



Nakuru City Undergoing Roads Improvement
The tarmacking of link roads to bitumen standards has brought a significant transformation in Nakuru city by opening up new areas for development and boosting economic growth.

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News >> Catholic Church Loses A Key Witness Of Beatified Nyaatha

P. 8. The Catholic Church fraternity has lost yet another key witness of beatified Sister Irene Stefani (Nyaatha).



Motivation >> Life Is Both Give At Take

P. 12. No man lives without jostling and being jostled; in all ways he has to elbow himself through the world, giving and receiving offense..... Thomas Carlyle.



Business >> Jubilee Health Flags Off Afya Mashinani Initiative To Nakuru County

P. 16 Jubilee Health Insurance has today launched a one week Afya Mashinani initiative in a bid to advance accessible and affordable healthcare services to underserved communities

Kenya to Host 54 Trade Ministers Meeting

⚡ The two day meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday and Thursday next week under the auspices of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). It will be jointly hosted by the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry (MITI) of Kenya and the Secretary-General of AfCFTA, Mr. Wamkele Mene.



Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria during a past event.

STORY ON PAGE 9

All PSVs, School Buses Must Be Fitted With Dashboard Cameras, Vehicle Telematics - CS Murkomen

By: Capital Correspondent

(PSV) and school buses must be fitted with dashboard cameras to help in curbing road accidents.

Speaking during a prayer service for the victims of the Londiani accident that claimed more than 50 lives,

Murkomen stated that the cameras together with vehicle telematics systems will be seamlessly integrated with the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) database.

STORY ON PAGE 13

Transport Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen



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Kiambu County Conducts Sensitization Walk To Address Triple Threat

By: Grace Naishoo
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- “As we speak, HIV prevalence in Kiambu stands at 40 percent, teenage pregnancies in the county have also risen in the recent year with National Aids Control Council (NACC) reporting that every week about 98 adolescent of 10-17 years old get infected with HIV in Kiambu Country alone,” said the health CEC.
- On her part, Mrs. Olympia Karimi a Director at the State Department of Gender Director said the fight against sexual and gender-based violence is a continuous process that requires bringing together all members of the society through such initiatives and actively speak up and taking action.



Kiambu County Conducts Sensitization Walk To Address Triple Threat.

Department of Health in Kiambu County has conducted a sensitization walk to address the Triple threat of New HIV infections, Adolescent Pregnancies and sexual and gender-based violence in the community.

The sensitization walk was held in Kikuyu Sub County and involved stakeholders from different departments in both the county government and the national government and also included private Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

According to Dr. Elias Maina, the County Executive Committee Member for Health Services, the walk serves as a platform to educate participants and the community about the importance of preventive measures against infectious diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS.

“We have named the Walk ‘End the Triple Threat’ because it is aimed at addressing the rising cases of gender-based violence, new HIV infections and teen pregnancy in the county,” Maina said.

He added that the walk enables the health care workers to provide valuable information on vaccination campaigns, proper hygiene practices, and the significance of regular health check-ups.

“As we speak, HIV prevalence in Kiambu stands at 40 percent, teenage pregnancies in the county have also risen in the recent year with National Aids Control Council (NACC) reporting that every week about 98 adolescent of 10-17 years old get infected with HIV in Kiambu Country alone,” said the health CEC.

On her part, Mrs. Olympia Karimi a Director at the State Department of Gender Director said the fight against sexual and

gender-based violence is a continuous process that requires bringing together all members of the society through such initiatives and actively speak up and taking action.

In Kiambu, 41.7 percent of individuals have expressed experiencing physical violence in the last year with 16.6 percent being sexual gender-based violence according to the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022,” Karimi stated.

Participants were also encouraged to adopt healthier lifestyles, engage in physical activities, and prioritize regular screenings to detect and manage these conditions effectively.

This year only Kiambu County registered 46 new HIV infections and 148 SGBV cases as of May 2023 according to NACC report.

According to the United Nations In-

ternational Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), globally 15 percent of women give birth before their 18th birthday and Violence against women and girls is an epidemic that affects 1 in 3 women throughout their lifetime.

The report also stated that a total of 35 percent of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence, and globally 7 percent of women have been sexually assaulted by someone other than a partner and as many as 38 percent of murders of women worldwide are committed by an intimate partner.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times

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Sport And Culture Committee Asks Bomas Of Kenya To Embrace Culture Tourism As A Way Self-Sustainability

By: John Kariuki
 @themkenyatimes

The National Assembly's Departmental Committee on Sports and Culture inspected the Bomas of Kenya Cultural Centre in Karen Nairobi as part of its oversight mandate. The Committee, led by the Vice Chair Hon. James Wamacukuru (Kabete), conducted the inspection visit to evaluate the progress made in its rehabilitation efforts. The State Department of Culture was allocated additional funds during last year's Supplementary budget, and the Committee was keen to assess how these funds were utilized. Additionally, the Committee was also keen to explore the opportunities that the department can make use of to benefit from the preservation of our culture. The Committee members collectively commended Ms Peninah Malonza, the Cabinet Secretary for Tourism, Ms Ummi Mohammed, the Principal

Secretary for the State Department of Culture, and Mr Peter Gitaa, the CEO of Bomas of Kenya, for their commendable work in restoring the centre. They recognized the centre as a crucial element in preserving our national identity. During their remarks, the legislators also urged the Ministry and Department boards to find more effective ways of integrating culture into Kenya's vibrant tourism programs. They emphasized the potential for generating revenue through appropriation in aid (A-in-a) as a means of achieving self-sustainability. "How do you market yourself? Are you connected to the companies hosting tourists? Are you part of the marketing system of the country? Because Bomas of Kenya is the gateway to knowing the culture of Kenya." Posed Hon. Jackson Kosgei (Nominated). Other issues raised during the visit included the debt owed by the departments and the importance of promoting our culture for future generations. Members present included; Hon. Catherine Omanyu (Busia), Hon Ste-



Mary Emase MP Teso South .

phen Mule (Matungulu), Hon. Nabuin Ekwom (Turkana North), Hon. Charles Nguna (Mwingi West), Hon. Janet Sitienei (Turbo), Hon. Jackson Kosgei (Nominated) and Hon. Gonzi Rai (Kinango).

End Of The Road For Motorcycle Theft Suspects

By: The DCI

Detectives have dismantled a motorcycle theft ring that has been operating between Kenya and a neighbouring country, where the stolen motorbikes are believed to have a ready market. This is after investigations revealed that there existed a well organized criminal gang that masterminded the disappearance of motorcycles in various towns in the country, before ferrying them to Loitoktok town from where they are sneaked across the border. Agnes Wambui, believed to be the bait used to attract the boda boda riders was the first to be arrested by detectives. Posing as a pillion passenger, Wambui stupefies her victims along the way before disappearing with the motorbikes, once the nduthimen lose

consciousness. The suspect who was arrested after comprehensive investigations led detectives to her other accomplices including one Daniel Mwaniki and William Nkadanyo alias Saningo. Nkadanyo was arrested in Loitoktok town where he is believed to have a ready market for the stolen motorcycles. Stolen mobile phones were also recovered from the suspects including one that had been stolen from a motorbike rider, who was stupefied before he also lost his bike in Juja, Kiambu County. Over 30 tablets believed to be stupefying drugs were also recovered from the suspects, who were discovered to have pending criminal cases in Ongata Rongai, Kajiado County and in Diani, Kwale County.



Motorcycle Theft Suspects.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KIRINYAGA

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Unlocking The Local Capital Market To Fund The Development Of Water And Sanitation Infrastructure In Kenya

By: MoWSI

@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- Following the completion of the study in February, the ministry has commenced the process of presenting the findings and recommendations of the study for adoption by water sector stakeholders, the private sector, development partners, and other relevant actors.
- During a workshop held at the Radisson Blu Hotel yesterday, the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry Alice Wahome outlined four issues that are critical in the process.



Cabinet Secretary Alice Wahome and Maarten Brouwer who is the Kenya's Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands among other guests during yesterday's event..

The Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation (MoWSI), with the support of the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Water and Sanitation Development Partners Group, commissioned a water sector study in July 2022 with the overarching objective of unlocking the local capital market to fund the development of water and sanitation infrastructure in Kenya.

Following the completion of the study in February, the ministry has commenced the process of presenting the findings and recommendations of

the study for adoption by water sector stakeholders, the private sector, development partners, and other relevant actors.

During a workshop held at the Radisson Blu Hotel yesterday, the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry Alice Wahome outlined four issues that are critical in the process.

The CS asked the team to pick up momentum without a break so as to achieve the objectives and agenda.

She committed to provide a physical space and critical human resource that will constantly follow up on the agen-

da and encouraged water investment and assured investors that the government is committed to work together with investors through PPP's including working on removing barriers and challenges that investors face.

The CS invited different groups to challenge themselves beyond known parameters and also explore new market opportunities for water. These include involving local Women and Youths groups, Schools and institutions in running water resources such as boreholes and other idle resources that are not yet utilized.

She also promised to follow up on filling in existing gaps that are a hindrance towards achieving the main agenda as policies are developed.

Also present were Maarten Brouwer who is the Kenya's Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Principal Secretary Ephantus Kimotho who is in charge of Irrigation and Eng. Sao Alima who is the Water Secretary.

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Catholic Church Loses A Key Witness Of Beatified Nyaatha

By: Kamiri Munyaka
 @themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The Postulator said Elitha, as she was fondly referred to locally, had served as the chairlady for the local Mary Magdalene Jumuiya (Small Christian Community), adding that she had contributed a lot to the spread of Christianity in Gikondi and surrounding areas.
- He revealed that the centenarian, who is also his grandmother, will be laid to rest at her home near Kiharo trading centre in Gikondi area on Friday, after a funeral service at the Gikondi Catholic Parish.
- The priest's sentiments were echoed by Mrs. Elizabeth Wamuyu Githinji, who eulogized the deceased as a 'saint' owing to her commitment to the gospel and her prayer life.



Elizabeth Muthoni Nyaga.

The Catholic Church fraternity has lost yet another key witness of beatified Sister Irene Stefani (Nyaatha).

Centenarian Mrs. Elizabeth Muthoni Nyaga, a resident of Kiirungi village, Gikondi division, Mukurwe-ini Sub County, Nyeri breathed her last at the Nyeri's Outspan hospital, where she was rushed after a short and age-related illness.

She was aged 106 having been born in 1917.

Confirming the sad incident, Nyeri Catholic Archdiocesan Postulator, Father Peter Githinji Nyaga, termed Elizabeth's death a big loss to the Catholic Church as she was one of the two remaining witnesses who knew Sister Nyaatha firsthand, having been taught catechism and some basic education by the distinguished Italian Nun.

"Elizabeth was taught catechism and how to read and write by Sister Irene. She was a devout Catholic who has taught many about catechism and Catholic faith sacraments, besides serving in various leadership positions at Our Lady of Divine Providence, Gikondi Catholic Church's

Christian Women Association (CWA)," Father Githinji disclosed.

The Postulator said Elitha, as she was fondly referred to locally, had served as the chairlady for the local Mary Magdalene Jumuiya (Small

Christian Community), adding that she had contributed a lot to the spread of Christianity in Gikondi and surrounding areas.

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laid to rest at her home near Kiharo trading centre in Gikondi area on Friday, after a funeral service at the Gikondi Catholic Parish.

The priest's sentiments were echoed by Mrs. Elizabeth Wamuyu Githinji, who eulogized the deceased as a 'saint' owing to her commitment to the gospel and her prayer life.

"Elitha was a true Christian who loved everybody. At her home, she had a special room where she used to seek God. If anybody visited her while in that room praying, she couldn't usher them in," revealed Wamuyu, saying she was recruited to CWA by her 44 years ago.

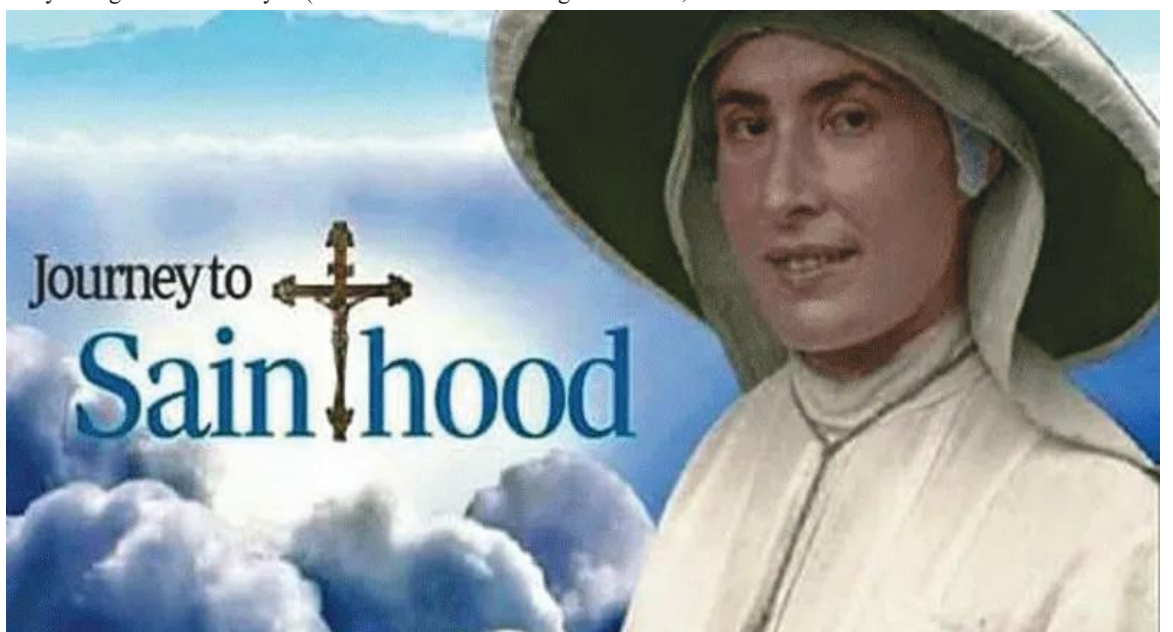
According to online sources, Sister Irene Stefani was cleared for beatification in 2014 after a miracle traced to her intercession was ratified.

She was beatified on May 23, 2019 in Nyeri, by Cardinal Polycarp Pengo on behalf of Pope Francis.

Stefani served as a nurse in Kenya, and it was while stationed at Gikondi that the locals nicknamed her Nyina wa Nyaatha (mother of mercy) due to her unmatched self-sacrifice and kindness she demonstrated while she served them.

Unfortunately, many of the credible witnesses that the Consolata Missionary Nun interacted with before succumbing to the bubonic plague on October 31, 1930, and living to witness her beatification seven years ago have since passed on; currently, only one remains.

The other departed witnesses include John Baiye, who died months after Sister Nyaatha was beatified; Catherine Wangari (Gaterina); and Emma Wangeci (Wagachomba).



Sr. Beatified Nyaatha.

Kenya to Host 54 Trade Ministers Meeting for the Second Time In Weeks

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Kenya is set to host 54 African Trade ministers meeting for the second time in just over a month.

This reaffirms Nairobi's position as the leading choice venue for Africa's Trade and Investment Conversation.

The two day meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday and Thursday next week under the auspices of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

It will be jointly hosted by the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry (MITI) of Kenya and the Secretary-General of AfCFTA, Mr. Wamkele Mene.

The 54 Trade Ministers meeting is an essential gathering that brings together trade ministers from across Africa to discuss and negotiate crucial trade-related matters and it will be building upon the momentum generated by the previous meeting held in May.

The upcoming meeting also aims to solidify the progress made in advancing regional trade integration.

During the last meeting, key agreements were reached, including the establishment of the Africa Trade & Investment Promotion Agency (ATiPA). Recognizing Kenya's commitment to promoting trade and investment across the continent, Kenya offered to host the headquarters of ATiPA.

This milestone decision showcases Kenya's dedication in fostering economic growth and prosperity for Africa as a whole.

Among the objectives of the meeting will be focusing on critical topics such as the rules of origin for textiles and automobiles, as well as the ever-evolving domain of digital trade.

These discussions are of paramount importance to facilitate seamless intra-African trade and create a conducive environment for businesses to thrive across borders.

The meeting represents a significant opportunity for African nations to collaborate, strengthen regional inte-



Investments, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria during a past event.

gration efforts, and advance the economic prosperity of the continent. Kenya, in partnership with AfCFTA, is committed to fostering an environment conducive to robust trade relationships and sustainable economic

development.

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a landmark agreement targetting 54 African countries with the aim of creating the world's largest single market.

seeks to promote economic integration, enhance competitiveness, and foster sustainable development across the African continent.

Information Ministry Partners With Counties To Expand Technological Space

By: Maurice Aluda
@themtkenyatimes

The Ministry of Information, Communications, and Digital Economy is working in joint partnerships with devolved units for the installation and sustainable technological infrastructure countrywide.

The ICT and Digital Economy Cabinet Secretary (CS) Mr. Eliud Owalo made the announcement while on a working tour in Trans Nzoia County last Wednesday.

Speaking at the Kitale National Polytechnic where he officially launched Konza Digital Skills Laboratory under the Jitume initiative, CS Owalo disclosed the ministry was in the process of installing about 100,000 fibre optic cables as well as connecting public Wi-Fi to a total of 24,000 markets throughout

The CS who was accompanied by



CS Eliud Owalo addressing the media.

area County Commissioner (CC) Gideon Nyandiricha assured members of the public that similar hubs would be established at the ward level across counties.

"The sole objective of this national government initiative is to help create employment opportunities for

the ballooning unemployed youth population by enabling it to leverage on the existing online platforms for sources of livelihood," underscored Owalo who was also accompanied by Elgeyo Marakwet Governor Wesley Rotich.

Owalo further reiterated the na-

tional government's commitment toward expansion of internet space and accessibility in line with the ongoing national project aimed at the digitization of government services.

"With digitization of government services, Kenyans will be able to easily access the same, thus reducing

time and cost wasted," the CS added. Trans Nzoia County Secretary Mr. Truphosa Amere expressed gratitude to the national government for the digital hubs.

Amere reassured the county administration's commitment toward supporting the initiative, which she described as timely, especially at a time when the country is grappling with the challenge of employable graduates.

"Envisaged establishment of internet accessibility within markets and villages would enable the youth access online job and financial opportunities," remarked Amere.

The event was also graced by the Senate ICT Chair who is also Trans Nzoia Senator Allan Chesang, ICT Principal Secretary John Tanui, County Public Service Management CEC Sam Ojwang and Kitale National Polytechnic Principal John Otieno, and former Forestry Minister Dr. Noah Wekesa, among others.

The Discipline Of Worship



By: Eric Musa
 EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

It is the Lord's Day. You have come to church to worship God "in spirit and in truth." You are in church to give him worth — worth-ship, as the English word properly means. What now? Here again the word which is the theme of this book comes to center stage — discipline. It is of great significance that one of the two most prominent words denoting worship in the New Testament is the word *latreuo*, which means "to work or serve."

This tells us implicitly that worship involves work — disciplined work. It is from this word that liturgy is derived, for liturgy is one's work in worship. All churches have litur-

gies, even those which would call themselves "non-liturgical." In fact, having no liturgy is a liturgy! Relaxed charismatic services may be as liturgical in their format as a high-church service — and in some cases more rigid. My purpose is not to recommend one liturgy over another, though, of course, I have my opinion. The point I wish to make is that whatever your liturgy may be, you must work at it with all you have, for worship is work.

There must be some holy sweat if you are to please and glorify God. Finally we must also understand that the discipline of worship is the way to bounding gladness in worship. As Eugene Peterson has so well said: "Worship is an act which develops feelings for God, not a feeling for God which is expressed in an act of worship." Let us discipline ourselves for the purpose of worship!

HALELUJAH. MIGHTY GOD EN-
 ABLE US 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). Re-

member, God Loves you and I unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM

TIFA Poll Reveal Kenyans Operate On Average Budgets

By: John Kariuki
 @themtkenyatimes

A new survey conducted by Trends and Insights for Africa (TIFA) has revealed that only three percent of Kenyans earn a monthly income above Sh50,000.

The poll, which collected responses from 1,530 participants from across the country showed that 10 percent of the respondents earn between Sh 20,000 and 50,000 per month.

It also emerged that 54% of Kenyans feel that those who will pay the housing levy will not get to own a house, according to TIFA Research

The survey was conducted between June 24 and June 30, 2023.

Additionally, only 12 percent of the respondents reported earning between Sh 5,001 and 10,000 monthly.

The findings further highlighted that 38 percent of respondents reported earning no income.

"The vast majority of Kenyans thus

survive on extremely modest incomes," stated TIFA Research Analyst Tom Wolf during the report announcement.

Regarding savings capacity, the survey revealed that just over one-quarter (28 percent) of those earning below Sh 5,000 reported being able to save.

Among those in the highest income category, earning over Sh 50,000, 50 percent reported being able to save.

Among the minority who are able to save, the funds are used for various purposes, with the most common being general saving/investment accounts to earn interest (19 percent) unexpected/emergency needs (16 percent), and periodic education costs.



Kisumu residents take to the streets to protest against the rising cost of living Photo | Courtesy

Why Raila's Saba Saba Rally Doomed To Fail?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandong@yaho.com

Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Party leader Raila Odinga has called for what he has termed as a mega rally on Saba Saba (seven seven) at Kamukunji grounds in Nairobi. He later said the rallies will be held across the country on that day.

To me, this sounds more like a climb down. He had initially declared that he would launch a countrywide civil disobedience on this day.

For starters, July 7 in 1990 is supposed to be marked in remembrance of the sacrifices made by those who led the clamor for multiparty democracy.

On this day, a heavy contingent of anti-riot police deployed to stop the organisers and their supporters from accessing the grounds used excessive force to contain and repulse them. A number of the protestors were shot dead.

The police had in the eve of rally rounded up and arrested three leading crusaders led by Kenneth Matiba.

One year later, then President Daniel Arap Moi caved in to the mounting pressure and allowed the repeal of Section 2A of the constitution paving the way for the reintroduction of political pluralism.

During this period, Kenyans were fighting for a worth course geared towards the restoration of democracy.

In the subsequent years this day mattered less for Azimio/ODM leader.

As a result, it would be a low-key event or at time pass unnoticed.

Many Kenyans would aver this was because Raila no longer believed in fight for the rights of the people.

He would however pretend to this while in pursuant of his selfish and personal goals.

Once the sitting President William Ruto agrees to share the national cake with him, he always becomes contented. He would not question or fault the government's decisions even those that derailed the course of public interest.

This time, the going is tough for him. This is because President William Ruto has totally refused to cave in to his political machinations of blackmail and intimidation. You lost the election. Stick to your lane and does your job as an opposition leader, Dr Ruto would tell him in various occasions.

Raila is yet to give up. He thinks that reviving the spirit of the Saba Saba will give him a new lifeline to sustain his pressure on Ruto to succumb.

I doubt he stands any chance of having his way. First, majority of Kenyans were not yet born when the first Saba



Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Party leader Raila Odinga .

Saba was held. Here, we are talking of the youth who are aged 33 and below.

They do not understand this history. How do you expect to rope them in?

Again, you have made many of them to lose trust and faith in you. This is because of distorting your history by abandoning the ideals that you stood for. Initially, you embraced the spirit of Mau Mau fighters who fought from the trenches to liberate this country from the yoke of the British colonial government. You were not fighting for selfish reasons of grabbing power and amassing wealth. You were fighting to recreate and rebuild Kenya for the betterment of all us as Kenyans.

The other day I read a lead story published by one of the Weekly newspapers in Kenya which bore the headline 'Raila wants Ruto one term President'. Raila enumerated a raft of strategies that would make his dream come to pass.

One of them is that former President Uhuru Kenyatta was fully backing his campaigns.

These were my observations. First, this was not the first time the name of the former President would be mentioned.

Earlier when Raila was holding the demonstrations, a group of powerful politicians aligned to the ruling Kenya Kwanza government from Mount Kenya region led by the Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and National Assembly majority leader Kimani Ichungwah kept alleging.

The former President was the key financier of Raila's Mandamano.

They would allege the ultimate goal of the duo was two-pronged.

One, mobilize and incite Kenyans to rise up against President Ruto. This is with a view of toppling him from power through popular uprising.

If they fail on this, they will embark on Plan B that would make Dr William Ruto a time term president.

If this were to happen, Ruto would go down into annals of history as the first one term president.

I want to say this. If you do a comparative analysis of the presidencies of Mwai Kibaki, Uhuru Kenyatta and now William Ruto, one thing is clear.

The latter is hard nut to crack. So, if the former two managed to maneuver and got re-elected for second term, I would not expect the strategy of handshake duo to bear any fruits.

Up to date, the former president has remained non-committal on whether he was bankrolling Raila's campaign of defiance.

The last time I heard him speaking was after attending the burial of former Education CS George Magoha in Siaya.

While accompanied by Raila Odinga, he made a stopover in Kisumu. He told the residents.

I'm still a staunch member of Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Party. Baba is my leader. Those who think that Uhuru Kenyatta retired from politics are wrong. I only retired as a president and I'm not tired. Baba meant well for this country. So, agenda of Azimio is very much alive.

Things took a new turn later when goons raided properties owned by the two leaders.

This happened on a day when Raila was leading a demonstration in the city of Nairobi.

The raid on Northland farm associated with Kenyatta family left a trail of destructions.

The goons stole tens of hundreds of Dorper goats; slaughtered some of the animals and sold the meat to motorists and passers-by at a throw way prices.

The goons also burnt trees and demarcated part of the land and started to put up structures.

This incident elicited mixed reactions. In Mount Kenya, the opinion was divided.

Those who supported argued. Our leaders have been saying the former President was supporting Raila's Mandamano (demonstrations).

The small scale business people bore the brunt as the protestors targeted our businesses.

They would destroy them and engage in looting spree.

At the end of day, we are left counting losses running into billions of shillings.

The deputy President had earlier stated. The business community in Nairobi city was losing 2 billion a day when the demonstration was taking place.

So, it seems this is the message the goons were sending to Uhuru.

Being a former President and a scion of the richest family of former President Jomo Kenyatta, you should not take this to mean your properties are safe.

We wanted you to feel the pain we go through.

Besides destructions witnessed, the business people were forced to stay at home because of fear of being attacked.

At this juncture, allow me to say this. So far, there is no tangible evidence that former President was sponsoring Raila's demonstrations.

However, his remarks and body language suggested he was supporting his campaign.

Reports indicated the well-endowed promoters raised money for mobilization and other logistic issues. This explains why many Kenyans would want to hear former President's response.

It is worth to recall Uhuru openly campaigned for Raila in the countdown to 2022 general election. He had also roped in tycoons drawn from Mount Kenya behind his candidature.

A few days ago, Raila and his brigade held a rally at Kamukunji ground. In his speech, Raila left no doubt that he was determined to take his campaign of defiance to a new level.

"We told Mr Ruto that the Finance Bill

2023 was bad, punitive and asked him to withdraw it. He declined to heed our call and went ahead to assent to it. We are not relenting. We are going to push him hard so that he can know the power belongs to the people".

Moving forward, we have launched a campaign of civil disobedience and tax boycotts. Here, Raila had set the stage for economic sabotage.

This showed that he did not believe in the cause of Wanjiku, the ordinary Kenyan.

He was hellbent on driving this country to dog while in pursuit of his selfish and personal interests.

It is worth note that Raila read a similar script in the aftermath of 2007 and 2017 general elections, respectively.

The other day, I read a story in the newspapers which made shocking and damning revelations.

The story which quoted audit reports alleged that loans totalling to Sh4 trillion borrowed during the reign of President Kenyatta could not be accounted for.

This is because this was done without following the financial laws.

The lion share was from the domestic borrowing.

This question is. Was this monies used for the public good? The story indicated a chunk of it was used to construct the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR). Equally, the story suggested a huge part of it could have been stolen.

In light of this, it is only a commission of inquiry that gives us a true picture of how these funds were spent.

I also had an opportunity to read and listen to comments attributed to Busia Senator Okiya Omtata. He claimed that Kenya has overpaid the loan monies. How? These were weighty allegations. He needed to substantiate them by producing supporting documents. He failed to do this.

To me, his claims bordered more on politics but not facts.

Remember he made these allegations after the court declined to rule in favor of his application seeking to stop the passage of Finance Bill, 2023.

He ought to have shed light on this. Which government had overpaid? Uhuru's or Ruto's government.

We know the foreign loans had been borrowed from financial institutions in different countries. Which were they overpaid?

If it is loans borrowed domestically, where are documents to show the institutions that were overpaid?

It is should be noted that President Uhuru's Jubilee government break record buy borrowing the largest chunk of the foreign loans since independence.

The total amount stood at Sh9 trillion. This is the debt that President William Ruto inherited.

Most of these loans have since matured. The Kenya Kwanza government is spending 70 percent of revenues to service the loans.

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

Life Is Both Give At Take

By: N. George
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- A husband who wants a healthy relationship with his wife tries to use the friendliest method to solve any dispute that may arise between the two parties. If it is the wife who had erred she should be made to realize, accept her mistakes and promise to correct them. This would promote harmony.
- If the mistake was done by husband and he accepts and apologizes then his wife will accept the apology having ironed out the differences but if the parties involved engage in conflict and none of them wish to accept the blame then peace will be far from them as the one offended will be bitter with the other party. The rule hear is for the offending party to swallow the bitter pill by accepting, apologizing and promising not to repeat then the reunion will be restored.



No man lives without jostling and being jostled; in all ways he has to elbow himself through the world, giving and receiving offense..... Thomas Carlyle.

A popular idiomatic English proverb says that you can't have your cake and eat it too meaning that you can't enjoy both of two desirable but mutually exclusive alternatives for example you cannot enjoy watching an inspiring movie while at the same time you are sleeping, you need to do either at any given time.

A parent who wants to instill her values to her kids cannot claim to employ a house help to do exactly what she want her to know as she attends to work. The house girl will instill what she knows to the kids and that is house girl's values rather than those of her boss.

In the end the kid will be behaving like the house help who have served as a trainer and perhaps the role model and his mother chose work over personalized child care.

A husband who wants a healthy rela-

tionship with his wife tries to use the friendliest method to solve any dispute that may arise between the two parties. If it is the wife who had erred she should be made to realize, accept her mistakes and promise to correct them. This would promote harmony.

If the mistake was done by husband and he accepts and apologizes then his wife will accept the apology having ironed out the differences but if the parties involved engage in conflict and none of them wish to accept the blame then peace will be far from them as the one offended will be bitter with the other party. The rule hear is for the offending party to swallow the bitter pill by accepting, apologizing and promising not to repeat then the reunion will be restored.

Those who intend to work throughout the night should not accept day time offers to work as they will either have low levels of productivity or dose at work as sleep is unforgiving to an extent that when you deny your body it will force you to sleep at the unexpected time that is why you see

some people dosing at important occasions and wonder why they are behaving like that publicly but many are times when the sleep is catching them while unaware.

A farmer who does not bother tilling the land to plant his seeds or do weeding should not complain of poor harvest or no harvest at all as it was him who chose not to sow so he should not enjoy reaping from his garden. On the other hand a farmer who makes effort to prepare the land, weed and prune should continue to be happy with his harvest as it is out of his earlier sacrifices that he is enjoying the benefits.

A teacher who trains his students well and has good rapport with them is likely to be appreciated by his students and at times supported by them once they complete studies and he happen to meet them. The respect and dedication he showed to them is reciprocated.

On the other hand a teacher who mistreats his students and is lazy in teaching is likely to be ignored by his

students. What he currently enjoys would be offered by his students once they complete the school and happen to meet him as they would to not be willing to sacrifice their time and resources for someone who least cared for them.

In whatever you do if it affects other people put them into consideration when determining whether to continue or not. Be aware that whatever you do to them they are likely to reciprocate either now or in future. Live a well-balanced life; choose wisely what to do and what not to do and to what extent, where and when.

In any competition if you are a participant it will be a lot of joy for you to win. On the other hand you will feel bitter if you lose but you need to accept the results as it was one of the possibilities well known to you even before you engaged in the event.

All PSVs, School Buses Must Be Fitted With Dashboard Cameras, Vehicle Telematics – CS Murkomen

By: Capital Correspondent

Continued from page 1

He stated that the implementation of dashboard cameras and vehicle telematics in PSVs marks a significant step towards enhancing safety, accountability, and efficiency within the public transportation sector.

“By leveraging advanced technology, this initiative aims to address various challenges and improve overall service quality,” he said.

“Dashboard cameras, also known as vehicle black boxes or event data recorders, will be installed in PSVs to capture real-time video footage of the road and the interior of the vehicles. These cameras will provide crucial visual evidence in the event of accidents, disputes, or any other incidents that may occur during a journey. By documenting these incidents, the dashboard cameras will aid in determining liability and promoting fair and accurate resolution.”

Furthermore, he stated that the inte-

gration of vehicle telematics systems with the NTSA database will enable real-time monitoring and analysis of PSV operations.

“Telematics technology combines telecommunications and informatics, allowing for the exchange of data between vehicles and remote systems. This integration will facilitate the collection of various metrics, including vehicle speed, location, fuel consumption, and driver behavior,” he said.

He observed that NTSA will have access to valuable insights that can be utilized for various purposes.

“For instance, analyzing vehicle speed data can help identify instances of speeding and reckless driving, enabling the authorities to take appropriate action to ensure road safety. Additionally, monitoring fuel consumption and driver behavior can contribute to the development of eco-friendly driving habits, reducing environmental impact and promoting sustainability,” he explained.

He also stated that the interlinking of the dashboard cameras and vehicle



Transport Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen .

telematics systems with the NTSA database will create a comprehensive ecosystem for data collection, analysis, and reporting.

He added that this approach will enable efficient and accurate enforce-

ment of traffic laws, as well as facilitate targeted interventions to address safety concerns within the PSV sector.

“Moreover, the availability of real-time data through this interconnected system will allow for prompt

response to emergencies, such as accidents or breakdowns,” he said. “Authorities can receive immediate alerts and deploy appropriate resources to ensure the safety and well-being of passengers and drivers alike.”

Wanjiku Muhia: The True Leader Who is The Voice of the Voiceless

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyatimes

Many know her as Kipipiri Member of Parliament (MP) where she is serving after her previous representation at East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA).

Wanjiku is one leader who takes her legislative and representation duties diligently, with zeal and courage.

She has been a champion of the Voiceless especially the differently abled who include persons living with disabilities, including intellectual disabilities.

Wanjiku is the architect of different pieces of legislation centrally designed to dignify the PwDs. For instance, she is celebrated for midwiving the implementation of the law for persons with disabilities. The law stipulates that all TV stations must provide a sign language interpreter for the news and other necessary programmes geared towards including the persons with hearing



Kipipiri Member of Parliament Wanjiku Muhia in while during a walk.

impairment.

She is also piecing together another law that of passed by Parliament will reinforce the dignity of persons with

disabilities.

“This will spur their inclusion in various aspects. For example when they are going out to look for em-

ployment, their cover letter should act as a document to propel them towards such opportunities. The law seeks to omit degrading words like

“mentally disabled” from identification documents of PwDs because such might trigger contempt.”

Hon Wanjiku on Monday Joined students at Kenya Community Centre for Learning (KCCL) in creating awareness and the need for inclusivity.

She also congratulated a team that represented Kenya at the Berlin Special Olympics and said that she is very committed to bring the plight of the institutions that handle children with disabilities.

“The few facilities that exist are either underfunded or reliant on well-wishers or donors. Like this Kenya community Centre for learning is parent owned and lacks government funding to be able to run day to day activities. If anchored in law, these institutions will be fully capacitated in a bid to enhance them with facilitation to better handle PwDs.”

Longing



A small book-café opened in the building of the university, at the entrance to the main door, is ready to serve students every day.

There will be a lot of queues because they only have two tables. There were times when students had to wait a long time for a seat to become available. But today this crowding has subsided a little: at the first table three or four girls are eating, and at the second one girl is sitting alone, reading a book on her phone. The book-café is quiet because the classes have already ended, there are only a few students left at the university, and they are busy with themselves. Sukunat invaded the area with his soldiers.

- Excuse me, are you free?

After this question, the girl who was reading a book on the phone raised her head and looked at the guy standing above her. "This guy probably wants to eat too, I'd better read my book somewhere else," he thought. Standing up calmly, he did not forget to take his bag that was on the edge of the seat.

- Yes, empty.

The girl answered the boy's question while leaving. - Feel free.

The girl was deeply interested in the book she was reading and left the book café without taking her eyes off the book. But through the glass door, he managed to see that the young man was not sitting there yet, and was looking strangely behind him.

A few days passed. While the girl was preparing a lesson in her room, her friends told her that an English language club would be opened at the university and that it would be more affordable. It was perfect for a girl who wants to improve her English. After the lesson, he went back to his studies, intending to write his name.

After the lesson, the girl went to the

designated room to meet people who were going to hang out with her friends. You can see with your own eyes that the person who wants to organize a club is the young man of that day. Seeing that the young man was looking at her with the eyes of that day, the girl reluctantly sat down on one of the chairs and began to listen to him. During the conversation, the young man said that he is also a student of the same university, that he wants to teach his knowledge of the English language, and that he will lead the club. The girl was dissatisfied with the fact that the guy was staring at her while she was talking, and she refused to participate in this club. However, since all her friends who came with her wrote their names, the girl reluctantly wrote her name and left the room. "I won't come anyway," he said.

More time has passed since then. One winter day, the girl was walking up the stairs carrying coffee when she bumped into a young man. The young man stopped in his place and stared at the girl, and the girl went up the stairs without taking her eyes from the cup so as not to spill her coffee. More precisely, she ran away from the guy. He avoided her eyes and what he might say.

Such events were repeated often. The girl was so fed up with the boy's curious looks that she turned her back on the sight of him. The guy didn't seem to care. Wherever he saw the girl, he looked at her strangely, wanted to say something, but couldn't. And time was passing fast...

Thus the semester has come to an end.

Before the start of the new semester, the rector of the university held a special meeting to reward outstanding and active students. At that meeting, eyes met again: both the girl and

the boy were awarded by the rector. Both were among the winners. After that day, the number of meetings between the two young people increased significantly.

One day the girl got a call. He was asked to help teachers to organize the Olympiad in schools. The girl agreed. Now he began to "travel" to different schools with students like him. Made new friends. He discovered places he had never seen before. One day, while he was waiting for his friends in a book café, a young man entered the university.

He is wearing a light green suit and pants, a light purple shirt. His hair is combed to one side. He is carrying a medium-sized bag. As always, he looked at the girl with strange eyes while greeting an acquaintance who had gone out of his way. And the girl met it with excitement, not with nervousness as before. His hands and feet were trembling, his heart was pounding. Although he looked away as soon as their eyes met, a strange feeling was playing in his heart. The girl did not know the name of these feelings, did not understand what she was feeling. What is this? What was the feeling that once the eyes met, the girl's heart turned upside down? What can explain this incomprehensible situation?

The young man did not say anything that day either. As for the girl, now she goes to the book café every day to see him, and even if she sees the boy from afar, she is happy. When Mobodo could not see him, longing began to overwhelm him. The boy's longing did not give the girl peace. He took over his thoughts.

It is longing when a person searches for a way through the winter to see another person. But what can you call wanting to look into other

people's eyes when you know you're making a mistake? Is this also nostalgia? Or standing on the edge of an abyss and pushing oneself? What is this? Are you homesick? Is it love? What is the name of such feelings? The girl does not know the name of her feelings. She doesn't know why she gets excited when she sees a guy she doesn't even know. Maybe the guy doesn't know why he stares at the girl? Maybe he is afraid of rejection? Maybe there is someone else in his heart? It was dark. However, day after day, the girl's feelings disappeared. Gradually, she stopped feeling anything when she saw the young man. The feelings were forgotten, the longing was forgotten, the budding love disappeared from the hearts.

The girl grows up. His family passed him on to another. After some time, she had a child: she achieved the status of motherhood. But the budding of that first love in his heart sometimes hurt. If that more familiar stranger hadn't been confined to passive observation, would he now be the father of her child? Maybe she should put her girlish pride aside and try?... The girl doesn't even know the answer to these questions. Now he can only feel the feelings left by his pure and innocent love with regret and longing.

That's it.

Thank you for your attention

Longing

Author: Boltayeva Marjona Bakhridin's daughter

My Unrequited Love Poem



You are my favorite memory.

I love the one you are in love with.
Unknowingly you have left lovely memories for me.
But the funny thing is still I've no clue whether I'm really in love with you
Or it's just an attraction or an obsession.

Anyway, I'm not bothered and I lost feelings for you.

You were my illusion that I love you.
Now I realized that I've never loved you.

Everything is just an illusion that created a lot of commotion.

K. Amirtha, Madras Institute of Technology, Chrompet, Chennai
1st year B.E.ECE

Unbelievable that I like you.
Unaware of your entry into my mind.
You made me doing things that I've never ever did for someone
Even thought of doing it.

You transformed a lazy to a crazy.
You gradually occupied my thoughts.
Even though I know you can't be mine,

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BUSINESS

By: Capital Correspondent

Worth Noting:

- The low penetration has largely been attributed to lack of consumer awareness on the various insurance options as well as the importance of insurance.
- The week-long Afya Mashinani initiative will demystify health insurance while engaging Naivasha and Nakuru residents on the importance and benefits of a health cover.
- “We are thrilled to extend our Afya Mashinani initiative to the Nakuru region, as we firmly believe that accessible healthcare is a fundamental right for all individuals,” said Njeri Jomo, Chief Executive Officer at Jubilee Health Insurance.



The initiative seeks to reinforce the company's commitment to improving healthcare access and promoting overall well-being for all Kenyan citizens.

Jubilee Health Insurance has today launched a one week Afya Mashinani initiative in a bid to advance accessible and affordable healthcare services to underserved communities.

The initiative seeks to reinforce the company's commitment to improving healthcare access and promoting overall well-being for all Kenyan citizens.

Afya Mashinani, which translates to “Healthcare in the Community,” is a comprehensive campaign that addresses pressing healthcare needs while empowering communities from underserved areas through education, outreach, and quality medical services.

Jubilee Health Insurance has partnered with Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi (AKUH,N) to host free medical camps which will offer residents free medical consultations, free medication, various screenings, Covid-19 vaccinations and other necessary healthcare support.

The initiative, which was first suc-

cessfully piloted in the Meru Region, will now be rolled out in Nakuru and Naivasha.

The Insurance Regulatory Authority indicates that insurance penetration rate in Kenya stands at 2.3 per cent.

The low penetration has largely been attributed to lack of consumer awareness on the various insurance options as well as the importance of insurance.

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“We are thrilled to extend our Afya Mashinani initiative to the Nakuru region, as we firmly believe that accessible healthcare is a fundamental right for all individuals,” said Njeri Jomo, Chief Executive Officer at Jubilee Health Insurance.

“By combining education, outreach, and medical services, we aim to empower communities, address healthcare disparities, and contribute to the

government's agenda of providing affordable and accessible healthcare to all Kenyan citizens.”

“Impacting the community is one of our core values and we are pleased to do that by collaborating with Jubilee Health Insurance on this initiative. This partnership will provide access to quality healthcare services to the residents from our highly qualified medical staff,” said Rashid Khalani, CEO AKUH,N.

“The free wellness check-ups will make a meaningful impact on the health and well-being of the Naivasha and Nakuru communities by helping them identify any diseases early for timely intervention,” he added.

The Afya Mashinani initiative aligns with the county's healthcare agenda and supports the broader national goal of ensuring equitable healthcare services to reach even the most remote regions.

By collaborating with local stakeholders and the government, Jubilee Health Insurance seeks to make a

lasting impact on the lives of individuals and families in the Nakuru region.

Additionally, the Afya Mashinani Initiative directly aligns with Jubilee Health Insurance's vision of touching over 2 million lives by 2025.

Through this initiative, Jubilee Health Insurance is actively working towards reaching and positively impacting a significant portion of this target.

Jubilee Health Insurance invites all residents of Naivasha and Nakuru town to join in this noble initiative, benefit from the free medical camp, and take a proactive step towards better health and well-being.

Partners



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Nakuru City Undergoing Roads Improvement

By: Veronica Bosibori
 @themkenyatimes

The tarmacking of link roads to bitumen standards has brought a significant transformation in Nakuru city by opening up new areas for development and boosting economic growth.

The City Manager Gitau Thabanja said the extensive upgraded road networks is a collaboration between the World Bank and the county government, whose aim was to improve the infrastructure of the city to conventional and suitable standards.

He was speaking yesterday during the tour of the upgraded roads at Kanu Street.

He said enhancing road connectivity and improving the overall transport infrastructure would address traffic congestion and intensify security in various neighborhoods within the city, emphasizing that street lights will be installed along the roads to enable long hours of business.



Nakuru City Undergoing Roads Improvement

Among the notable roads that have so far been upgraded to bitumen standards are the crater climb road, which leads to the famous Menengai Crater, Tom Mboya, Flamingo, Kipchoge Keino, as well as Kinuthia

Mbogua road.

He noted that Kanu Street has the highest revenue collection for the county government due to its popularity with both locals and international tourists who enjoy the nu-

merous affordable hotels along the extensive streets, which is referred to as the 'life of the party within the city.'

Thabanja added that high-quality infrastructure provides direct pos-

itive impacts, including efficiency, increased safety, decreased environmental effects, and more effective delivery of public goods and services.

The chairman of tourism in the county, David Mwangi said the upgrading and expansion of roads and walkways have made Nakuru County the most preferred area for local tourists.

Mwangi gave the example of the just concluded World Rally Championship (WRC), popularly known as Safari Rally, which was estimated to have injected Sh4 billion into the Nakuru County economy, as an indicator of what lies in store for the county, as long as the infrastructure and security are enhanced.

Isiolo Municipality Market To Be Completed In Two Months

By: Mugambi Shem and Benson Chege
 @themkenyatimes

Isiolo Municipality Manager Osman Halake has called on traders who will benefit from the new market that is still under construction to be patient promising it will be completed in two months' time.

Speaking to the press soon after inspecting the progress of the construction Halake asked for patience from the traders as the Municipality has arranged how to settle them in the market after the completion of the work.

He said that the market will accommodate 1,300 business persons who have been vetted and found to be genuine beneficiaries.

Halake added that all the floor, wall, and roofing work is already finished and the only area of concern was plumbing and electricity fitting.

"Independent borehole will be constructed to cater for the water supply in the market and also we are planning to install a standby generator in order to allow the flow of businesses in the market during the day and night," Halake added.

The municipality manager also added that the county government is planning to establish another 10,000 stores within Isiolo town so that the motorcycles, Lorries, and hawkers could also be accommodated.

"When the market is under control it will enhance revenue collection and also enforcement of rules and regulations become easier to follow," he said.

Halake added that the drawback that had delayed the project was the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions that had been put in place and the last year's general election.



Osman Halake

National Police Service Commission Boss Appears Before Senate Committee On National Security, Defence And Foreign Relations

By: PSCU



National Police Service Commission chairman Eliud Kinuthia.



Baringo Senator William Cheptumo.

Worth Noting:

- The Inspector General of police ‘promoted’ 514 police officers in the ranks of the Assistant Superintendents of Police to Senior Assistant Inspector General across the Service at NPS which is contrary to the Law and that led the Commission through its Executive Committee to revoke the promotions in a letter addressed to the Inspector General in accordance with Regulation 4(4) (d) of NPSC Promotions Regulations, 2015.
- On 8th June 2023, Inspector General responded to the revocation by stating that no person may give direction to the Inspector General, and currently there is no valid delegation instrument in writing that had been given to the IG by the commission even for Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs).

National Police Service Commission Chairperson Mr. Eliud Kinuthia yesterday appeared before Senate Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations chaired by Baringo Senator William Cheptumo to deliberate on the rising tension within the National Police Service.

National Police Service Commission Chief Executive officer Mr. Peter Leley in his presentation on behalf of the Commission, told the committee that the promotions in question are for Gazetted officers above the rank of superintendent for whom the law expressly reserves as mandate of the Commission and

the action by the Inspector General of police to unilaterally promote a category of police officers without following the due process, breaches Article 10 on National Principles and Values and the requirement for merit and fair competition in public appointments and promotions provided for in Article 232 of the Constitution.

The Inspector General of police ‘promoted’ 514 police officers in the ranks of the Assistant Superintendents of Police to Senior Assistant Inspector General across the Service at NPS which is contrary to the Law and that led the Commission through its Executive Committee to

revoke the promotions in a letter addressed to the Inspector General in accordance with Regulation 4(4) (d) of NPSC Promotions Regulations, 2015.

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The Court has already determined the issues in Article 245 (4)(c) and upheld the overarching mandate of the Commission in Article 246 on

promotion and transfers through the case of Republic v Deputy Inspector General and Inspector General of National Police and 32 others in 2013 and its therefore clear that the powers to inter alia determine promotions and transfers within the National Police Service was given to the Commission and any legislation which purported to take away such power and place to any other body will be termed inconsistent with Constitution.

According to the NPSC it is clear that the unilateral decision by respondents to transfer the applicants was not in accordance with the law hence the action was null and void.

On the ways in which the Commission has dealt with the conflict, Mr. Leley affirmed to the Committee that the Commission has issued guidelines to the IG’s office on how to comply with the Law, Regulations on promotions and other Human Resource functions in the service, advertised the 514 vacancies for all qualified police officers to apply for fairness and equity and the Commission has also complied with the Court orders by convening a full Commission meeting.

The Commission requested the Senate Committee on Security in the spirit of creating harmony in the security sector to invite the Inspector General of Police to explain why he is unable to comply with the law, the request was accepted by the lawmakers in order to solve the misunderstanding between the Commission and NPS.



The Senate Committee during yesterday's session.

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Azimio To Launch Signature Collection Drive To Reverse Tax Increment

The Azimio la Umoja One Coalition is blaming what it claims to be unbearable cost of living to the hike in taxes.

The coalition led by Raila Odinga says it will rally Kenyans for a signature collection exercise during a meeting on Friday in Kamukunji, Nairobi to have the tax increment reversed.

The Azimio la Umoja one Coalition, led by their leader Raila Odinga claims it will stay mum as the cost of living in the country goes beyond the roof.

Raila cites what he alleges to be a threat of 30pc increase in fares as a motivating factor to rally Kenya to collect signatures to reverse the trend.

Azimio notes that it will engage in its protest within the confines of the law and advocates for peaceful means of agitating for its demands.

The coalition added that the time has come for Kenyans to unite in one

course and exercise their constitutional right to point out when things are wrong.

Reporting by Michael Mwandigha

Azimio la Umoja One Coalition Raila Odinga.

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Bi-Partisan Talks Hit Snag As Azimio Skips Meeting

The bi-partisan talks have hit yet another snag after the Azimio coalition members failed to turn up at the Bomas of Kenya.

Then Kenya Kwanza Alliance in turn accused their counterparts of lack of interest and commitment in the bi-partisan talks.

Addressing the press Tuesday, committee co-chair, George Murugara, described Azimio's behaviour as an act of defiance and political posturing.

Murugara accused Azimio of suspending the talks without providing a formal letter, adding that there is a framework agreement outlining how either of the two teams can withdraw from the talks.

The MP reiterated the Kenya Kwanza team's commitment to maintaining an open dialogue with Azimio, despite the challenges faced.

The talks were suspended a month ago after the Azimio team issued a list of new demands and were supposed to resume day to focus on the recruitment of IEBC commissioners. Despite the Azimio team's absence,

Murugara affirmed that the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) selection process will continue as scheduled.

KBC

Rarienda MP Otiende Omollo and Azimio bipartisan team chairperson.

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Sports >> *African teams at this month's women's World Cup have been backed to make a huge splash at the global tournament set to be co-hosted by Australia and New Zealand

SPORTS NEWS

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African Teams Tipped To Shine At Women's World Cup In Australia



Linda Gellard, Chargee d'affaires at Australian High Commission in Kenya, with Fifa-accredited referee Mary Njoroge. PHOTO/RAYMOND MAKHAYA.

African teams at this month's women's World Cup have been backed to make a huge splash at the global tournament set to be co-hosted by Australia and New Zealand.

Linda Gellard, the Chargee d'affaires at the Australian High Commission in Kenya, said she expects one month of non-stop football entertainment Down Under during which the continent's representatives are expected to play a major role.

"Look, I am a diplomat...I wouldn't want to say but I think the Africans will give us a run for our money. I might have to cheer for two teams at one time depending on how it goes. I really wish the very best to everyone

but most of all, we just want to welcome you all in Australia," Gellard said.

With the national women's football team not participating in the tournament, Kenyans will be naturally aligning with their African sisters, including Nigeria, Zambia, Morocco and South Africa.

Nigeria have been pooled in Group B alongside the co-hosts as well as Republic of Ireland and Canada.

Having made their first World Cup appearance in 1995 in Sweden, Gellard is bullish that the Matildas can go all the way on home soil by overcoming their more fancied opponents.

"We are expecting great

things...all of the Australians are really behind the Matildas. I have two children as well – a boy and girl – and I think it is great that they can follow men's teams as much as they can follow women's teams...and I know both of my children will be cheering them on. We are really proud of them," she said.

The diplomat noted that women's football in Kenya can also grow to another level, similar to Australia where the sport was not warmly received by the masses when it first began in the 1970s.

"I think we can learn what sports brings to people; that it is about having a go, which is what Australia is all about. You don't

have to best...you don't have to be on a World Cup team. You just have to be on the field and participate, give it your best. I think that's what Australians are good at, and it is what we are hoping to show the world," Gellard said.

Gellard was speaking at the Kenyatta University playing grounds on Tuesday during a media session with Fifa-accredited referee Mary Njoroge who is among 107 match officials who will be on duty at the tournament from July 20- August 20.

This will be her second appearance at the quadrennial games after her debut in France in 2019.

Njoroge has also officiated at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, CAF Confederations Cup, Afcon Under 17 and the Afcon qualifier between Central Africa Republic (CAR) and Burundi, among other fixtures.

Gellard saluted Njoroge, encouraging her to enjoy herself even as millions glue their eyes to their TV screens during the 32-team tournament.

"Mary is an extraordinary professional and she needs no advice. The only thing I can tell her is to enjoy it...Australia is a ready to host you. We have very close connections with East Africa and in fact, the young Australian of the Year is from Kenya (Awer Mabil). He grew up here in Kenya and also funded a humanitarian organization called Barefoot to Boots to help refugees here in Kenya play football," she explained.

Gellard added: "So, she will get a very warm welcome in Australia because we welcome East Africa from a critical point of view. I think she will be home."

Australia is also set to host the 2027 Netball World Cup, 2029 Women's Rugby World Cup as well as the 2032 Olympics in Brisbane.

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Yaya Toure hopes the assistant coach job at Standard Liege will help him move one step closer to managing in the Premier League in the future.

Yaya Toure Is Determined To One Day Manage A Top Premier League Team



Yaya Toure. Photo/TEAMTALK MEDIA

Yaya Toure hopes the assistant coach job at Standard Liege will help him move one step closer to managing in the Premier League in the future.

The 40-year-old, who lit up the top league as a player with Manchester City, has joined Carl Hoefkens' staff at the Belgian club after a spell coaching Tottenham Under-16s.

Toure enjoyed his time at Hotspur Way, admitting he would one day love to return there, but felt the time was right to go and coach first-team football.

He is happy to learn from his boss Hoefkens but has desires to become a manager in the future.

"One hundred per cent, that is my plan and idea," he said.

"For me I have to go step after step, I am on a learning journey.

"I am very open to everything, just carrying on what I am doing.

"Why not the Premier League? I don't know how long it is going to take, maybe sooner or later, for me I am always open for it.

"I know it's going to be a big challenge and coaches' jobs are becoming tougher and tougher. You see coaches surviving for a maximum four or five months.

"That is what it is now, that is the reality.

"For me, I am quite patient and I have to take my steps very carefully and in the right manner. That's why I am going to Belgium because I want to learn from top coaches like Carl, who has huge experience."

Toure, who previously held positions at Ukrainian side Olimpik Donetsk and Russian team

Akhmat Grozny, has not ruled out the possibility of one day returning to Spurs.

"Tottenham did not stand in my way and they let me go and I think that was brilliant," he added.

"I would love to carry on in Tottenham because my belief and development was to try to work with the grown men.

"If the opportunity to go back was there then why not, because what Tottenham did for me was incredible, they allowed me to work there and develop as a coach and for what they did for me I will never be able to thank them enough.

"They opened the door for me and allowed me to express myself in the right manner and do the things I wanted to do.

"That is a real positive for me. Of

course at the end of the day I move on but Tottenham is always going to be a great club and one that will always mean something to me."

Toure will first put his coaching skills to use on the launch of Amazon's Prime Day, as a Prime customer can buy a private coaching session for them and three friends.

He added: "The experience will be unmissable. For me it is very positive and I think this idea with Amazon is great.

"It is important we share experiences and talk to them about football and show them inside it and an understanding of it."

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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Opinion: How We Combat Increased Road Accidents In Kenya

By: Elijah Maingi
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Worth Noting:

- **Strengthening Road Infrastructure.** One of the primary contributors to road accidents is the poor condition of infrastructure. It is imperative for the government to invest in upgrading and maintaining roads, including the expansion and improvement of critical highways and rural road networks.
- **Comprehensive Driver Education and Training.** A lack of proper driver education and training is a significant factor behind the increasing number of accidents.
- **Enhancing Public Transportation.** Improving public transportation systems can help reduce the number of vehicles on the road, subsequently decreasing traffic congestion and accident risks.



Increased Road Accidents In Kenya.

Kenya, like many other developing nations, is facing a persistent challenge of escalating road accidents. These tragic incidents not only claim countless lives but also impose a significant economic burden on the nation. Of late, the Nakuru-Kericho Highway has been on the headlines where tens of people have lost their lives and others injured. To reverse this alarming trend, it is crucial for the government, communities, and individuals to come together and implement effective measures aimed at improving road safety. In this opinion piece, I will explore actionable solutions that can make a tangible difference in reducing road accidents and creating a safer driving environment in Kenya.

Strengthening Road Infrastructure.

One of the primary contributors to road accidents is the poor condition of infrastructure. It is imperative for the government to invest in upgrad-

ing and maintaining roads, including the expansion and improvement of critical highways and rural road networks. This will not only enhance the overall quality of the roads but also help reduce congestion, improve signage, and provide better lighting, resulting in a safer driving experience for all.

Comprehensive Driver Education and Training.

A lack of proper driver education and training is a significant factor behind the increasing number of accidents. The government should introduce more stringent requirements for obtaining a driving license, ensuring that aspiring drivers undergo thorough theoretical and practical training. Additionally, implementing periodic refresher courses for licensed drivers can help reinforce safe driving practices and educate them about new traffic regulations and road safety measures.

Strict Enforcement of Traffic Laws.

Strict enforcement of traffic laws is vital to deter reckless driving and ensure compliance. Authorities should increase traffic police presence on roads, especially in accident-prone areas, and introduce stricter penalties for traffic violations. Utilizing technology such as speed cameras and traffic surveillance systems can assist in monitoring and penalizing offenders consistently. Additionally, fostering a culture of zero tolerance for drunk driving, speeding, and other dangerous behaviors is essential in reducing accidents.

Promoting Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety.

Road safety initiatives should not solely focus on motorists. Pedestrians and cyclists, who are often vulnerable road users, require equal attention. Implementing measures such as constructing pedestrian-friendly sidewalks, installing

safe crossing points, and promoting awareness campaigns about pedestrian and cyclist rights and responsibilities can significantly enhance their safety. Encouraging the use of protective gear, such as helmets for cyclists, should also be prioritized.

Enhancing Public Transportation.

Improving public transportation systems can help reduce the number of vehicles on the road, subsequently decreasing traffic congestion and accident risks. The government should invest in expanding and modernizing public transport networks, including buses and trains, ensuring they are affordable, reliable, and accessible to all. Additionally, enforcing strict vehicle maintenance and safety standards for public transport operators can help prevent accidents caused by mechanical failures.

Community Engagement and Education.

Creating a collective responsibility for road safety requires active engagement from communities. Public awareness campaigns and educational programs should be conducted regularly to disseminate knowledge about safe driving practices, responsible road behavior, and the consequences of reckless driving. Engaging schools, colleges, and other community organizations can be an effective way to instill road safety values among the youth and create a lasting impact.

The menace of road accidents in Kenya demands urgent attention and collaborative efforts. By implementing the above-proposed solutions, we can pave the way toward a safer future. Let us all join hands and work towards creating a nation where road accidents become a thing of the past, and every journey is a safe and secure one.