for interview with media houses based in Meru.



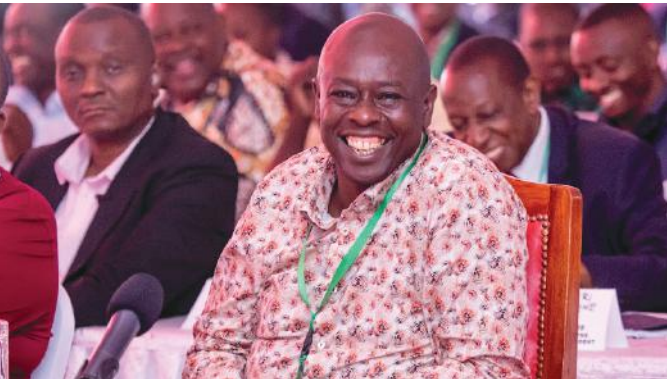
Former Meru County governor Kiraitu Murungi making his contribution.



Nyeri County governor Mutahi Kahiga at the forum.



Othaya constituency MP Wambugu Wainaina (right), with other leaders when they visited Charles Mwitui's coffee farm during the Coffee Stakeholders Conference in Meru.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua at the conference.



Embu County governor making her contribution where she named three companies which she claimed are part of the cartels.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua with a son of General Mwariama, Mr Joel Mwariama, in Meru. He said he would look at ways of assisting his family as well as others of former freedom fighters..



Some of the leaders who attended various engagement meetings during the Coffee Stakeholders Conference in Meru. In this picture, they include Nyeri Town MP Duncan Maina (left) and businessman Karweru Kiragu (right).



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua with CS Mithika Linturi, Meru governor Kawira Mwangaza, her Tharaka Nithi counterpart Muthomi Njuki at the Charles Mwitui's coffee farm.

DP Gachagua: Gov't Ready To Implement Coffee Sector Recommendations

By: Christine Muchira
@themtkenyatimes

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has called local leaders in the coffee-growing areas to work with farmers in efforts to support coffee farming in the region and improve the economy.

Speaking during the second day of the coffee reforms conference in Meru County, the DP lashed out at middlemen who have infiltrated the coffee industry affecting the production and farmers at large.

The DP said beyond the legal, policy and operational measures, there is a need to have capacity building and strengthening between and among farmers in improving production.

He further called on working together with members of Parliament and senators in efforts to help and benefit coffee farming in the country adding that the coffee conference in Meru has reignited the debate and

rekindled the resilience of Kenyan farmers.

“The recommendations will be reviewed and included in Coffee Bill 2023 for presentation before Parliament. Coffee reforms are unstoppable, the farmer must prevail and win.” DP Gachagua said.

The farmers made a raft of measures which the government should implement to exploit the full potential of coffee in the coffee sector.

The DP promised to look into the proposal made by farmers to form a special team to tighten the recommendations as well as Streamline the mandates of institutions/agencies through policy and enactment of legislation and oversee their implementation to ensure Increased production.

The DP also assured farmers that the Kenya Kwanza Government will make its core mandate to link farmers directly with the consumer to enable them reap all the benefits.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua with Inooro TV journalist Mike Njenga during Kiriimbi programme which took place in Meru town last night where he fielded questions on variety of issues

Coffee Stakeholders Conference in Photographs



Some of the key speakers during the conference.



Mathira MP Eric Wamumbi making his contribution. On his left is Tigania West MP Dr John Mutunga.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua with some Njuri Ncheke who he met during the Coffee Stakeholders Conference..



Trade CS Moses Kuria with nominated MP Sabina Chege during the forum.



Nyeri County Senator Wahome Wamatinga, his Kirinyaga counterpart Kamau Murango and Kirinyaga Women Representative Njeri Maina at the forum..



Former Othaya Farmers' Cooperative Society chairman Newton making his contribution during the conference.

Total Confidence In Prayers



By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

The existence if confident direction in one’s prayer life is not unusual. I have had similar conviction regarding specific prayer points which have come to pass assuredly. When God’s people truly “pray in the Spirit,” they receive similar direction and conviction, not only about people, but about events and projects and even whole nations.

The second benefit of “praying in the Spirit” is that it supplies the EN-ERGIZING OF THE HOLY SPIR-IT for prayer, infusing tired, even infirm, bodies and elevating the depressed to pray with power and conviction for God’s work. Men, learn to pray in the Spirit! The Minister John Hughes states this : “ I have written “Pray in the Spirit” at the top of my prayer list as a constant

reminder to patiently wait on the Lord, asking the Spirit to give me prayers. My list contains numerous long-standing petitions for which I regularly pray, but I also want to be consciously open to the Spirit, so that as He wishes, He will regularly invade my list with His direction and energy.”

John Bunyan also adds: “Prayer is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the heart or soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assistance of the Holy Spirit, for such things as God has promised, or according to the Word of God, for the good of the church, with submission in faith to the will of God. Let us learn to pray in-Spirited prayer using the strength and assistance of the Holy Spirit.

The next ingredient of petitionary prayer is that it is continuous — “on all occasions.” This characterized the practice of the Apostolic Church, as Acts 1:14 indicates: “They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers” (cf. 2:42). Paul told the Thessalonians to “pray continually” (1 Thessalonians 5:17), and he recommended that the



Philippians “in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (4:6). Is continual prayer possible? Yes and no. It is, of course, impossible to carry on a running dialogue while we are working or at other times, but the prayer called for here is not so much the articulation of words as the posture of the heart.

WOW! WHAT AN AWESOME

GOD WE SERVE, WHO ENRICH-ES US WITH INSIGHTS UNPAR-ALLED! SELAH!

References:
The Living Bible
Discipline of a Godly Man(Book by Kent Hughes)
Evangelist Eric Musa:
(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as

your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit, as it is written; “NOW is the acceptable time, TO-DAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2”. For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact Evan-gelist on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Re-member, God Loves you and I un-conditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM

Circular Economy To Address Tough Economic Times

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

The Call to Africa Nations to adopt World Circular Economy model continues to escalate as stakeholders in the business sector are urged to change steps from traditional linear economy (make, use, dispose) ,in which resources will now be kept in use for as long as possible, maximum value is extracted from them whilst in use, then materials are recovered and products are regenerated at the end of each life.

The Convention which is happening for the first time across the Eastern African Region Comes in at a time when the heads of States from the East and Southern African Economic Block are converging in Zambia to discuss about common African market.

Speaking at the conference Lara Maritano who is a Circular Economy



Consultant and director of the World Circular Economy program Kenyan Chapter, she has acknowledged the Kenyan people for adopting the Circular Economy module that has

been in place for at least the last 15 yrs which makes the region portray a great potential when it comes to drawing case studies for other African Nations to adopt.

“Africa has been using circular principles for generations. As new business models and technologies emerge, the opportunities for agriculture, manufacturing and waste management can be harnessed to improve livelihoods and reduce poverty.”Says Lara Maritano

Zablon Wekesa who is the Co-ordinator for the Kenyan Chapter has called upon the policy makers to make quick intervention so that Kenya and the region is not caught up by time, he said that every country is changing from the usual linear economy where products were made for a certain period of time and later disposed which would inturn bring up issues of waste Management.

“Am glad that exhibitors were around today to come and showcase what we’re talking about today on industry ,policy makers, education system to make more emphasis on the Circular Economy where products are Made,used , regenerated ,frabricated and re-used once again.”

Zablon Wekesa Kenya Chapter Co-ordinator.

Kenya has started making milestone on the Circular economy network by introducing a green economy document and a law that will make changes on policies that regulates businesses and enterprises.

Dr Ayub Director of environment at the Ministry of Environment Kenya has commended different markets outlets in Nairobi Metropolitan that are addressing waste Management through recycling of organic waste which in turn produce black soilder (food made from insects) and fertilizer as a final product.

“The Circular Economy module will for the first time address the sudden economic crisis facing many middle income countries,as a ministry we are ready and committed to address the issue which will inturn be of great impact on our economy.” Says Dr Ayub.

Gachagua’s Promise To Dismantle Brokers, Cartels In Coffee Sub-Sector Commendable



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Worth Noting:

- It is simply because he was a chief campaigner of Kenya Kwanza presidential candidate William Ruto and played a key role to ensure he has won the elections.
- Ever since, Gachagua has stood his ground that President Ruto won the elections in a free and fair contest. This is truth and Raila Odinga has no option other than to accept it, he reiterated during the National Prayer Breakfast.
- The DP has also religiously ruled out Ruto caving in to his political machinations to share the government with him. Old man, you lost the elections. Stick to your lane as an opposition leader.
- The DP has in various occasions reiterated his commitment to address the plight of the farmers across the country.

Upon realization that the commitment of Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua to address the woes facing Coffee, tea, milk farmers came from the bottom of his heart, President William Ruto assigned him the role of spearheading the deliberations aimed at coming up with far-reaching reforms to breathe in new life to these sub-sectors.

Given that this farming is predominantly being embraced by people in Mount Kenya region, Gachagua’s critics had been trying to paint and brand him as a tribalist.

“Gachagua is the Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya. So, we want him to address the woes of the farmers in all parts of the country”.

This is what I want to tell them. The DP is speaking the same language.

I, however, know the reason why you are casting him in bad light.

It is simply because he was a chief campaigner of Kenya Kwanza presidential candidate William Ruto and played a key role to ensure he has won the elections.

Ever since, Gachagua has stood his ground that President Ruto won the elections in a free and fair contest. This is truth and Raila Odinga has no option other than to accept it, he reiterated during the National Prayer Breakfast.

The DP has also religiously ruled out Ruto caving in to his political machinations to share the government with him. Old man, you lost the elections. Stick to your lane as an opposition leader.

The DP has in various occasions reiterated his commitment to address the plight of the farmers across the country.

We must begin somewhere. He would tell his critics.

I know some of you were born to politicize everything under the sun.

This is because your main intention is to sabotage the development agenda of Ruto government.

But Kenyans have come a long way and have become clever.

When you oppose, they interpret this as an endorsement to good work that we are doing.

My focus is to address the woes of all the farmers in Kenya including those earning a living from fishing, sugar cane growers, maize, and potato farmers among others.

Take this from me. If DP is a tribal kingpin I’m sure President Ruto could not assigned him the role of reforming the agricultural sector which is the backbone of Kenya’s economy.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua .

The DP moved a step further a few days when he convened and chaired a Coffee summit in Meru.

This once again proved wrong those claiming he was just talking too much without showing tangible actions.

At the Coffee reforms conference, the stakeholders deliberated on the matters that had contributed to the ailing of Coffee sub-sector.

Some farmers recalled: There was a time our coffee used to be called black gold. The farmers used to rake in good profits and smile all way to the bank.

Our Coffee was the most admired and sought by people in all parts of the world.

What went wrong? Where did the rain start to beat us?

This started when the past regimes allowed the brokers and cartels to infiltrate and capture this sector.

These people did not grow coffee and even some did not know how

it was grown and yet they were the biggest beneficiaries.

After we toil in our farms, they would line up their pockets with our hard-earned sweat.

Besides, the cartels would not put much emphasis on cushioning this sector from unfair competition. This is by failing to seek the retention of the old markets and look for new markets.

In a response, the DP stated. I have heard you and the resolutions that you have passed.

I want to assure you that I have clear instructions from President Ruto.

The Government of His Excellency will ensure these resolutions are passed to the letter and spirit.

We know the companies owned and operated by these cartels and brokers.

We are immediately going to dismantle them and farmers will start to put monies into thier pockets.

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary (CS)

Mithika Linturi was present. He re-affirmed this position.

Well, this is not the first time we are seeing the government coming up with these interventions.

It happened during the reigns of President Mwai Kibaki and his successor Uhuru Kenyatta.

However, the final reports were never implemented.

They were placed somewhere in a government shelf to gather dust.

But for the Ruto government, I’m persuaded to believe they are truly committed to address the plight of not only coffee farmers but all the farmers in the country.

During the campaigns, Dr Ruto assured Kenyans that he will do things differently. He has been walking the talk. The DP is a key fulcrum to ensure that he has succeeded.

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

To Fully Enjoy Freedom Accept Criticism

By: N. George

@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The extent to which one can exercise freedom can be explicitly stated or be left at individuals will to determine own limits.
- Man being selfish in nature tends to exceed limits of other beneficiaries by exercising his freedom at expense of fellow human beings or of other creatures for example having grown trees then cutting them down upon maturity claiming that he owns the land and is the one who planted the trees forgetting that its presence helps minimize soil erosion, provide shelter for birds, act as windbreakers as well as cleaning the air.
- Once he clears all vegetation the effects of nature are experienced as the land is left bare exposing it to soil erosion, dusty air, displacement of birds and lose of natural beauty associated with vegetation



The greatest threat to freedom is the absence of criticism. Wole Soyinka.

Every creature whether a person or an animal is happy when enjoying freedom in fact there is reaction whenever you deny anyone freedom for example if you lock a dog in a kennel yet it have been used to roam around it will continuously back as a way of protesting. A plant will wither if denied water and turn yellowish in colour if denied light. It will develop the root towards the direction of water even if it will have to bend in the same spirit it will direct its shoot towards light even if it will have to bend. This is how it can change in shape as it seeks to find these essential requirements for survival.

When it comes to people they will fight until they gain freedom whether of speech or movement. Some

will be ready to relocate from their homes to places where their freedom will not be curtailed.

In any institution the highest ranked person is the one with highest number of rights when it comes to decision making. He can overrule what others have agreed on and still be considered right for example among courts the high court can reject magistrate court ruling while the appeal court can reject high court decisions whereas the supreme court can overrule the decision of all the lower courts.

The extent to which one can exercise freedom can be explicitly stated or be left at individuals will to determine own limits.

Man being selfish in nature tends to exceed limits of other beneficiaries by exercising his freedom at expense of fellow human beings or of

other creatures for example having grown trees then cutting them down upon maturity claiming that he owns the land and is the one who planted the trees forgetting that its presence helps minimize soil erosion, provide shelter for birds, act as windbreakers as well as cleaning the air.

Once he clears all vegetation the effects of nature are experienced as the land is left bare exposing it to soil erosion, dusty air, displacement of birds and lose of natural beauty associated with vegetation.

Accepting criticism will help such a person to pay attention to environmentalists' call where they recommend if you cut down one tree you should plant two. Those who enjoy the shade from these trees or use them as land mark will be appealing that some are left so that anyone visiting the area can be told to use some

of the trees to locate the area.

Critics point out at all weak points with an aim of deconstructing what you have done. They prove all weaknesses. A thorough analysis of their work will help the project owner to know which areas to innovate and the probable impact of this hence a great boost to anyone keen of obtaining feedback and utilizing it efficiently.

To them (critics) they are out to ashame the project owners. Those being criticized should be happy that they are getting free advice. The reliability of the advice should be the major consideration before taking the necessary measures.

Nakuru County Automates Laboratory Information Systems

By: Esther Mwangi and Merceline Khaemba @themtkenyentimes

laboratory notebook (ELN). Ms Osoro indicated that ELSMED Healthcare Solutions will collaborate with Siemens in the project, adding that effective laboratory information and inventory management systems would facilitate easy record keeping, tracking, and reporting, thus eliminating the risks of human error and improving the overall turnaround time. According to the CECM, the cutting-edge technology will revolutionize the county diagnostic systems by allowing for more precise and comprehensive analysis of samples. This, she added, will lead to more accurate diagnoses and better patient outcomes while reducing the time and resources required for testing. “We are envisaging a platform that will be a solution that works fast and facilitates seamless communication

between scientists, businesses, laboratories, and the public,” said Ms Osoro. The system is also expected to greatly reduce the need for manual data input, mitigating the risk of human error, in order to streamline workflows and significantly improve turnaround times. Speaking after a meeting that was convened to discuss the implementation of the project, Ms Osoro said Governor Susan Kihika’s administration would, through public-private partnerships, upgrade diagnostic equipment at all the public health facilities across the county. The CECM observed that Governor Kihika had prioritized the improvement of health facilities to ensure access to affordable and quality medical services for the people of Nakuru. She added that the upgrading of old and the building of new sub-county hospitals will save residents the trouble of traveling to the county referral hospital in Nakuru for services such as surgical procedures.

The meeting was attended by ELSMED Healthcare Solutions Chief Executive Officer Mr Yaren Farachi, Acting County Secretary and Head of Public Service, Dr. Samuel Mwaura, County Attorney Mr Caleb Nyamwange, Chief Officer for Medical Services, Dr John Murima, and Chief Officer for Public Health Ms Alice Abuki. Ms Osoro stated that the devolved unit’s administration was exploring several strategic partnerships to provide residents with convenient and subsidized access to medical consultations through telemedicine. The CECM said the partnership with ElsMed Healthcare was intended to roll out a telemedicine system where care managers will take patients through preliminary assessments and assign them to a doctor for a consultation session. She said the county leadership was keen on telemedicine systems where, if a prescription is required, one will be issued by the doctor and sent directly to one of the various partnering pharmacies.



Residents accessing services online.

With mental health becoming an increasing and rising concern, Ms Osoro observed that telemedicine systems should incorporate teams of counselors to assist patients experiencing acute stress and anxiety, and these should also be accessed via telephone. “The integration of online and offline healthcare means that our doctors should be able to deliver seamless consultations, just as they would in person,” stated the CECM.

The proposed partnership with ElsMed Healthcare, Ms Osoro indicated, included building up a new mother-baby training simulation centre meant to reduce adverse maternal outcomes during childbirth. According to the CECM, plans were in the pipeline to build and equip specialized hypertension and diabetes clinics to serve not only patients from Nakuru but up to nine neighbouring counties.

ODPC Puts In Place Legal And Institutional Mechanism To Protect Personal Data

By: Jane Gicharu @themtkenyentimes

As the country undergoes digital transformation where a variety of services to the public will be availed on digital platforms, the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) has put in place legal and institutional mechanisms to ensure that personal data is protected. It’s a constitutional right of all Kenyan citizens, legally referred to as data subjects, to have their data protected from persons and organizations who may intend to use this information for unlawful purposes. Protection of personal data is what informed the establishment of ODPC in November, 2020 following the enactment of the Data Protection Act of 2019. The office is mandated to ensure that processing of personal data of a subject is guided by the principles set out in the Act. Head of Legal Services at ODPC



Ms. Susan Waweru said that the office is also mandated to create awareness among Data Controllers and Processors on how they can operate within the law. She said registering with ODPC is the first step towards compliance with the Data Protection Act. An Advocacy officer at ODPC, Mr. Abdullahi Ali said that the office was creating awareness in all counties

and hoped to reach all counties soon. “Several teams have therefore been dispatched to different counties to sensitize data collectors and processors on the mandate of the ODPC, the provisions of the data protection Act and their obligation in data protection,” he said. Speaking in Embu County during sensitization exercise, Ali asked data controllers and processors to be ac-

countable for the information in their custody and ensure that it’s only used for the intended purpose. He urged them to only collect the data they require in order to minimize risks such as fraud or unsolicited marketing by entities that could obtain this data illegally. Data collectors and processors were asked to undertake a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) in order

to identify the risks involved in their work and address them thus ensuring there is no data breach. “They should also have a retention schedule which will guide how long they should hold information after which it should be discarded in a lawful manner,” he said. Mr Ali said that in instances where a data collector provides private data to another party for processing, a contract bearing details on how this information will be managed should be drawn. Embu West Deputy County Commissioner Ms Mercy Gatobu speaking at the function pledged support for the ODPC in ensuring that all public and private entities that were handling personal data in the County complied with the provisions of the Data Protection Act. She noted that government departments collected a lot of personal and even sensitive data in the cause of providing services to the public and concurred that there was urgent need to protect this information that at times leaked into the public domain.

Children Are The Joy Of The World

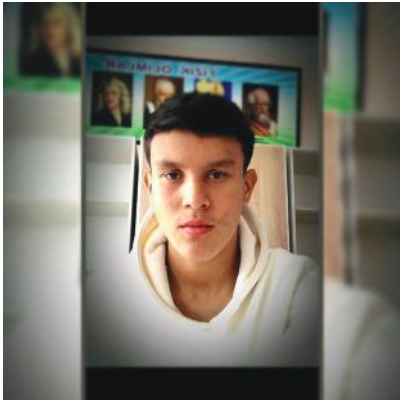


When I was a child, I always dreamed of growing up.
 I think that this is the case with all people.
 In my opinion, if I became a big person, I would find a solution to all my problems.
 Being a big person, I realized that not all problems can be solved.

But, at that time, childhood will have left you.
 Childhood is an innocent period. It should be appreciated.
 We should raise our children to be innocent children, not adults like us.
 They should play games and listen to interesting stories.
 Only then, children will remember these times with good memories.
 They will never forget.
 Parents demand things from their children that they cannot do.
 Let's not forget that children are still children.
 Let's treat them like children for a certain time, parents for a certain time, and friends for a certain time.
 Let's not forget that children are the joy of the world.

Sirojiddinova Ugiloy Mansur 'daughter

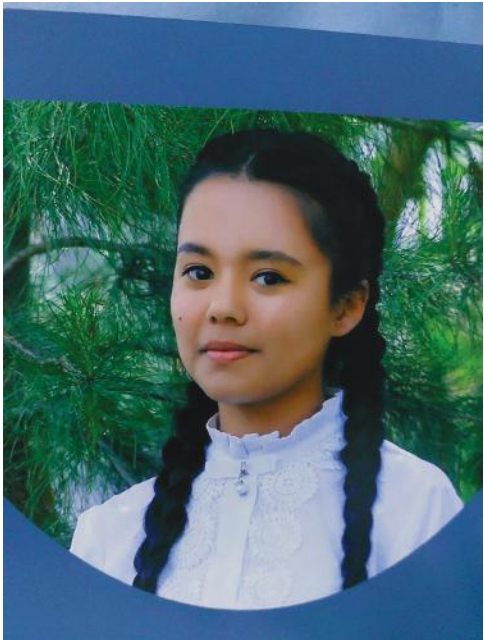
One True Friend Is Enough!



Encouragement when you fall,
 The one who holds your hand on a difficult day,
 One who overcomes hardships
 One true friend is enough.
 If he shares your laughter,
 Being a shield and standing next to you,
 He sees your son as his son
 One true friend is enough
 If you stumble, there are kickers
 There are those who turn away and leave,
 Suffers when it comes to sadness and

anxiety
 One true friend is enough.
 If he didn't cheat, he couldn't sell,
 It was impossible to throw stones from behind,
 One lost in one day
 One true friend is enough.
 If your words are not heavy,
 If you always justify your trust,
 If you are worried
 One true friend is enough
 Call me my friend for God's sake!
 Let everyone envy you
 Take care of yourself!
 One true friend is enough.
 The son of Fakhridin Mekhrobjon Sultanbayev was born in Beruni district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan.
 Currently 17 years old. 10th grade student of a specialized school in the Beruni district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan

I'm Just An Ordinary Person



Where did the idea of the sea come from?
 To a girl who has not seen the worlds
 My heart is words, my eyes too,
 I have something to say, listen to you
 We are born, we live

We couldn't feel alive,
 The world runs, passes,
 We couldn't even catch our breath
 I'm just an ordinary person,
 I'm not going to die forever,
 Our hearts belong only to God
 He alone is eternal.
 Where did the idea of the sea come from?
 To a girl who hasn't seen the worlds...
 Kuvondikova is the daughter of Mohinur Sadiq. Born on September 20, 2004 in Khatirchi District, Navoi Region. Currently 18 years old. He studies at "TIQXMMI" MTU.
 His creative works have been published in the collection "Ilhom Bulaqi" and many newspapers and magazines.

About choosing a friend

A friend is a balm for the soul. A true friend is always present when things are going wrong.
 When choosing a friend, a person should, first of all, be educated and worthy of the chosen friend.
 If you want to be friends with a good person because of your bad behavior, you will naturally be rejected by your chosen one. Start your first friendship with yourself.
 That is, you are your own friend. First of all, sharpen the mind, purify the psyche, and follow the rules of etiquette and discipline.
 Then it's time to choose your friend. You choose a friend based on your personality. That is, your friend's soul should be pure, and he should also follow the rules of etiquette and discipline.

Shokhijakhon Urunov



DO YOU WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?

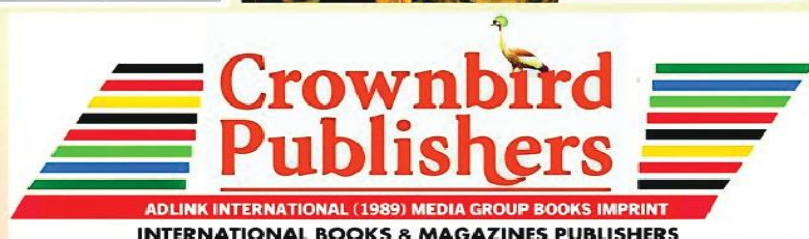
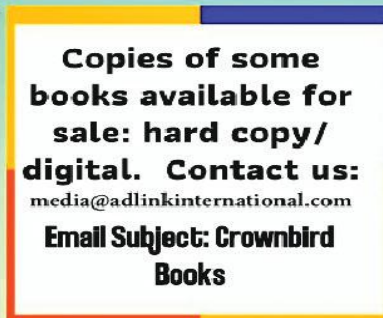
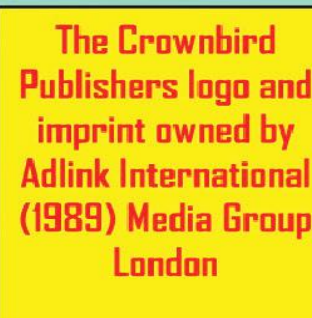
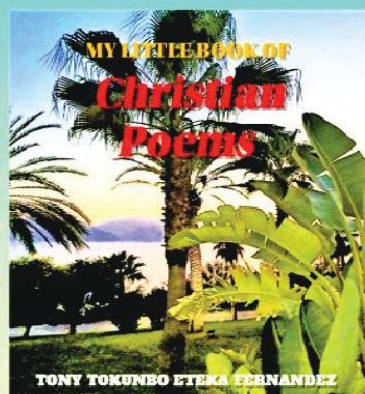
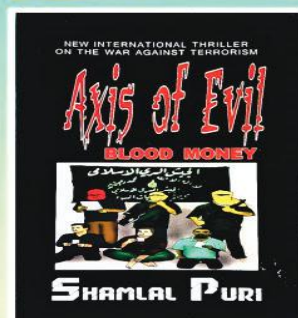
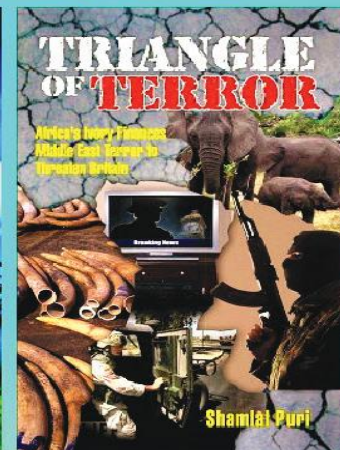
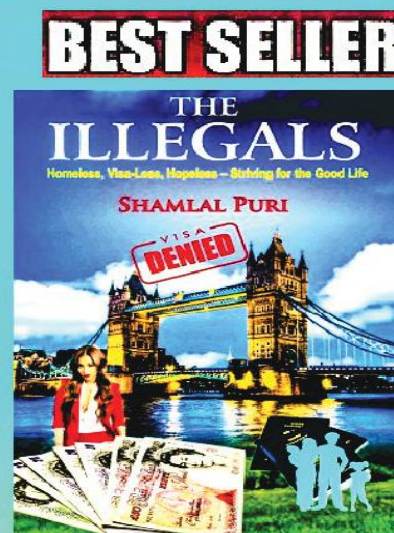
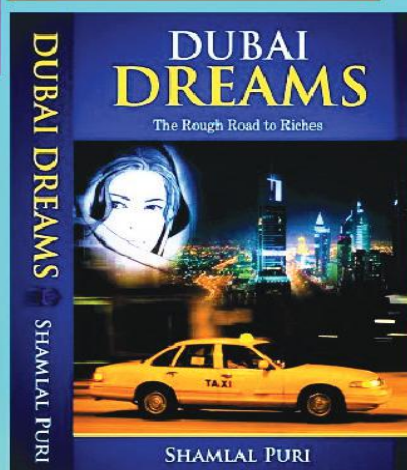
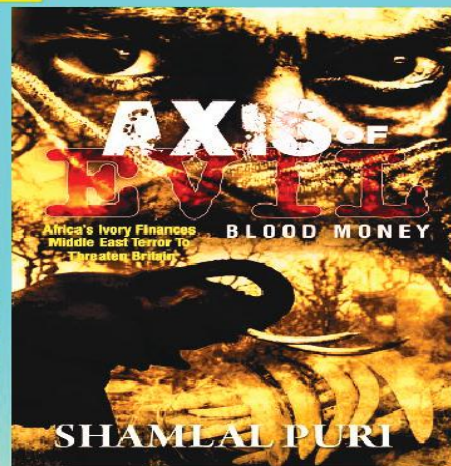
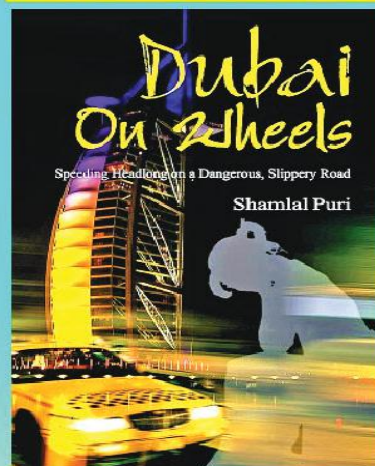
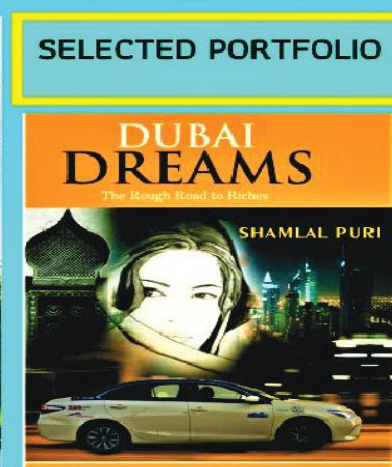
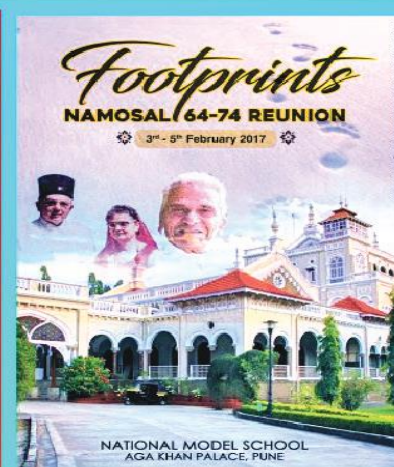
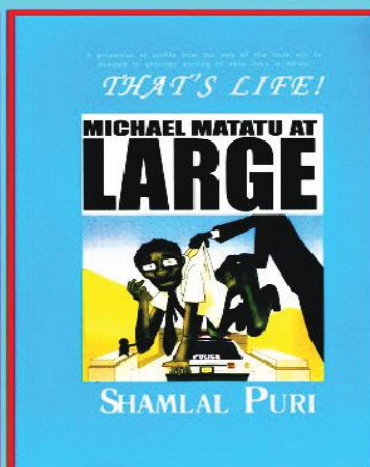
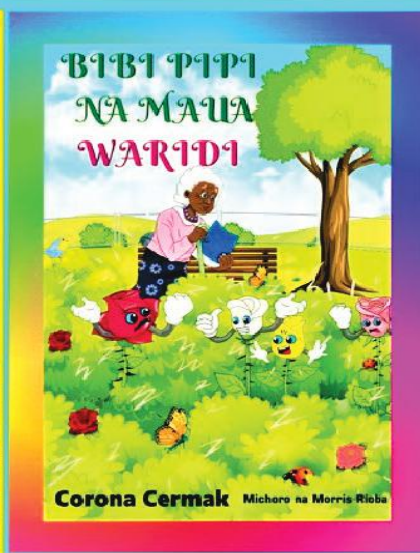
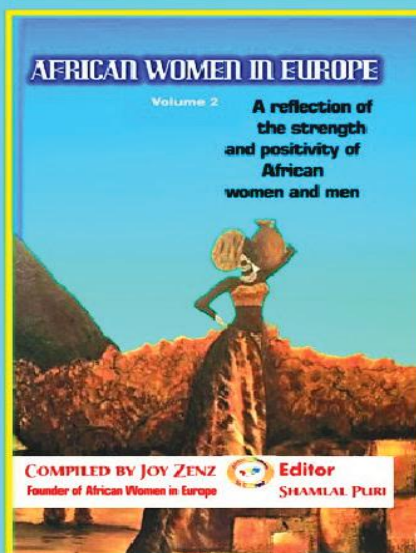
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Pathways Policy Institute Collaborates With Government To Enhance Transparency And Accountability In Accessing Information

By: Our Correspondent

@themtkenyentimes



Worth Noting:

- Dr Akoth explained that the funds received by Kenya to combat COVID-19 were primarily donations and internal fundraising efforts from various partners. These funds were predominantly allocated to the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers across the country.
- During the meeting, Dr Akoth responded to several key questions about the allocation and distribution of COVID-19 funds. Notably, she highlighted that the country had distributed a total of 23,359,310 vaccine doses so far with this information being uploaded on the national health website.
- Kenya planned to fully vaccinate 19 million adults (70% of the adult population) by the end of June 2023, and the entire adult population of 27 million by the end of the year.



Judith Akoth the director Nursing and Midwifery services (centre) with Ms Betty Muchiri and Mr Solomon Kibue from Pathways Policy Institute (PPI) posing for a photo after a consultative meeting held recently at Afya House, Nairobi..

A local Think Tank Agency is at the forefront of enlightening Kenyans on how to easily access and get crucial information from the government.

Pathways Policy Institute (PPI), a renowned policy and accountability community-based think tank, is out to promote transparency and accountability in the utilization of various public funds, among them those allocated to COVID-19 menace.

Recently, PPI held a crucial meeting with the director of nursing and midwifery services in Kenya, Dr Judith Akoth where they discussed accessibility to information.

The meeting, organized in partner-

ship with the Africa Health Budget Network (AHBN), which took place at the MOH headquarters at Afya House in Nairobi, was also aimed at shedding light on the accessibility of data concerning COVID-19 expenditures for the public in the country.

PPI, operating under the theme "Meaningfully Engaging Communities (MECY) with more emphasis on Population, Health, and Environment (PHE) as well as Climate Justice Pathways," is dedicated to fostering local solutions to Universal Health Coverage and addressing the ongoing crisis of global warming through a Primary Health Care

(PHC) outlook.

One of the core objectives of the meeting was to emphasize the importance of citizens being proactive in seeking out the information provided on government websites, as stressed by Dr Akoth.

She highlighted the need for enhanced accountability and transparency across all departments and urged citizens to exercise their right to access information to influence public policies, budgets, and expenditure processes.

Already, the country has the Access to Information Act, designed to promote an open and democratic society, facilitate public debate, and enhance the accountability and transparency of public institutions.

However, there is a growing need to ensure that this information is readily available and accessible to the public, especially during times of crisis such as the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

During the pandemic, Kenya and other African countries received substantial amounts of donor funding to respond to the crisis, some of which were said to have been misappropriated. Established in 2019, PPI has been at the forefront of creating a safe space for advocacy and community involvement in shaping Primary Health Care, Sexual Reproductive Health, and Environmental Policies through research, training, and capacity building.

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Kenya planned to fully vaccinate 19 million adults (70% of the adult population) by the end of June 2023, and the entire adult population of 27 million by the end of the year.

Kenya also aimed to fully vaccinate 2.9 million teenagers aged 15-17 years (50% of the population) and the entire teenage population of

5.8 million by the end of December 2023.

Regarding the accessibility of information, she confirmed that the national government's website, www.health.go.ke, served as a comprehensive platform providing the public with easy access to a wide range of information.

When discussing challenges facing transparency, Dr Akoth acknowledged that the country had initially faced issues with data accessibility due to a breach in a contact tracing and home care app for COVID-19 patients called KoviTrace.

However, these concerns were promptly addressed, and all relevant information is now uploaded onto the government website, ensuring transparency and accountability.

To further improve government transparency on COVID-19 financing, Dr Akoth highlighted the importance of timely reporting, citizen engagement, feedback mechanisms, and active monitoring and reporting by civil society organizations and the media.

The meeting concluded with Dr Akoth emphasizing the importance of public awareness regarding the availability of information on the government website. It was highlighted that all the necessary data required to ensure transparency and accountability around COVID-19 funds are accessible to the public.

The upload of information on the official government website represents a significant step toward fostering transparency, accountability, and public engagement in COVID-19 financing.

As citizens become more empowered to access and analyse information, the pathway to effective governance and responsible use of resources becomes clearer, leading to a stronger and more resilient society in the face of future challenges.

During the meeting, PPI was represented by its Communications Associate Betty Muchiri and Finance Director Solomon Kibue.

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Time: 9am – 5pm
Venue: Apollo Centre,
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Education Sector Biggest Beneficiary In The 2023/2024 Budget, Says Nyoro

By: Bernard Munyao

@themkenyentimes



Worth Noting:

- The Kiharu MP further observed more money has been allocated in the budget to see 20,000 teachers for secondary and primary schools employed.
- “There will also be money to employ tutors for Technical and Vocational Training Institutes,” added Nyoro while addressing parents at Mumbi grounds where more than 5, 000 learners benefited with bursary cheques.
- He continued, “The government is giving education much needed importance since the future of this country will depend on the young people who are currently in school and an educated generation is a bright future for our nation.”



Parliamentary Budget Committee chairperson Ndindi Nyoro.

The Parliamentary Budget Committee chairperson Ndindi Nyoro has said the education sector is set to benefit hugely in the next financial budget.

Speaking as he distributed bursaries for students in boarding schools from his Kiharu constituency, Nyoro observed that Sh630 billion would be used to cater for various expenditures in the education sector.

Among the funds, which are 30 percent of the money allocated to the national government, Nyoro said Sh10 billion has been allocated for capitation for Junior Secondary schools considering that next year, there would be a new class towards implementation of Competency Based Curriculum (CBC).

He said the Higher Education Loans Board (HeLB) would also get an increase from Sh15 billion to a total of Sh30 billion.

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ployed.

“There will also be money to employ tutors for Technical and Vocational Training Institutes,” added Nyoro while addressing parents at Mumbi grounds where more than 5, 000 learners benefited with bursary cheques.

He continued, “The government is giving education much needed importance since the future of this country will depend on the young people who are currently in school and an educated generation is a bright future for our nation.”

The legislator further praised the Finance Bill 2023 which has gone to second reading in the National Assembly.

He observed that the Finance Bill would reduce the deficit in the budget to about 4 per cent saying last financial year, the deficit of the budget was at 8. 2 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

“As a government, we are listening to the views of Kenyans. The country is ours and we have to take into con-

sideration views about the Bill and am sure the changes will be factored before the finance bill sails through in Parliament,” he remarked.

Nyoro said the expected budget to be read in the National Assembly on Thursday would be of Sh3.679 trillion.

Out of the amount, Sh2.3 trillion would be allocated for the national government and another Sh385 billion be set for county governments.

Nyoro explained that money expected to be collected through taxation was Sh2.57 and that raised through Aid in Appropriations (AIA) would be Sh347 billion.

“The government is expecting to fund the budget also with Sh42 billion from grants. The deficit of the budget will be Sh718 billion. With the proposed Finance Bill, our aim is to reduce borrowing to fund the budget,” he added.

The lawmaker further said Sh249 billion has been set in the budget to fund completion of ongoing road infrastructure.

“There are also funds set to complete stalled development projects with some started during Kibaki’s administration like some markets.

“Sh986 billion is allocated in the budget for Consolidated Fund Services (CFS) to cater for payment of debts and pensions,” he averred.

Meanwhile, Nyoro underscored Kiharu Masomo Bora scholarship programme which has enabled day scholars in local secondary schools to study for free.

In the programme, a parent is only supposed to pay Sh1000 to cater for remedials with the MP saying that in the next financial year, local NG-CDF would allocate funds to renovate and install tiles to all 60 day-secondary schools within the constituency.

Parents Urged To Allow Supervised Access Of Phones, Internet To Children

By: Erick Kyalo
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The CS further notes that while access to the internet has ensured that some children still have access to these rights in the event of emergencies, such as the COVID 19, there are risks when children are exposed to prolonged unsupervised access to the internet online like cyberbullying and exposure to harmful content.
- “The Internet also presents risks for the infringement of children’s rights. An increase in internet usage comes with a bigger risk of children being susceptible to sexual exploitation online. Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OCSEA) includes the use of children in pornographic activities, performances, and materials (child sexual abuse material), sexual extortion, online grooming, and exposure of children to adult pornography,” Bore said.



Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection Ms Florence Bore in an earlier function.

Parents have been urged to allow supervised access of mobile devices and internet services to their children which will help in keeping them up-to-date with technological advancement while protecting them from its harm.

According to a report on evidence of Online Child Sexual Abuse in Kenya dubbed ‘Disrupting Harm’ released in 2021, the most popular device to access the Internet among 12-17 years was mobile at 99 per cent, while the most popular place to access the Internet is a cyber.

Speaking during the Launch of the Day of African Child at the Garissa University, Cabinet Secretary for Labour and social protection Florence Bore in her speech read by the Secretary of Administration Benson Mugo said that the internet has provided invaluable opportunities for the realization of children’s fundamental rights and freedoms such as the right to education, freedom of expression, and freedom of association, among others.

The CS further notes that while access to the internet has ensured that some children still have access to these rights in the event of emergencies, such as the COVID 19, there are risks when children are exposed to prolonged unsupervised access to the internet online like cyberbullying and exposure to harmful content. “The Internet also presents risks for the infringement of children’s

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Exploitation and Abuse (OCSEA) includes the use of children in pornographic activities, performances, and materials (child sexual abuse

material), sexual extortion, online grooming, and exposure of children to adult pornography,” Bore said.

“Children’s privacy can also be compromised in the online environment due to a number of practices such as the sharing of children’s personal information by children or adults; data collection and processing by public institutions, businesses, and other organizations; and criminal activities such as identity theft,” she added.

The CS said that the role played by parents and caregivers in child protection activities is very important and there is a need to set up programmes geared towards sensitizing them on those roles.

“All actors including the community and children themselves need to be sensitized on how to prevent, respond to, and report incidents of child abuse to the relevant authorities including calling toll-free line Child Helpline 116,” she said.

She called for concerted efforts towards support for victims of online child abuse, support in rehabilitation programmes for offenders, and ensuring awareness and dissemination of information and messaging.



Ministry of Labour and Social Protection Secretary of Administration Benson Mugo during the Garissa University function.



10th JUNE 2023

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Benson Okumu

Managing Director – Bata Shoe Kenya, PLC

Nigeria’s Rich Literary Legacy: A Paradox of Talent and Reading Culture

By: Ayodeji Ajagbe
@themtkenyetimes

..... Nigeria has achieved remarkable global recognition in the literary world, producing some of the most talented and celebrated authors of our time. From the likes of Chinua Achebe, Wole Soyinka, Buchi Emechetta, and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Nigerian writers have consistently made their mark on the international stage, leaving an indelible impression on readers around the world. However, despite this rich literary heritage, Nigeria’s reading culture remains underwhelming compared to the exceptional talent it has birthed. This raises the question: why is the reading culture in Nigeria so poor?

To begin with, let us examine the educational system. The Nigerian educational system has long been plagued with inadequate infrastructure, lack of resources, and poorly trained teachers. With millions of children out of school and many more receiving a substandard education, the zeal and passion for reading is not adequately nurtured. The emphasis on rote learning and exam-driven curricula creates a disconnect between students and the joy of reading for pleasure, as reading becomes solely associated with academic achievement.

Secondly, the accessibility of books plays a significant role in the Nigerian reading culture. High-quality books, both local and international, are often expensive and difficult to find, especially in rural areas. This limited access to books creates a barrier to cultivating a love for reading and exploring Nigeria’s rich literary heritage. Initiatives to establish libraries and community literary spaces have been sporadic and insufficient, further adding to the problem.

The rise in content creation has undoubtedly contributed to the decline in reading culture as well. With the advent of social media reels and TikTok videos, the younger generation is more likely to spend their free time scrolling through their screens than picking up a book. Attention spans are becoming shorter, and the instant gratification provided by digital platforms has made it difficult for literature to compete for their attention.

Furthermore, Nigerian literature has not been given the necessary support from the government and other important stakeholders. The lack of investment in the arts and creative sectors has led to a dearth of opportunities for writers to showcase their works, and for readers to engage



Ayodeji Ajagbe .

Worth Noting:

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- Furthermore, Nigerian literature has not been given the necessary support from the government and other important stakeholders. The lack of investment in the arts and creative sectors has led to a dearth of opportunities for writers to showcase their works, and for readers to engage with Nigerian literature.

with Nigerian literature. Inadequate promotion of local writers and literary festivals also contributes to the underappreciation of Nigeria’s literary achievements.

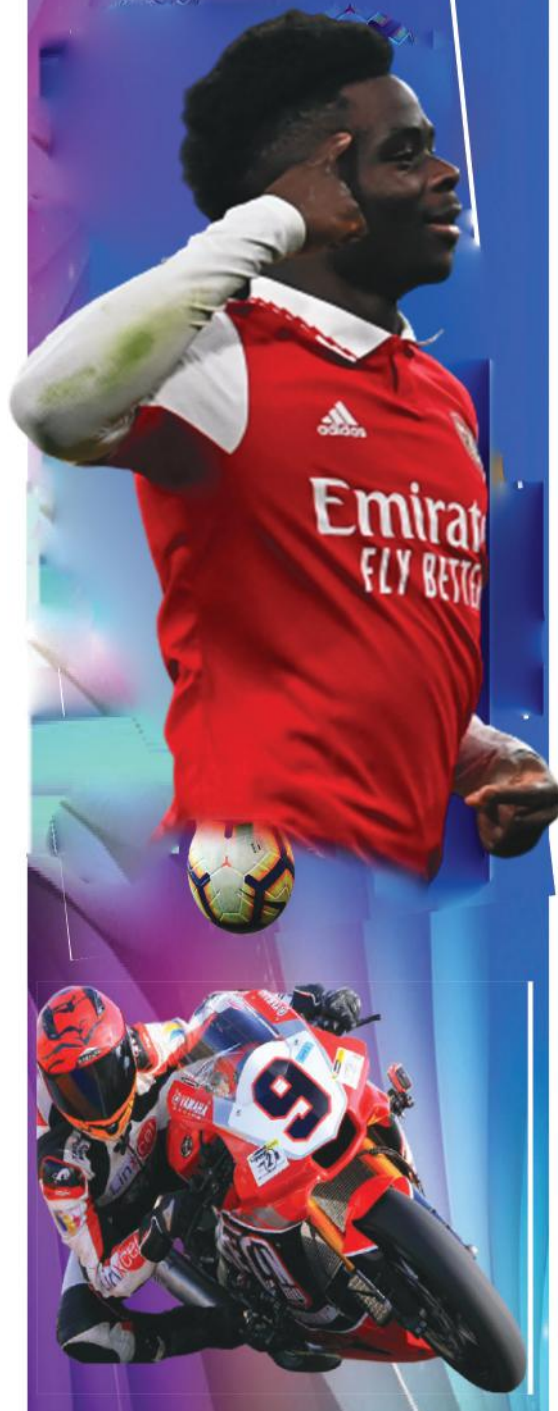
Finally, the importance of role models cannot be overlooked. Parents and teachers play a crucial role in instilling a love for reading in children. When children see their role models enjoying and valuing literature, they are more likely to develop a passion for it themselves. Unfortunately, many Nigerian adults are not avid readers, and this has a trickle-down

effect on the younger generation.

To address the decline in Nigeria’s reading culture, a multifaceted approach is necessary. It begins with a reform of the educational system to prioritize the development of critical thinking skills and the appreciation for literature. Greater investment in public libraries and literary programs is also vital to make books more accessible and affordable. The government, private sectors, and individuals should work together to promote local literary talents and encourage reading as a valuable pas-

time.

In conclusion, Nigeria has produced some of the world’s best authors, and it is vital that the nation’s reading culture is revitalized to fully appreciate and harness this wealth of talent. By addressing the root causes of this paradox and working together to create a vibrant reading culture, Nigeria can continue to make its mark on the global literary stage.

SPORTS
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Sports >> *It might be Faith Kipyegon's World and we are just lucky to be living in it. The 1500m double Olympic and World champion shattered a second record in the space of just a week, as she majestically powered through to win the 5,000m in a new World Record time of 14:05:20 at the Paris Diamond League on Friday.

SUPER HUMAN!!! Faith Kipyegon Shatters 5,000M World Record



Faith Kipyegon reacts after breaking the women's 5,000m World Record. PHOTO/Diamond League/Twitter.

It might be Faith Kipyegon's World and we are just lucky to be living in it. The 1500m double Olympic and World champion shattered a second record in the space of just a week, as she majestically powered through to win the 5,000m in a new World Record time of 14:05:20 at the Paris Diamond League on Friday.

Just last week, Kipyegon shattered the 1500m World record in Florence and on Friday night, she showed that she is indeed the Greatest of All Time, with a blistering run to set a new world mark over more than triple her traditional distance.

She not only won the race in World Record time, but con-

vincingly beat the holder of the previous mark, Ethiopia's Letesenbet Gidey.

Kipyegon shaved almost a second and a half off the previous mark of 14:06.62 set by the Ethiopian in 2020 in Spain.

Just a week after becoming the first woman to dip under 3:50 in the women's 1500m when she clocked 3:49.11 to set a new mark, Kipyegon had travelled to Paris with the sole aim of enjoying a longer distance and seeking endurance.

But, it ended up being a World Record run, and even she, at the finish line, couldn't believe her eyes.

She had patiently stuck on Gidey's coattails in the opening laps

of the race, where 3,000m steeplechase World Record holder Beatrice Chepkoech was doing the pacing duties.

When Chepkoech dropped off with five laps to go, the battle whittled down to Gidey and Kipyegon, the Ethiopian staying in the lead. With three laps to go, both of them were within World Record pace, as they were a few yards ahead of the wavelight technology.

With a lap and a half to go, Kipyegon who had all this time stuck to Gidey's shadow made her move, seemingly having the belief she could do it, despite expected fatigue from last Friday's race in Florence.

The 29-year old powered past

Gidey and at the bell, the Ethiopian tried to make a move, but she couldn't match up to Kipyegon's speed, her 1500m clearly showing.

At the home straight, Kipyegon put on the afterburners, digging in to her last ounce of energy as she gave her legs a massive lunge to the finish line, managing to brilliantly set a second world record within a week.

Her last competitive 5,000m race was eight years ago in Oregon.

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Manchester City's class of 2022/23 have staked their claim to be ranked as English football's greatest ever team after the treble winners' historic Champions League triumph against Inter Milan.

Man City Treble Winners Stake Claim As England's Greatest Club Side



Manchester City players celebrate after winning the UEFA Champions League. PHOTO/Man City/Twitter

Manchester City's class of 2022/23 have staked their claim to be ranked as English football's greatest ever team after the treble winners' historic Champions League triumph against Inter Milan.

City's tense 1-0 victory in Istanbul on Saturday made them only the second English club after Manchester United to win the Premier League, FA Cup and Champions League in a single season.

But Pep Guardiola's stars are not the only team with a strong case to take that prestigious honour.

United's own treble winners, Arsenal's 'Invincibles' and Liverpool's legends of the 1980s all have deserving cases in a fascinating debate.

Stating City's credentials comes with a barrage of jaw-dropping statistics.

They won 44 of their 60 games in all competitions this term, completing a hat-trick of Premier League titles and claiming a fifth in six seasons.

Arsenal's eight-point lead in the title race in early April was reeled in with contemptuous ease

as City sealed the title with three games to spare, eventually finishing five clear of the Gunners on 89 points.

Guardiola's men plundered 150 goals in all competitions, the most of any team in Europe's top five leagues this season.

Erling Haaland grabbed the headlines for his 52-goal haul in his debut season, that included setting a single-season Premier League record of 36 goals.

But City's brilliance comes from a collective effort.

Rodri was the unlikely goalscoring hero against Inter in Istanbul and City needed goalkeeper Ederson to produce a series of important saves to conquer Europe for the first time.

Last weekend, Ilkay Gundogan's double delivered the FA Cup, while Kevin De Bruyne has been the standout individual of Guardiola's glorious seven years in charge.

So how do the other contenders stack up against City in the battle to be the best of the best?

– Man Utd 98/99 –

Powered by 'Class of 92' youth

academy graduates David Beckham, Paul Scholes and Gary Neville, United could also call on Roy Keane, Dwight Yorke and Andy Cole and Jaap Stam.

Yet the Red Devils had to wait until the last day to win the 1998-99 Premier League, beating 2-1 Tottenham at Old Trafford to finish one point ahead of Arsenal on 79 points.

Alex Ferguson's men also beat Arsenal in a memorable FA Cup semi-final before going on to lift the trophy against Newcastle in the final.

But their crowning glory came in a remarkable fightback to beat Bayern Munich 2-1 in the Champions League final.

Goals from Teddy Sheringham and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer in the final seconds at the Camp Nou prompted the exhausted and overjoyed Ferguson to exclaim; "Football, bloody hell!".

– Arsenal's 'Invincibles' –

If United's treble was a rollicking rollercoaster ride of emotions, Arsenal's unbeaten 2003-04 icons were the model of consistency and quality.

Arsene Wenger's team won 26 and drew 12 of their 38 league games to take the Premier League title by 11 points as they became the second English team after Preston in 1888/89 to go through a top-flight campaign without defeat.

Thierry Henry, Dennis Bergkamp and Robert Pires provided the eye-catching elegance for the Gunners, while Patrick Vieira and Sol Campbell added the muscle.

"To remain unbeaten in a championship like the England now is really unbelievable," Wenger said.

But despite their incredible season that Arsenal side suffered a shock Champions League quarter-final defeat to Chelsea and bowed out in the FA Cup semi-finals against United.

– Liverpool 83/84 –

In the midst of their reign over English football in the 1970s and 1980s, arguably Liverpool's finest vintage came in 1983-84.

Joe Fagan's side swept to the title by 13 points, winning 22 times and losing six in a 42-game schedule.

Kenny Dalglish, Ian Rush, Graeme Souness and Alan Hansen were all at their peak as Liverpool beat Everton in the League Cup final.

The Reds then defeated Roma in the European Cup final — in the Italians' own Stadio Olimpico no less — to win the European Cup and claim a treble of their own.

Liverpool devotees would point out that was their fourth European crown in eight years and their third successive top-flight title.

City's challenge now is to establish a European dynasty to rival that of the Reds four decades ago.

"You have to win in Europe to be considered a great team and we did it," said Guardiola.

"I don't want to disappear after one Champions League. We have to work hard next season and be there."

AFP

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Mrs Gabone Ramagapu Author Hope For A Barren Woman



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Worth Noting:

- My challenges in life and realising that many people may be going through the same challenges but could be dealing with it or the challenges may be taking toil over lives and zeal to share the word.
- I intend to work with people in my community especially youth in future. I wish to reach out to those who have given up or on the verge of giving up and help restore hope and reach their potential.
- Obviously my message is faith oriented the teachings of prophetess Mumcy are vital and helpful as I read the Bible and merge all I know with it.

1).Who are you?

My name is Mrs Gabone Ramagapu.

2).Where are you from?

Am from a small village called Mmutlane, via Mahalapye.

3).What is your profession?

Am a teacher, and now am also an author.

4).Where did you publish your book.

In Botswana, with Mulher Forte African literature company.

5).Who is your Illustrator?

Daniel Ikuesan designed my cover.

6).Did you make an input on cover design?

Not much but I did give some information.

7).Your best message from your book, tell us more about it.

Never give up, never lose hope .keep praying and waiting upon the lord.

8).Who motivated you to write?

My Mentor Dr Paula Otukile and my family too.

9).What inspired you to write?

My challenges in life and realising that many people may be going through the same challenges but could be dealing with it or the challenges may be taking toil over lives and zeal to share the word.

10).Do you have fans? How do you react to fans?

Not yet but my topic resonates with a lot of young and the old, with time I think I will gain fans.

11).Bogus versus legitimate publishers, have you encountered such?

Never was I lucky to know the right person or publisher just near me.

12).Merging the books with community service, are you involved in any community service?

I intend to work with people in my community especially youth in

future. I wish to reach out to those who have given up or on the verge of giving up and help restore hope and reach their potential.

13).How did your faith help in marketing your craft?

Obviously my message is faith oriented the teachings of prophetess Mumcy are vital and helpful as I read the Bible and merge all I know with it.

14).How many copies did you sell so far or how many do you plan to sell in near future?

The book will be out next week so no pre ordered copies yet!

15).What is your future plans?

To make ebooks and more sales!

16).Encouragement to up upcoming writers, what can you say?

They should not write and keep their work in their computers or have it lying somewhere on the shelf. They should just do it, other things will follow

17).How can people get your book?

Contact Mulher Forte African literature pty, Ltd
 Or Gabone Ramagapu on Facebook.

18).Do you plan to convert your book to an ebook too?

Of course because the world is going electronic!

19). Parting shot or last word!

There are some good people out there, never give up on your hopes , when they fall they should get up and continue with the race. Have positive dreams and turn them to reality.



Mrs Gabone Ramagapu

