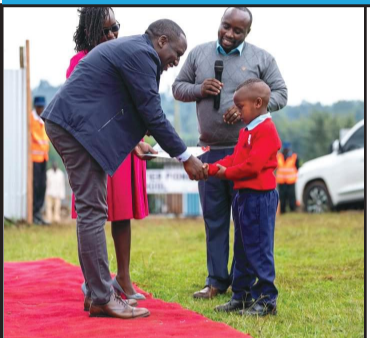


**Treasury Directs State Agencies To Prioritize Pending Bills Payment**  
 State Corporations and Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs) have pending bills amounting to Ksh 450.2 billion as of March 2023.  
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**News>>New Complex Set To Benefit Kericho School**

P. 8. Kericho School has started the construction of Multimillion project which will be the future home of Grade 1 to 6 pupils.



**Motivation>>Giving Up Bad Habit Is The Best Option**

P. 12. After several years, around the world everything has experienced dramatic changes. As a result, among people some emotions and feelings lost.



**Business>>CS Kuria says govt to set up company to dismantle unroad-worthy vehicles**

P. 16 The government says it will set up a company that will be dismantling unroadworthy vehicles.

# CJ Koome Launches Convicted Sexual Offenders Electronic Register

**The register will enable the actors in the justice chain to monitor and supervise sexual offenders after their release from prison. It will also enable the public to access information on sexual offenders in their neighborhoods and take precautionary measures to protect themselves and their children.” Chief Justice Martha Koome said.**



CJ Martha Koome speaks during the launch of the Convicted Sexual Offenders Electronic Register, Kibera SGBV Court and Child Justice and SGBV Strategies at Kibera Law Courts

**STORY ON PAGE 9**

# Nakuru County To Spend Sh17 Million To Boost Creative Industry

By: Esther Mwangi  
 @themtkenyatimes

The Nakuru County government has allocated Sh17 million in the 2023–24 Financial Year to construct

a recording studio and revamp the Nakuru Players’ Theatre to help nurture the County’s rich, diverse, and vibrant creative talents. Governor Susan Kihika consequently advised creative industry

players to tap into the new revenue streams on digital platforms and outlets to build resilience and improve their incomes.

Kihika at the same time assured

**STORY ON PAGE 13**



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# City Hall Clamps Down Maendeleo House, Koinange Investment Ltd Due To Land Rate Arrears

By: Capital Correspondent



**Worth Noting:**

- “Property owners are urged to take note of the notice and ensure compliance to avoid embarrassment and loss,” he stated.
- “These rates are not punitive. We have not added land rates. They are the same rates we have been using. It would be punitive if we used different rates. But someone earning Sh60 million from selling land cannot afford to pay Sh100,000.”
- He indicated that “clamping down has worked for us before and we managed to collect some good amount from that in the past.”

Maendeleo House and Koinange Investment Ltd are among the buildings that have been clamped down by the Nairobi County government in an initiative led by Finance County Executive Charles Kerich. This follows the expiry of a 14-day legal demand notice given to owners of non-compliant buildings. Speaking during the exercise, Kerich stated that tenants will be required to pay rent directly to the County Government until all outstanding arrears are cleared. “It is the obligation of landowners to pay their rates. You cannot blame

failure to pay your rates to the tough economic times,” he stated during an interview with Capital FM News. “It is the obligation of landowners to pay their rates. You cannot blame failure to pay your rates to the tough economic times.” He further stated that the legal process of auctioning the property to recover the outstanding arrears will also commence. “Property owners are urged to take note of the notice and ensure compliance to avoid embarrassment and loss,” he stated. “These rates are not punitive. We

have not added land rates. They are the same rates we have been using. It would be punitive if we used different rates. But someone earning Sh60 million from selling land cannot afford to pay Sh100,000.” He indicated that “clamping down has worked for us before and we managed to collect some good amount from that in the past.” He pointed out that payments can be made through USSD Number \*647#, Nairobi eServices Portal at ([www.naiboiservices.go.ke](http://www.naiboiservices.go.ke)), Pay-bill 6060047. He stated that alternatively, it can be

done through the Co-operative Bank of Kenya City Hall Branch, Account Number: 01141709410000, account name Nairobi City County Revenue Collection. He listed Equity Bank, Parliament Branch, Account Number: 1770279910476, Account Name Nairobi City County Revenue Collection as another mode of payment. He urged property owner may obtain invoices and bank details from City Hall or any of the 17 Sub-County Offices.

**Editor's Desk**

**The Mt. Kenya Times**

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# Health Advisory Council To Solve Workers' Issues

President William Ruto has challenged the Kenya Health Human Resource Advisory Council to resolve issues affecting health professionals in the country.

The President said the Council whose mandate is to review policy and establish norms and standards for health workers, should ensure health professionals are happy and productive.

The council will be chaired by Dr. Francis Wafula, a lecturer at Strathmore University, and comprise representatives from the National Government, counties, and training institutions.

The President spoke yesterday at State House, Nairobi, when he inaugurated the council, which he said was the result of extensive consultations between the National and County governments.

"Inadequate consultation between the two levels of government in the past prevented the operationalization of the council affecting effective delivery of health services."

The advisory council will handle the posting of interns to National and

County governments' health facilities, inter-county transfer of health professionals, and transfers from one level of government to the other.

The Kenya Health Human Resource Advisory Council will also standardize the welfare and schemes of service for health professionals and manage the rotation of specialist doctors to enhance effective service delivery across the country.

It will also maintain a master register for all health practitioners in the counties.

The President said the Council will also address issues of training of staff in the counties.

"The National Government pays for the training of health professionals, while counties continue to pay their salaries and can't replace them when on training. These are some of the issues the advisory council will deal with," President Ruto said.

Council of Governors Chair Anne Waiguru said the advisory council's composition has been informed by the constitutional roles the two levels of government have in the provision of health services.



# PLWDs Asked To Take Advantage Of Gov't Opportunities

By: John Kaleke

@themkenyatimes

People Living With Disabilities (PLWDs) have been asked to take advantage of government opportunities both at the national and county government levels, as enshrined in the constitution of Kenya.

Speaking during a training in Narok, Ahmed Maalim, the project manager of the Northern Nomadic Disabled Persons Organization (NONDO), said people with disabilities should take advantage of government opportunities by registering their self-help groups with social services, opening businesses, and registering companies so as to be awarded government tenders that were preserved for them.

"Disabled persons should register groups and open businesses in order to apply for government tenders and be included in activities that concern them in society," added Maalim.

Maalim said PLWDs should raise their concerns for inclusion in income generating activities that will help sustain them in their day-to-day needs and live a dignified life.



People Living With Disabilities (PLWDs).

Maalim asked people with Disabilities to create movements to amplify their voices, stressing that by uniting their voices as an organized group, they can break barriers, combat marginalization, and ensure that their perspectives and needs are heard and addressed.

Through their registration, PLWDs will be able to receive funding from donors, financial institutions, and other Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) that support the needs of disabled persons in the country.

On his part, Reuben Mpatiany, chairperson of the Narok County Al-

binism Association, said the forum is to train the PLWDs on the legal framework of their constitutional rights, the budgetary framework, and their inclusion in the government.

"We appreciate the opportunity as a PLWD society in the county of Narok. I'm sure we will take advan-

tage of the opportunities given to us by the constitution of Kenya," Mpatiany said.

However, Mpatiany asked the sports office to consider inviting people with Disabilities to join parasports activities such as para volleyball as a way of empowering them in society.

The county director of Social Services, Johnson Ole Kimojino, said the County integrated development plan has ensured the PWDs were included and their rights are preserved for themselves so that they can enjoy their rights.

Kimojino noted that the county government has a kitty for people with disabilities in the county, like bursaries, and has partnered with other NGOs in order to improve their livelihoods in the county.

"We have partnered with NGOs so that equipment such as wheelchairs and crutches, among others, will be given to the disabled and to support their educational welfare as well," Kimojino said.

The PWDs were trained on fighting corruption in society as well as being called upon not to hide their disabled children in houses because it's an infringement on the rights of disabled persons in society.



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# The Senate Vote Saves Siaya Deputy Governor From Impeachment

By: Our Correspondent

@themkenyatimes

**Worth Noting:**

- On the second charge where the Deputy Government was accused of abuse of office and gross misconduct, the committee found that the allegations of him bulldozing officers to renovate the office of the Deputy Governor outside approved budgetary provisions, misuse of public resources, bullying were not proved and therefore not substantiated.
- In conclusion, the committee found that there were enough reasons to impeach the Deputy Governor.
- “The Charge against the Deputy Governor on Gross Violation of the Constitution and other Laws, on the allegation of Interference with the Procurement Process through Acts of Bid-Rigging has been substantiated,” submitted the Committee.

The Senate has voted to shoot down the report by the Special Committee recommending the removal from office of the Siaya Deputy Governor Dr. William Oduol through impeachment.

27 Senators voted against both charges levelled against the Deputy Governor with 16 Senators voting to support the charges.

Announcing the verdict the Speaker of the Senate Amason Jeffa Kingi said the result of the vote means the Senate had failed to remove the Deputy Governor from office therefore he continues to serve as the Deputy Governor of Siaya County.

Earlier, the Senate Special Committee on the proposed removal from office of the Siaya Deputy Governor William Oduol had upheld the decision by the County Assembly of Siaya to remove the Deputy Governor from office.

In a report tabled to the House yesterday during the special sitting, the committee reported that several allegations levelled against the Deputy Governor were successfully substantiated.

On the gross violation of the Constitution and other laws, the committee found that the allegation was proved and therefore substantiated.

On the second charge where the Deputy Government was accused of abuse of office and gross misconduct, the committee found that the allegations of him bulldozing

officers to renovate the office of the Deputy Governor outside approved budgetary provisions, misuse of public resources, bullying were not proved and therefore not substantiated.

In conclusion, the committee found that there were enough reasons to impeach the Deputy Governor.

“The Charge against the Deputy Governor on Gross Violation of the Constitution and other Laws, on the allegation of Interference with the Procurement Process through Acts of Bid-Rigging has been substantiated,” submitted the Committee.

“The Charge against the Deputy Governor on Abuse of Office and Gross Misconduct on the allegation of Misleading the Public by Giving False Information has been substantiated,” read the report by the committee.

After tabling of the report, the lawmakers were given 30 minutes to go through it then thereafter debated it with members giving divergent views, one side supporting the report while the other one opposed it.

The Deputy Governor Oduol, who was in the House, was given the opportunity to give his final submission to the whole house before Senators proceeded to division.

The Deputy Governor through his legal team appealed to Senators not to approve the report by the Special report arguing that there was no serious evidence to warrant the removal



Senators during yesterday's special sitting

of Oduol from the office.

Members of the Special Committee were William Kisang of Elgeyo Marakwet County (Chairperson), Betty Batuli Montet (Vice Chairperson), Abass Mohamed of Wajir County, Mwenda Gataya Mo Fire of Tharaka Nithi County,

Tabitha Mutinda, Raphael Chimera Mwinzagu, Miraj Abdullahi Abdurahman, Nyamira County Senator Erick Okong’o Omogeni, Catherine Mumma, Daniel Maanzo of Makueni County and Kisii County Senator Richard Onyonka.

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# New Complex Set To Benefit Kericho School



By: Alfayo Isaac  
alfayoisaac@gmail.com

Kericho School has started the construction of Multimillion project which will be the future home of Grade 1 to 6 pupils.

A multimillion complex is set to be built at Kericho school which is set to easy education to easy education that will be the future home of Grade 1 to 6 pupils Invest on Education.

The Frontier Pioneer School will have a new learning facility after its completions in some months' time to foster the nurturing of pupils.

Speaking during the ground breaking ceremony Leader of Majority in the Senate Aaron Cheruiyot called upon the investors in Kericho to invest in matters education saying that education is an equalizer to all.

Cheruiyot applauded The Frontier Pioneer School for the great achievement in establishing the institution which will serve the community and championing the rights of a child to education.

'At time we were schooling we had no sophisticated and adequately equipped building like the one we did ground breaking but despite all challenges we excel and I therefore urged parents to equipped their children with knowledge but taking them to school for this is the only way to success', Cheruiyot said .

He said learning is a process and there is need to ensure every pupil or students gets the quality education that will drive to greater heights and also will create impact to the society.

'Today we are the leaders of the nation through the education that was impacted by teachers who taught us and we are here sphere head such consent to the pupils who are future leaders after our session ends. It's



Cheruiyot receives a gift from From Grade One pupils representative looking over is Chair Advisory Board Benard Rono and Schools manager Caroline Munyendo.



Senate Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot together with Benard Rono Chair Advisory Board and Felistus Rono Founder and Director of The Frontier Pioneer School with the members of public during the Ground breaking of Complex at Kooma in Ainamoi Sub County, Kericho County.

our task to ensure that our children's gets a quality education and I challenged every parent to been keen on every child studies at every time', He added.

The Senator pointed out that as much as education is concern we need to ensure our children gets a conducive environment for learning and I therefore called upon every institutions of learning to adhere to quality teaching that will make our children to prosper saying The Frontier Pioneer School has set base to education investors to scale education in a manner which will change the face of the community.

'The completions of the facility will facelift the Kericho County at large and I call every local and national investors to take the challenge of this great Frontier Pioneer School .This school apart from delivering in ed-

ucation sector it has created job persons who were jobless and this has to be embraced in all capacities.

Former Minister Frankline Bett who was present said there is need for parents to nature their children with education so as to avoid indecent behavior which has occurred following the unrest of school arson cases.

'There are several cases of students burning up schools structures which has contributed to low performance in the sector, to solve the matter I called upon the parents and guardians to exercise molding of children from the grassroots level in a holistic way and also a challenged to leaders from all capacities political and spiritual servants to come together and address it', Bett said.

Bett applauded the Board of Directors of The Frontier Pioneer School saying the investment will bring change in the community by nurturing the students in a holistic way which will intern make them great.

Kipchebor ward MCA Erick Bett who was also present on the event said upon the completion of the structure it will serve as the best learning institution in the entire South Rift .

'The growth of the Frontier Pioneer School since 2019 has risen in excellent standards and this definitely shows the bright future of the school', Bett added.

Felistus Rono, the Founder and Director of the School said the construction has already commenced and the first phase will be completed in six months ready for use for this will foster a nurturing learning environment generations of Frontier Pioneer School to come. 'We are keen focus in providing holistic education for our pupils, we embrace an approached that addresses all fac-

ets of growth and development the foundation in 2019 Is a corner stone of The Frontier Pioneer School's success story as excellence has been our driving force and also the call of parents to have the grade 1 to 6 classes', Mrs. Rono said.

Benard Rono, the Chair of Advisory said there act is to ensure we impart the learners with the knowledge, seek to develop nurture and provide with opportunities to succeed

'We know inside the classroom our learners are getting the best but we also have this outside the classroom as well .There are critical life skills that children can developed whilst doing sports and that's why the complex comprises of swimming pool and other indoor gaming points' Rono said .

He added that words of encouragement received from several teams of parents and friends well-wishers and stakeholders who accepted to be part of the noble course of where will spend shillings 70 Million to its completion.

'Education unlocks the potential and give learners to explore more in education matters ,sporting activities, technology ,Art and any other courses offered in the school as per the CBC,' he said.

The school was founded in 2019 as Pioneer Daycare and play group with about 8learners where later the name was changed to the Frontier Pioneer School where population grew to 223.

The School is located at Kooma, along Kericho -Kisumu Highway where its advisory Board is chaired by Benard Rono, Felistus Rono - Founder and Director, Carolyne Munyendo School Manger, Reverend Joyce Tanui and Joseph Rono both Members.

**Worth Noting:**

- The Senator pointed out that as much as education is concern we need to ensure our children gets a conducive environment for learning and I therefore called upon every institutions of learning to adhere to quality teaching that will make our children to prosper saying The Frontier Pioneer School has set base to education investors to scale education in a manner which will change the face of the community.
- 'The completions of the facility will facelift the Kericho County at large and I call every local and national investors to take the challenge of this great Frontier Pioneer School .This school apart from delivering in education sector it has created job persons who were jobless and this has to be embraced in all capacities.

# CJ Koome Launches Convicted Sexual Offenders Electronic Register

By: Capital Correspondent



Chief Justice Martha Koome, Deputy Chief Justice Philomena Mwilu and The State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action Principal Secretary Veronica Nduva.

## Worth Noting:

- The Chief Justice noted that the automated Register will serve as a tool for deterrence, prevention and rehabilitation of sexual offenders.
- “The register will enable the actors in the justice chain to monitor and supervise sexual offenders after their release from prison. It will also enable the public to access information on sexual offenders in their neighborhoods and take precautionary measures to protect themselves and their children.” She said.
- Principal Secretary of the State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action, Veronica Nduva, noted that the Convicted Sexual Offenders Register is a national register that captures the details of all convicted sexual offenders in Kenya. It will be accessible at all times to players in the criminal justice systems and also to stakeholders.

Chief Justice Martha Koome yesterday launched a Convicted Sexual Offenders Electronic Register in fulfilment of the Sexual Offences Act of 2006 at Kibera Law Courts.

The CJ said the register will hold a crucial database of all convicted offenders and will ensure easy access to information on convicted sex offenders for relevant authorities.

“We are sending a clear message that our society will not tolerate those who prey upon the vulnerable. We will hold them accountable, and their actions shall not go unnoticed or unpunished.” CJ Koome said.

The Chief Justice noted that the automated Register will serve as a tool for deterrence, prevention and rehabilitation of sexual offenders.

“The register will enable the actors in the justice chain to monitor and supervise sexual offenders after their release from prison. It will also enable the public to access information on sexual offenders in their neighborhoods and take precautionary measures to protect themselves and their children.” She said.

Principal Secretary of the State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action, Veronica Nduva, noted that the Convicted Sexual Offenders Register is a national register that captures the details of all convicted sexual offenders in Kenya. It will be

accessible at all times to players in the criminal justice systems and also to stakeholders.

“We look forward to interacting and utilizing the Register which provides a convenient platform for stakeholders to make requests to access the register for purposes of protecting citizens, especially the vulnerable in the society.” PS Nduva said.

The CJ also launched the Sexual Gender Based Violence Strategy, the Child Justice Strategy and the specialized SGBV Courts in Kibera and Makadara Court Stations.

CJ Koome directed Presiding Judges and Heads of Stations in Meru, Nakuru, Kiambu, Machakos, Kisii, Kitale and Kakamega Law Courts to designate special SGBV Registries and put in place progressive Case Management Strategies to expedite the cases.

Speaking at the same event, Deputy Chief Justice Philomena Mwilu expressed concern that cases of sexual and gender-based violence including sexual offences have reached pandemic levels across the country leaving young boys, girls and women scarred and the communities fractured and bleak.

“The policies and interventions we launch here today will go a long way to improving access to justice for these vulnerable groups.” DCJ Mwi-

lu said.

In regards to the Child Justice Strategy, the Chief Justice said the strategy, echoes the ethos of the Constitution and the Children’s Act, 2022, and envisions a child-friendly Judiciary, where the best interest of every child is the guiding principle.

“We recognize the unique challenges faced by children in conflict with the law, children in contact with the law, child victims of abuse, and children who accompany their mothers to prison. The Child Justice Strate-

gy seeks to address these challenges, by embracing a comprehensive, compassionate, and child-sensitive approach in dealing with cases involving children,” the CJ said.

The launch of the polices reaffirms the Judiciary’s commitment to the protection of the vulnerable and marginalized in the society.



Chief Justice Martha Koome (C), Deputy Chief Justice Philomena Mwilu (second right) at Kibera Law court.

# God-Centered Worship Pt 1



By: Eric Musa  
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

In today's secularized, man-centered culture. Many Christians have never thought through the meaning and importance of worship. It is not an overstatement to say that our pleasure-centered culture has produced many who work at their play and play at their worship. Why this confusion and tragic failure regarding worship? The answer lies in another question: Why do we worship — is it for God or for man?

The unspoken but increasingly common assumption of today's Christendom is that worship is primarily for us — to meet our needs. Such worship services are entertain-

ment-focused, and the worshipers are uncommitted spectators who are silently grading the performance. From this perspective preaching becomes a homiletics of consensus — preaching to felt needs — man's conscious agenda instead of God's. Such preaching is always topical and never textual.

Biblical information is minimized, and the sermons are short and full of stories. Anything and everything that is suspected of making the marginal attendee uncomfortable is removed from the service, whether it be a registration card or a "mere" creed. Taken to the nth degree, this philosophy instills a tragic self-centeredness. That is, everything is judged by how it affects man. This terribly corrupts one's theology.

HALELUJAH. MIGHTY GOD HELP US TO WORSHIP YOU IN TRUTH AND IN SPIRIT ALWAYS  
References:

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



**Evangelist Eric Musa:**

(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled

with the Holy Spirit, as it is written; "NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2". For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact

Evangelist on +254722157300 ( Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember, God Loves you and I unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM

# KTDA Foundation Donates Water Tank To Mukulusu Secondary School

By: Moses Wekesa  
@themkenyatimes

The Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) Foundation has donated a water tank to Mukulusu Secondary School in Shinyalu as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

The 8000 litre Water tank will increase storage capacity that will enable the school to have enough water and also supply to the surrounding community.

The school was initially utilizing a 10,000-litre water tank which would be consumed within two days as the school with a population of 450 students uses 5000 litres of water per day.

Water is pumped to the Storage tanks using solar energy from a 35m deep borehole drilled adjacent to the school.

The Principal of the school, Bwire Alianda thanked KTDA Foundation for donating the tank to the school which has solved water scarcity challenges that they were grappling with.

When donating the water Tank, KTDA director representing Zone 12 Alung'ana Khasiani said the KTDA Foundation is ready to chip in to assist schools to get storage tanks to enable them have access to clean and fresh water.

Students thanked the Foundation for the donation which they said will enable them to concentrate in class and also enable them to get water at home close to their doorsteps.



Doanted Water Tank at Mukulusu Secondary School..

# Kuria Attacks: The Media Not Justified To Portray The Image Of Holier-Than-Thou



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria .

## Worth Noting:

- Appearing before the Senate Committee, the CS's body language would tell it all. He was bitter but he would restrain himself from engaging this media house in no-hold-barred attacks during this session.
- Were it not for their story, Senate could not have invited him to respond to the nonexistence queries.
- Nevertheless, Kuria took this opportunity to relay this information to the Senate. Since we started importing essential foodstuff, the prices are coming down.
- For instance, the price of cooking oil has dropped from Sh400 to Sh200 per litre.
- A few days later, Kuria took his attacks against this media house to a new level. He would accuse some of its journalists of behaving badly and lacking good morals.

I have been following with keen interest the ongoing war of words pitting Trade, Investment and Industry Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria and one of the mainstream media houses in Kenya.

The war started when this media house published and aired a story linking the CS to the alleged multi-million cooking oil scandal.

The CS got angered because this story was not based on truth or any facts.

It was part of a wider plot to destroy his credibility and image particularly in the global arena.

This came at a time when President William Ruto had elevated him to market Kenya globally. As the branding ambassador, he had attended a number of high-profile international investment conferences held across the world.

As a result, he had so far met and held talks with more than 10 Presidents of the powerful nations. Noting that he is representing the President of Kenya, they would treat him with decorum and respect.

CS Kuria argued that this media

house was envy of his rising star. So, the attacks were purely informed by malice.

He recalled that when they published the story, he challenged them to produce evidence.

They instead chickened out because they did not have an iota of truth.

It is not Moses Kuria who made the decision to import salad cooking oil.

This is a matter that had been subjected to the due process of law. All the relevant arms including the Public Procurement and Regulatory Authority (PPRA) had approved the importation.

As you know, we had promised Kenyans during the campaigns that we shall prioritise on the fight against hunger.

So, this decision is in line with the Kenya Kwanza's manifesto.

Appearing before the Senate Committee, the CS's body language would tell it all. He was bitter but he would restrain himself from engaging this media house in no-hold-barred attacks during this session.

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For instance, the price of cooking oil has dropped from Sh400 to Sh200 per litre.

A few days later, Kuria took his attacks against this media house to a new level. He would accuse some of its journalists of behaving badly and lacking good morals.

This is by failing to uphold media ethics of being objective, neutral and fair.

Surely, how do you publish a one-sided story? Which kind of journalism is this?

You ought to have consulted me first if you thought something was not adding up and you needed a clarification.

Kuria further stated. This is not the first time that this media house is casting the leadership of Kenya Kwanza in bad light.

You started fighting us during the campaigns. You never believed that

Dr William Ruto can win the elections and become President.

You had no time for him. You had been hired by Azimio La Umoja-OKA party to drum up support for their candidate Raila Odinga. Your candidate lost. It is time you should accept this bitter truth and move on.

Well, this media house would not take Kuria's comments lightly. As it denied his claims, a number of other media houses would come out to show their solidarity.

The freedom of the media is enshrined in the constitution of 2010.

We therefore call on the public officers to respect the relevant provisions, some averred.

For other media houses, they would rightfully argue. This freedom is not absolute. When you publish stories that cannot be authenticated because they were informed by propaganda and rumors, would call this freedom? This is not freedom. This is an outright abuse of the law.

I want to agree with Kuria. In the countdown to 2022 general elections, the media was divided. It had compromised by the political class. Many believed this is after the owners and senior managers received some enticements.

A good number of them openly championed the political course of Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Party presidential candidate Raila Odinga.

We all know that Raila was the candidate of the 'handshake' government. As such, many believed his campaign was being sponsored by the state.

It is worth to note this. CS Kuria does not see eye to eye with Raila. This is because he is a staunch and diehard supporter and defender of President William Ruto and his administration.

As such, the Azimio luminaries consider Kuria to be one of the key stumbling block. This is in terms of nipping in the bud their planned anti-Ruto demonstrations.

One can therefore be forgiven for coming to this conclusion. That media house is pushing the agenda of Azimio.

A time has come for the media to shed off the image of portraying themselves as holier-than-thou. They ought to relook at their steps and mend ways as well.

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

# Giving Up Bad Habit Is The Best Option



By: Dinora Ramazonova Farkhod

@themtkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- The service of their parents' upbringing was great for them to grow up to be such educated and intelligent people. Farrukh and Munira had made many reforms for their children's education.
- For example, they built a special library for their children in their home and brought books and manuscripts containing a lot of information from all over the world to this library. And in addition, they enrolled their children in various educational and sports clubs to attract them in useful work.
- Years later, Ali and Amir graduated from school. For graduating with honors, their parents gave them the most modern and expensive phone and told them that they should use this technology only for the right purposes.



After several years, around the world everything has experienced dramatic changes. As a result, among people some emotions and feelings lost. Do you want to know about new world? Do you have an interest why there have been changes? If your answer is "yes", pay attention to the Fairy-tale! Are you ready? I will start.....

There was a family which was not extended. That family tree included only four people, father, mother, two children. This family was full of itself, one of the prestigious houses in the neighborhood.

People living in the same neighborhood admired their family. The head of this family, Farrukh, was a lawyer, and his wife, Munira, was a doctor. Their sons: Ali and Amir were still schoolchildren. Farrukh was a very enthusiastic, truthful person who earned the respect of people. His wife, Munira, was also an intelligent and educated woman, similar to Farrukh.

If someone in the neighborhood needed help, or someone was in trouble, they would try to help. For this reason, all people respected them by heart. Their children, Amir and Ali, were the best students in their school, and their teachers constantly praised them and set them as

examples for their peers.

The service of their parents' upbringing was great for them to grow up to be such educated and intelligent people. Farrukh and Munira had made many reforms for their children's education.

For example, they built a special library for their children in their home and brought books and manuscripts containing a lot of information from all over the world to this library. And in addition, they enrolled their children in various educational and sports clubs to attract them in useful work.

Years later, Ali and Amir graduated from school. For graduating with honors, their parents gave them the most modern and expensive phone and told them that they should use this technology only for the right purposes.

The children were very happy with this unexpected gift and thanked their parents. Unfortunately, after some time passed, bad news about these two brothers started to spread in the neighborhood.

Ali and Amir were engaged to spend their days just playing various video games on their phones. They were very indifferent to the people around them and did not even greet adults.

Neighbors who saw this situation thought that what was affecting their upbringing so badly. That situation was getting worse day by day and had reached the point where:

One day, Farrukh's neighbor aunt Robiya, who was returning home with a heavy load, asked Amir and Ali: "My load is very heavy; can I sit on your seats for a while?" At first, the two brothers did not pay attention to that woman, after Aunt Rabia repeated her request several times, Amir, without taking his eyes off the phone, answered briefly: "Don't interrupt me, I may lose now."

Aunt Robiya was very upset about that condition and thought that situation should be prevented. And finally, she decided to warn their parents about that. Hearing this news, Farrukh was very upset.

And he thought about how to bring his children back to the right path. Finally, he came to this decision: he sent his children to their grandparents' house in the village to help with farm work, and he took their phones with him on the condition that they would be returned when he returned. Two brothers worked very hard in the village. They suffered from the scorching heat and spent three months at their grandparents' house.

It was time for them to come home and their dads came to take them to town. "Guys, you don't seem to like village life, do you look sad?" asked Farrukh.

The two brothers bowed their heads in silence. "If you don't get your education on track and get accepted to prestigious universities on a grant basis, you will have to spend the rest of your life in the village," Farrukh said. The two brothers realized their mistake and asked their father to forgive them.

They promised to give up their bad habits and become a person who benefits everyone as usual. Thus, our fairy tale came to an end. The conclusion of this tale is this: a person should use every opportunity in his life wisely. Otherwise, it can lead to bad consequences.

*Dinora Ramazonova Farkhod's daughter was born on July 25, 2005 in Karakul, Bukhara region. She is 17 years old, now.*

*Official member of Egypt's Organisation for creativity and Pakistan's IQRA Foundation. Modern Fairy-tale.*

# Nakuru County To Spend Sh17 Million To Boost Creative Industry

By: Esther Mwangi

@themkenyatimes

Continued from page 1

that her administration was committed to investing in theatre and the arts to create jobs for the youth and called on thespians, musicians, content creators, and concert organizers to fully exploit digital platforms by taking their creations online.

Addressing members of the Nakuru Technical Working Group in the Creative Sector (NTWGCS) who paid a courtesy call at her office, Ms. Kihika observed that there existed a gap in the vast digital space that content creators in Nakuru should take advantage of to showcase their skills and talents.

“We commit to supporting the creative industry in the County to leverage on the opportunities in the sector for job creation”, said Ms. Kihika.

While acknowledging that Nakuru City and Port Louis (Mauritius) were the only two cities in East Africa in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Creative Cities Network, governor Kihika

called on creative artists to exploit this recognition by UNESCO to improve their craft, create new content, prepare promotional material and invest in online revenue streams. The Governor said the introduction of prime arts and comedy segments on nearly all television stations was a clear indication that art was a paying venture, adding that besides the performing arts, visual arts, and cultural heritage, Kenyans were now producing films, videos, television and radio shows, video games, music, and books.

“My administration is anchoring these creative activities in political and governmental commitment and will offer concrete support,” stated the Governor.

Ms. Kihika observed that the best way of encouraging progressive thinking and innovative ideas that could advance what is commonly called a ‘creative economy’ was by cultivating young people’s imagination and creativity.

While noting that it was crucial for counties to fully utilize homegrown talent in all their events as art was an expressive, non-threatening way to express inner feelings, the gover-



Nakuru County Government meeting.

nor assured that she was committed to protecting local artists against exploitation and providing an opportunity for young people to explore music, drama, dance, film, art, and fashion.

She hailed the Youth Affairs, Sports, and Arts Cabinet Secretary, Ababu Namwamba’s announcement to the effect that his Ministry was preparing a new legal framework to protect Kenyan creativity and the industry.

According to Mr. Namwamba, the New Creative Economy Bill has an

all-encompassing legal framework to manage the industry.

“It’s going to add punch and impetus to the establishment of a much more robust film industry and the creative economy in general, which goes beyond film. We’re talking about music, theatre, fashion and design, fine art, and performing fine art. All that stuff is going to be consolidated under the New Creative Economy Bill,” Namwamba said last month.

Cultural experts have indicated that limiting culture to tradition and

ethnography denies the nation the opportunities provided by the imagination, technological advances, rapid urbanization, and the energies released by cultural interconnectedness.

According to the experts, there was a need for more to be done to allow home-grown digital platforms in the country to stay profitable and for the digital economy to become inclusive and sustainable.

## Central Bank Hikes Interest Rates To 10.5Pc

By: Our Reporter

@themkenyatimes

The Central Bank of Kenya has increased the base lending rate by 100 basis points as inflation stayed above medium term target in May.

The central bank Monetary Policy Committee in its sitting stated that the move to tighten its monetary policy comes on the backdrop of sustained inflationary pressures which rose to 8pc last month from 7.9pc in April.

“The MPC this concluded that there was scope for a further tightening of the monetary policy to anchor inflation expectations. The Committee, therefore, decided to raise the central bank rate (CBR) from 9.50pc to 10.50pc,” Dr Kamau Thugge, CBK Governor and Chair of MPC.



Dr. Kamau Thugge, CBK Governor.

## Pain Report

Wire is dripping from the eyes  
Tears flowed from sadness.  
Do not think, in the spirit of my  
consolation  
There were gasps at the question.

Don't worry, it's enough, I won't stop  
asking,  
My partner, do not worry about your  
grief.  
My face is like a stranger,  
I'm not going to understand anymore.

My dear, don't be sad,  
My decision is like a trembling leaf.  
You don't know how to feel, don't stay  
in pain,  
Ask, I am myself.



🌧️ Dilnurabonu Vayisova, student of Bukhara State University. Awarded the medal "For International Services" of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

## Can't You Give Birth, Mother?

Rather than being nice and polite,  
Can you please give birth, mother?

This world is a lie  
My heart is also sad because of dreams  
I'm sure they'll make you cry  
Can you please give birth, mother?

I'm tired of what fakes say  
It's as if he cares about my heart.  
My loved one has cooled down by himself,  
Can you please give birth, mother?

Even though I was loyal, I didn't find love,  
I took Hijran by the hand bravely.  
Maybe I didn't like it because I'm kind  
Can you please give birth, mother?

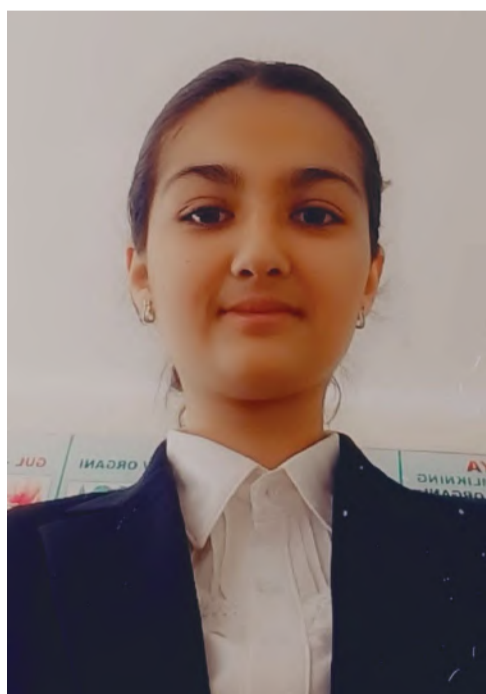
Muallif: Gulshanam Abdullaeva



The tormentor does not say that there  
is no heart in it either.  
Day and night, sorrows fly  
My heart is innocent, not a simple heart,  
Can you please give birth, mother?

Love hurts my heart  
I was lonely in my old age, crazy.

## My Heroes- Parent



Dad and mum together with me.  
They fight against enemy,  
My parent hero for me!

If I am sometimes sick,  
They will cure my pain.  
They think of us even,  
When they are sometimes sick.

Life is always different,  
Sometimes I win or I lost.  
But in all situations,  
Support me - only parent!

ABDULLAYEVA FERUZA  
HIKMATULLAYEVNA was born on May 27, 2006 in Surkhandarya region, Sariasia district. She studies at secondary school number 12. Her articles have been published in international collectings such as " Kavya Kishor", " Synchronised chaos" , " Classico opine" and others.

I'm alive with their bless,  
They always teach me goodness.  
They extremely kind to me,  
I know, they are my kindness.

If the problem come to me,

## Flowers And Stars



Flower

Stars

Flowers that every morning  
Nature's beauty scattered on the ground  
If you take it in your hands  
and bring it to your lips  
the fragrance touches the soul

one of them in shimmering colors  
different fascinating worlds  
to meet  
have to wait for the night

Nik Rajput-

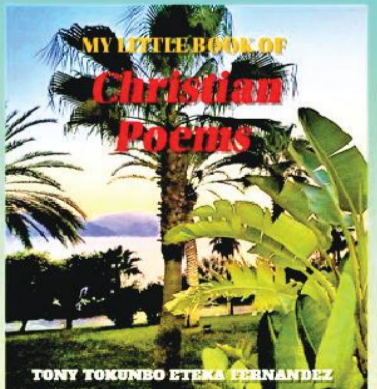
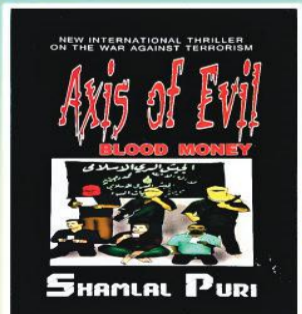
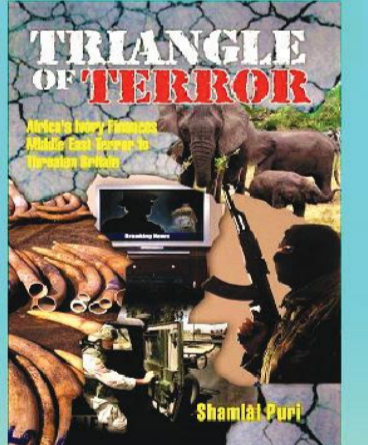
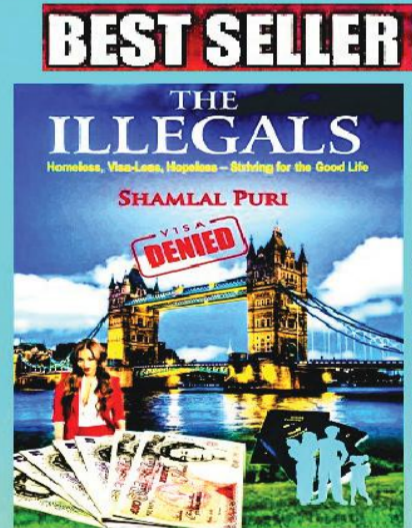
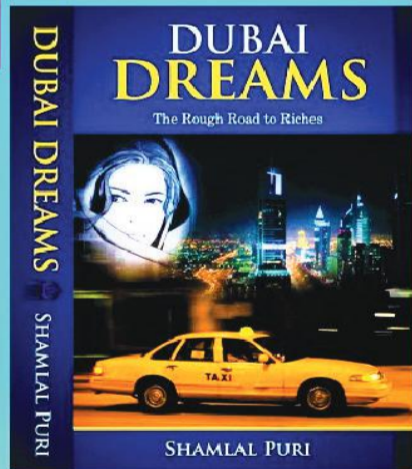
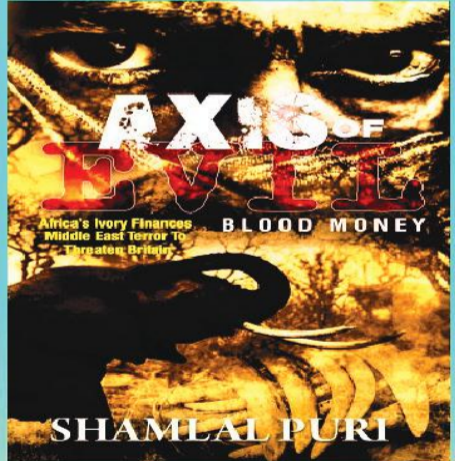
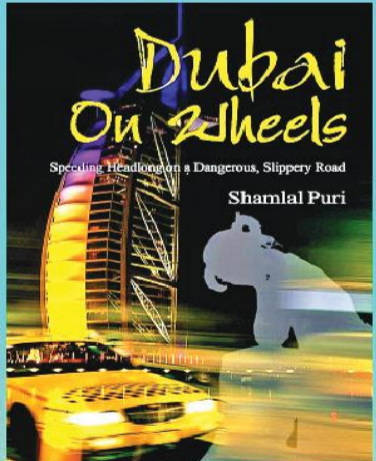
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# BUSINESS

## Cs Kuria Says Govt To Set Up Company To Dismantle Unroadworthy Vehicles

By: Capital Correspondent

The government says it will set up a company that will be dismantling unroadworthy vehicles.

According to Trade and Industrialization Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria, the plan will kick off in the coming months.

“For the longest time, we have had the dilemma of where to take our automobiles that can no longer be used,” he stated.

“I am very excited to have met the Japanese Investors who are working closely with JICA and the Numerical Machine complex to establish a local company for dismantling End of Life Vehicles,” he stated.

He further said that the company would be dismantling the vehicles in a manner that is environmentally friendly.

Owners of old vehicles will have the opportunity to sell their vehicles

which in most cases are abandoned on people’s compounds and yards.

Kenya is yet to establish a government policy that would regulate the disposal of obsolete government vehicles.

Trade and Industrialization Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria.



## Angela Ndambuki Assumes Role As KAMP Chair

By: Our Reporter

@themkenyatimes

The Kenya Association of Music Producers (KAMP) has reinstated Angela Ndambuki as its chairperson with immediate effect.

The seasoned industry professional was appointed for a second stint at the helm of the music producers lobby group during a special meeting held on June 22, 2023.

“This decision reflects the Board’s recognition of Ndambuki’s outstanding leadership qualities, dedication, and remarkable achievements in the music industry,” said KAMP management.

KAMP credits Ndambuki for playing a pivotal role in advancing the interests of music producers and artists in Kenya.

During her previous tenure, KAMP says she oversaw the renewal of its license by industry regulator the Kenya Copyright Board (KECOBO) after a two-year hiatus, increased

collection of royalties by the association, and leading the first music representatives benchmarking trip to South Africa which culminated in the signing of a memorandum between KAMP and South African Music Performance Rights Association (SAMPRO).

Ndambuki is currently the Regional Director for the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Angela Ndambuki



### Partners



# GIVE A PINT, SAVE A LIFE

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> June

Time: 9am - 5pm

Venue: Apollo Centre,  
Westlands



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# Treasury Directs State Agencies To Prioritize Pending Bills Payment

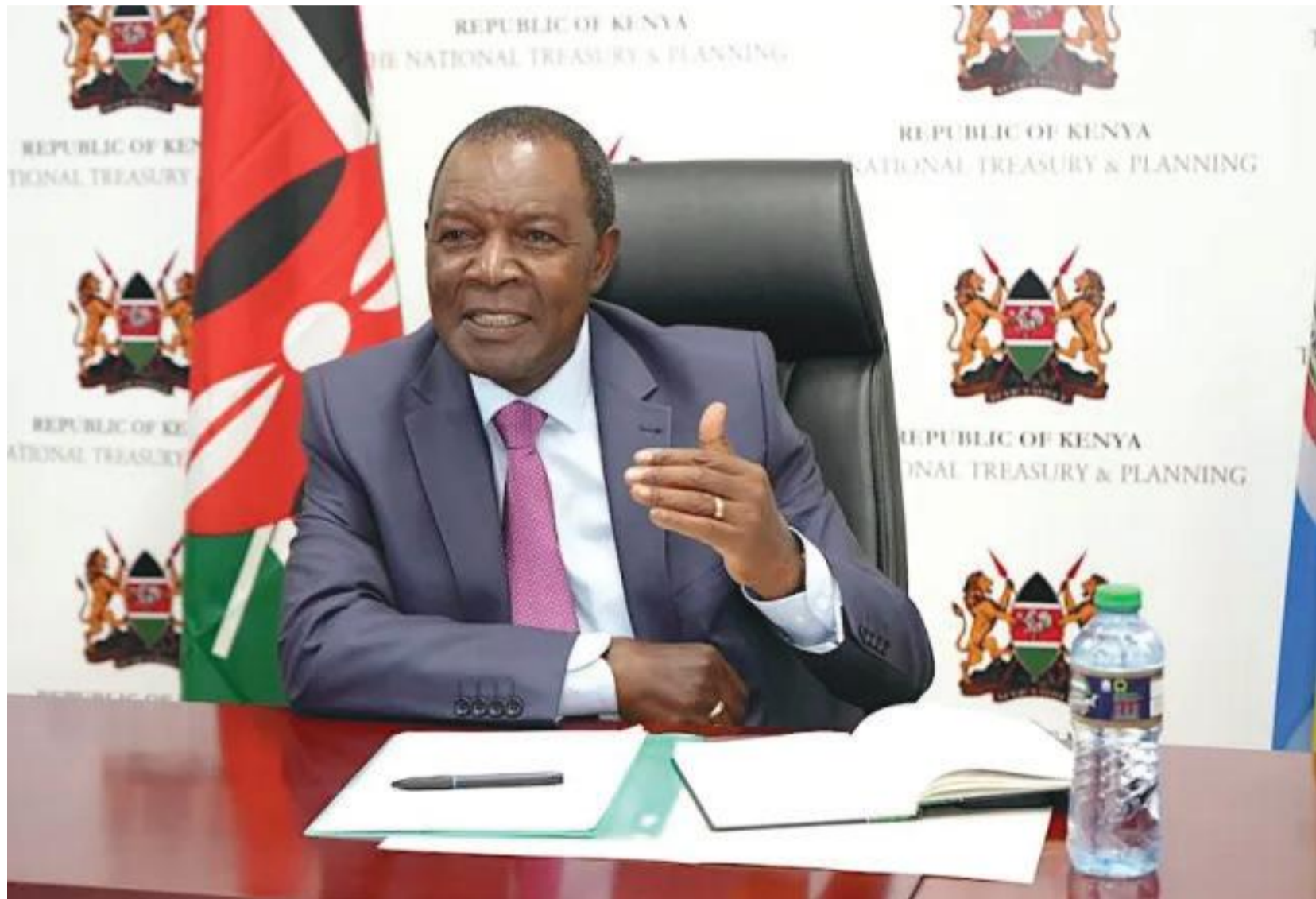
*State Corporations and Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs) have pending bills amounting to Ksh 450.2 billion as of March 2023.*

By: Our Reporter  
@themtkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- In a circular to all chief executive officers of state corporations and SAGAs), funds, vice chancellors of public universities and principals for Technical Vocational Education Trainings (TVETs) and Teachers Training Colleges (TTCs), National Treasury and Economic Planning Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u directed the accounting officers to ensure ongoing commitments which do not involve awarding of contracts are honored.
- "Accounting Officers are, therefore, required to service the continuing contractual obligations as per the contract agreement to avoid accumulation of expenditure arrears (pending bills)," said Prof. Ndung'u.
- In the Supplementary Appropriation Act, the government has set aside Ksh 60 billion to clear pending bills.
- The payment of the bills is expected to stimulate economic activity especially among small businesses whose financial positions have been negatively impacted by the delayed payments.



National Treasury and Economic Planning Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u. PHOTO | File.

The National Treasury has directed accounting officers of state corporations, funds and semi-autonomous agencies to prioritize payment of pending bills before the closure of the current financial year ending June 30, 2023.

Data from treasury indicates that out of the Ksh 537.2 billion worth of pending bills accrued by the National Government as at March 31, 2023, State Corporations and Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs) account for Ksh 450.2 billion of unpaid bills to suppliers and contractors.

In a circular to all chief executive officers of state corporations and SAGAs), funds, vice chancellors of public universities and principals for Technical Vocational Education Trainings (TVETs) and Teachers

Training Colleges (TTCs), National Treasury and Economic Planning Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u directed the accounting officers to ensure ongoing commitments which do not involve awarding of contracts are honored.

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Treasury plans to establish a Pending Bills Verification Committee from the next financial year in what Prof. Ndung'u said in his maiden budget speech will help carry analysis of the stock of all pending bills and advise on how the bills will be settled.

"Once the outstanding pending bills are cleared by the verification Committee, the National Treasury will direct all Entities to ensure strict adherence to Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and clear pending bills as a first charge on the budget of the concerned Entity in the subsequent financial year," he earlier stated.

The chief executives are also urged to ensure bank reconciliations are completed and submitted by 10th next month as well as surrender all

impressts by close of the current financial year.

"All sanding and temporary imprest should be surrendered on or before 30th of June 2023. In line with Regulations 92(7) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015, an Accounting Officer must ensure full recovery of un-surrendered imprest," said Prof. Ndung'u.

The accounting officers are further required to submit details of the current bank accounts and their status, annual financial statements, form team to prepare the financial statements, implement audit recommendations from previous years, status of donor funded projects and disclose their climate finance expenditures and disaster related expenditures.

# PwC Australia Splits Business After Tax Leak Scandal

By: Our Reporter

@themtkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- “We have failed the standards we set for ourselves as an organisation, and I apologise on behalf of our firm,” she said.
- PwC Australia appointed Kevin Burrowes as its new chief executive on Sunday. He was previously PwC Network’s global clients and industries leader.
- “He will work with his colleagues and management team to re-earn trust with PwC Australia’s stakeholders,” said Justin Carroll, the chair of PwC Australia’s governance board.
- The company also said it would sell its Australian federal and state government business to private equity firm Allegro Funds, with the aim of reaching a binding agreement for the deal by the end of next month.

PwC Australia says it will sell its government business for A\$1 (\$0.70; £0.50) after a scandal over the misuse of confidential government tax plans.

The accounting giant has also announced the appointment of a new chief executive in the country.

The move will allow the firm “to move forward with predictability and focus,” PwC Australia said in a statement.

In January, it emerged that a former PwC Australia partner had leaked the classified information.

The ex-partner, who was advising the Australian government, had shared drafts of corporate tax avoidance laws with colleagues, who used it to pitch to potential clients. The leaks occurred between 2014 and 2017.

The company has said that no confidential information had been used to

help clients pay less tax.

However, politicians and officials have called for PwC Australia to be banned from being awarded government contracts until it satisfactorily responded to the scandal.

Earlier this month, PwC Australia said it had identified 76 current and former partners linked to the scandal and handed their names to Australian lawmakers.

On Monday, PwC Australia’s acting chief executive Kristin Stubbins told a parliament inquiry that employees who were found to have acted improperly would face “severe” consequences.

“We have failed the standards we set for ourselves as an organisation, and I apologise on behalf of our firm,” she said.

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Network’s global clients and industries leader.

“He will work with his colleagues and management team to re-earn trust with PwC Australia’s stakeholders,” said Justin Carroll, the chair of PwC Australia’s governance board.

The company also said it would sell its Australian federal and state government business to private equity firm Allegro Funds, with the aim of reaching a binding agreement for the deal by the end of next month.

The sale will create two independent firms without any “disruption in vital services to public sector clients,” PwC Australia said.

PwC Australia’s government business has about 1,750 employees and accounts for around 20% of its annual revenue.

In May, Tom Seymour, the previous chief executive of PwC Australia,

stepped down after he admitted to being one of at least 67 recipients of the sensitive information at the centre of the scandal.

Later that month, the company put nine partners on leave and overhauled its governance board.

Australia’s Treasurer Jim Chalmers called the revelations a “shocking breach of trust”.

For the current financial year, the Australian government is committed to contracts with PwC worth A\$255m, according to official data.

Since the scandal first emerged, major pension funds including AustralianSuper, as well as the country’s central bank, have said they would not sign any new contracts with PwC.

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# Govt Declares Tomorrow A Public Holiday For Muslims To Mark Eid-Ul-Adha

By: Capital Correspondent

The Mecca pilgrimage is a mandatory religious duty for the religion's faithful and must be carried out at least once in one's lifetime by all adult Muslims.

The government has declared Wednesday a public holiday for Muslims to mark Eid-Ul-Adha.

The announcement was made by Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki in a special gazette notice.

"It is notified for the general information of the public that in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 (2) and part II of the Schedule, as read with section 3 of the Public Holidays Act, the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration declares that Wednesday, the 28th June, 2023, shall be a public holiday to mark Eid-Ul-Adha (Idd-Ul-Azha)," he gazette notice read.

The day is used to mark the culmination of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, the holiest city for Muslims.

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki .



# Embrace Technology To Boost Tourism, Hospitality Industry Urged

Hoteliers have been challenged to embrace innovation as a means of boosting tourism numbers for both domestic and international visitors in a bid to rebuild the sector.

Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage Cabinet Secretary Peninah Malonza noted that rebuilding the tourism sector requires a multifaceted approach that goes beyond refurbishing hospitality facilities.

She said hoteliers must renew their commitment to sustainability, innovation, and the well-being of their visitors.

"We must invest in refurbishing our establishments to maintain and refresh our unmatched national brand. We must also upgrade facilities, expand connectivity, provide affordable transport and accommodation," said Malonza.

Malonza was speaking in Mombasa after officially opening the Kenya Association of Hotel Keepers and Caterers annual symposium.

Speaking during the opening of the event, Malonza emphasized on the need for players in the tourism sector



Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage Cabinet Secretary Peninah Malonza.

She further urged hoteliers to adapt to the evolving needs and preferences of travelers, harnessing technology and creativity to enhance their experiences.

By incorporating eco-friendly initiatives and supporting local businesses, she said the industry can offer authentic and meaningful experiences that resonate with the values of modern travelers.

"There is also a need to build capacity and train our staff to enable them to be at par with current global tourism trends. By investing in our workforce and empowering them with knowledge and skills, we increase Kenya's competitive advantage as a tourism destination," she said.

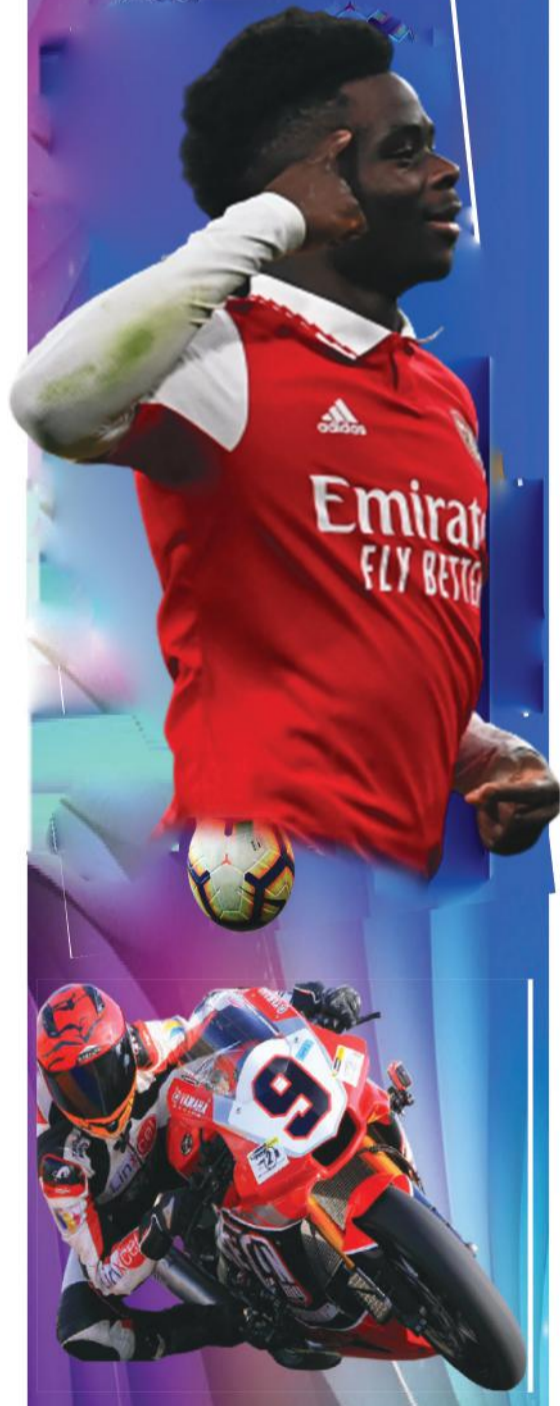
to introduce new and exciting products that enhance the overall visitor experience and position Kenya as a premier destination.

"Protecting and preserving our wildlife, cultural heritage, and diverse ecosystems should be our responsibility as a sector. Let us promote

responsible travel, eco-tourism, and environmental protection to create lasting experiences for our visitors," Malonza said.

# SPORTS NEWS

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**Sports >>** \*The women's handball team earned Kenya's first medal at the Africa Beach Games in Hammamet, Tunisia yesterday afternoon as they claimed silver, following a narrow final day defeat to eventual champions Tunisia.

## Hard Fighting Handball Girls Clinch Kenya's First Medal At Africa Beach Games



*The Kenya women's handball team celebrates after winning silver at the Africa Beach Games. PHOTO/Timothy Olobulu/NOCK.*

The women's handball team earned Kenya's first medal at the Africa Beach Games in Hammamet, Tunisia yesterday afternoon as they claimed silver, following a narrow final day defeat to eventual champions Tunisia.

The Kenyan girls were beaten by the home girls in the shoot-out, after a 1-1 draw in the regulation two sets.

Kenya lost the first set narrowly, but rose with a resounding and spirited performance in the second half, withstanding huge pressure from the noisy home fans.

However, they could not carry on the fight to the shoot-out with Tunisia showing their experience to win.

They however had done enough to finish second in the five-team round-robin tournament.

Skipper Michelle Adhaimbo was delighted with the silver medal, and says it gives them motivation that they can do even better, having improved from a

fourth-place finish in the first edition in Sal, Cape Verde, in 2019.

"This means so much for us because most of the players in the team are newcomers and this is their first time at such a competition. For them to go back home with a medal means so much and it gives us motivation to push more," Adhaimbo, also the skipper of the national regular handball team said.

She added; "This has given us a picture of where we are as a team and it shows us that it is possible to do better. We came very close this time and we will take our lessons and do better in the next championship."

The Tunisians had won the first set 24-19, marginal errors by the Kenyan girls at the tail end giving the home side an advantage, but they rectified, dominating the second set and winning 20-17.

The opening set was a seesaw affair. With 5:50 played, Tunisia had stretched to a four-

point lead going 16-12 up and prompting Kenya for a time-out.

Upon return, Gladys Chilo's spin shot and Brenda Ariviza's single-point goal took the Kenyan girls to within a point. They went into the lead for the first time with skipper Adhaimbo's shot for two as a special player hoisting them to 19-18.

But, with 40 seconds to play,

the Tunisians turned the tide to their own side, their keeper Leila Ouerfelli scoring for two before making a vital block on the break. They ended up with a five-point win, at 24-19.

In the second set though, the Kenyan girls came back determined. They led from the start and opened an eight point gap with 6:36 played, before Tunisia called for a time-out. They re-strategized and came back, going on a 7-2 scoring run to cut Kenya's to a two-point lead at 17-15.

With 25 seconds to play, the game was tied at 17-17 before Euphrasia Mukasa scored for two, then Neema Nzai scored for one to win the game at 20-17.

In the shoot-out, both Kenya and Tunisia lost the first attempts. Viona Wandera scored Kenya's second, with Hanen Romdhan responding for Tunisia. However, Mukasia and Chilo lost their subsequent kicks with Amira Bacha and Saida Sassis scoring to clinch the game for Tunisia.

*Capital Sport*



*The Kenya women's handball team celebrates with members of Team Kenya management. PHOTO/Timothy Olobulu/NOCK*

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>** \*Two months on from his disappointing performance at the Boston marathon, Eliud Kipchoge tells AFP he is determined to keep on writing history — and secure a third Olympic marathon crown next year

# Kenyan Legend Kipchoge Sets Sights On Olympic Marathon Treble

Two months on from his disappointing performance at the Boston marathon, Eliud Kipchoge tells AFP he is determined to keep on writing history — and secure a third Olympic marathon crown next year.

The Kenyan widely regarded as the greatest marathon runner of all time has set himself many challenges in his dazzling career, and remains insatiable despite his two Olympic titles, his world record of 2:01:09 in Berlin in 2022 and an incredible 15 wins in 18 marathons he has entered.

He broke the mythical two-hour barrier over the 26.2 mile (42.195 kilometre) distance in Vienna in 2019, with a time of 1:59:40, but the feat was not recognised as an official world record as it was not in open competition.

Victory has eluded the 38-year-old in the Boston and New York marathons, which if he won would make him the first man to have all six major titles under his belt.

“The priority now is to focus on the Olympics and win a third time. The other (challenges) will come later,” Kipchoge says in an interview with AFP at the renowned Kaptagat training camp in Kenya’s Rift Valley.

His two Olympic marathon gold medals in 2016 and 2021 put him at level pegging with Ethiopia’s Abebe Bikila (1960, 1964) and Waldemar Cierpinski of East Germany (1976, 1980).

A third gold at the Paris Olympics in 2024 would make Kipchoge the undisputed marathon giant at the Games, and bring him a victory steeped in symbolism.

The French capital was the city where he won his first international crown in 2003 at the age of 18, clinching the 5,000 metres world championship title ahead of sporting legends Hicham El Guerrouj of Morocco and Ethiopia’s Kenenisa Bekele.

However, Kipchoge does not

rule out giving up on his other goals.

“If time comes in to hang the racing shoes, I will say bye to other big things in sport.”

### ‘I know myself’

Sitting on a shaded bench in the Kaptagat camp where he has lived and trained for several months a year for 20 years, Kipchoge looks back on his poor showing in Boston on April 17, where he dropped from the lead group in the 30th kilometre and ended up finishing sixth.

This rare failure dampened his spirits.

“I’m trying to forget what has happened in Boston. It’s caught in my mind... but I believe that what has passed has passed.”

With his lifelong coach Patrick Sang, he has analysed the reasons for his disappointing performance, saying “it’s mostly the hamstring”.

He brushes aside concerns about his difficulties on hilly courses such as Boston and New York and which will also confront him in Paris.

“It is not really a concern, but I respect everybody’s thoughts,” he says. “I think it was a bad day and every day is a different day. I’m looking forward for next year.”

“Everybody can write anything, you have no control. But I know myself.”

### ‘Want to be an inspiration’

Kipchoge is now preparing for his final marathon of the year.

“I’m doing well. My training is going on in a good way,” he says.

But he has not yet disclosed which event it will be — Berlin on September 24, Chicago on October 8 or New York on November 5.

“At the end of July, I will know where to go.”

He is following his usual training programme, eating up more than 200 kilometres a week on



Eliud Kipchoge competing at the Boston Marathon. PHOTO/Courtesy .

the red dirt tracks of Kaptagat forest, 2,400 metres above sea level.

Among his 20-odd training partners at the camp at the time of the AFP interview were Kenya’s new 1,500m and 5,000m world record holder Faith Kipyegon and two-time New York marathon winner Geoffrey Kamworor.

As the respected dean of Kenyan athletics, Kipchoge is happy to see the emergence of 23-year-old compatriot Kelvin Kiptum, who won the London Marathon in April in 2:01:25, the second fastest time in history and just 16 seconds away from his own world record.

“I want to be an inspiration and I trust my breaking the world record twice is an inspiration to many young people. I trust they will want more and even beat my records.”

### ‘Prioritise drugs tests’

But in a country where athletics has become tainted by

large-scale drug use, Kipchoge laments that “many people are going into shortcuts to advance”.

“I think doping is there... It’s all more about getting rich.”

Kipchoge says the authorities should prioritise testing for performance-enhancing substances, saying it was much more important than education “because everybody who is doing doping knows what is going on”.

“Just pump everything in testing, put testing as a first priority and all will be well,” he says.

“The moment we prioritise testing and we register those who are handling the athletes across the country, we have the right data to know who is who in the whole country.

“But if we really ignore the people who are working with athletes and athletes themselves, then we are in danger.”

AFP

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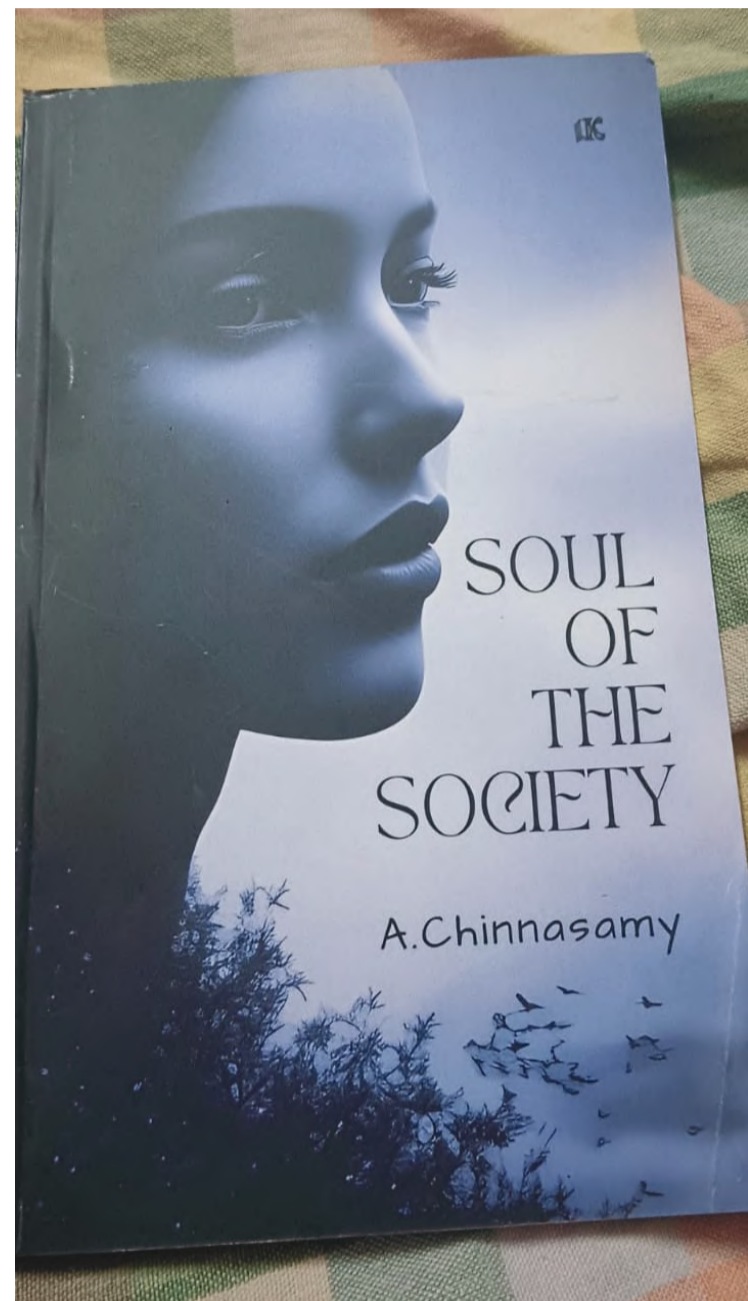


## Anuradha Poet And Story Teller

By: Our Reporter

[@themkenyatimes](#)

- We have to write poems under it and post. Through writing poems I collected the best poems out of it and published so far two English poetry books namely My First Impression ,open your \*wings and Translation Soul of the society (Tamil to English translation).
- Teachers in the WhatsApp group review my poem and comment on it. The group members were appreciated by giving awards and certificate.
- I had presented my thoughts on various topics in these two books. My translation work was made fruitful by Mrs . Brinda who made me efficient enough to translate one's thought in English.



I am Anuradha working as BT asst in Govt High school Vellolai Dharmapuri.

I am interested in writing poems and stories for children. I love teaching. A great inspiration for me is Mrs Brinda. Admin of creative writers. I learnt many nuances in writing poems because of her.

Every day we write poems and send 8t in. What's app.

There is a WhatsApp group for creative writers. The group opens at 7.00pm and closes by 10.00pm everyday. We will be given background and title.

We have to write poems under it and post. Through writing poems I collected the best poems out of it and published so far two English poetry books namely My First Impression ,open your \*wings and Translation Soul of the society (Tamil to English translation).

Teachers in the WhatsApp group review my poem and comment on it. The group members were appreciated by giving awards and certificate.

I had presented my thoughts on various topics in these two books. My translation work was made fruitful by Mrs . Brinda who made me efficient enough to translate one's thought in English.

These books had uplifted my skills and made me unique. I recently received the Eagle Ivory Award of creative writers in 21 May 2023.