



What An Animal Of A Writer: A Eulogy To Francis Asimwe Diving Deep Into His Infamous Poem, 'Gentlemen, I've A Ask'
For the last couple of hours, days, weeks, and months – probably even a year, I have been thinking critically, writing in silence and creating new stories.

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The **MT. KENYA TIMES** Creative Rewards
Daily ePAPER

Thursday, September 21, 2023

No. 00875 www.mountkenyatimes.co.ke

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News>>National Assembly Leadership Urged To Work And Walk With Stakeholders To Transform The Country

P. 8. During the second day of the National Assembly's inaugural leadership retreat, spearheaded by Speaker Moses Wetang'ula, the focus was on refining and enhancing the legislative agenda.



News>>Senate Land Committee Meets Petitioners From Marungu, Taita Taveta County Over Eviction Threats

P. 12. Senate Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources yesterday met with Marungu residents concerning threatened eviction from their ancestral land by Holy Catholic Parish Mwanda in Taita Taveta County.

Kenya To Deepen Collaboration With China In Tackling Emerging Security Threats: Omollo

 **Interior Principal Secretary Raymond Omollo said Tuesday when he delivered Kenya's inaugural speech at the Ministerial Roundtable at the Global Public Security Cooperation Forum in Lianyungang, China, that the move will play a critical role in boosting Kenya's capacity to tackle the emerging security threats.**



PS Omollo further pointed out that Kenya's police officers have been receiving technical training on the security and management of large-scale infrastructure from China/MINA

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Kenya Airways Donates Boeing 737-700 To Mang'u High School

By: Zamzam Jama and William Muchiri
@themtkenyetimes

Worth Noting:

- “This donation is true to our commitment to nurturing talent and driving economic growth, not only in Kenya but also in the broader African continent. We eagerly anticipate witnessing the profound impact this initiative will have on Mangu High School,” he said.
- On his part, Murkomen lauded the initiative saying it will set up incubators for innovation and talent development, equipping students and youth with the tactical, technical, and technological know-how needed for the job market.



Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen (left) with Mang'u High School BoM chairman Anthony Mithanga (right) inside the Boeing, which Kenya Airways donated to the institution..

National carrier Kenya Airways (KQ) has donated a decommissioned Kenya Airways aircraft to Mang'u High School. Cabinet Secretary for Roads, Transport, and Public Works Kipchumba Murkomen presided over the handing over ceremony where the airline underscored that the move would help boost the practicality of aviation courses in the education sector.

“Today we have donated a Boeing 737-700 aircraft to Mang'u High School to enhance its aviation learning preparation. This act serves as a commitment to support learning institutions and nurturing the next generation of aviators,” KQ officials said.

The Airways Chief Executive Officer Allan Kilavuka exuded confidence in the impact of the donation adding that it would help to nurture students' talents.

“This donation is true to our commitment to nurturing talent and driving economic growth, not only in Kenya but also in the broader African continent. We eagerly anticipate witnessing the profound

impact this initiative will have on Mangu High School,” he said.

On his part, Murkomen lauded the initiative saying it will set up incubators for innovation and talent development, equipping students and youth with the tactical, technical, and technological know-how needed for the job market.

“The growth of Kenya's aviation sector is of paramount importance to this government due to its ripple effects, which include the creation of jobs, expansion of markets, facilitation of faster movement of goods and people, growth of regional economies, and positioning the country as the aviation hub of Africa,” said the Cabinet Secretary.

The CS stressed the value of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in advancing the government's education and aviation reforms, saying such collaborations play a crucial role in providing young people with access to essential resources and opportunities for building successful careers.

“The donation is an affirmation of KQ's

support for the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) which focuses on accentuating students' interests in particular areas of study, harnessing their innate

talents, converting their passions into careers, and transforming abstract theories into practicable concepts,” he said.

He added, “The growth of Kenya's aviation sector is of paramount importance to this Government due to its ripple effects which include creation of jobs, expansion of markets, facilitation of faster movement of goods and people, growth of regional economies and positioning the country as the aviation hub of Africa”.

Other leaders who attended the handing over ceremony included KQ Board Chair Maj. Gen. Michael Gichangi, Mang'u High School Board of Management chairman Anthony Mithanga, the School's Chief Principal John Kuria, the project sponsors KCB Group Director of Marketing Rosalind Gichuru and Crown Paints MD Rakesh Rao.

Also present were the school's alumni led by their Vice Chair Ronald Kibaara as well as a number of current students.

Mithanga thanked the National Carrier saying the donation will boost the students have interest in pursuing aviation based careers.



Leaders pose for a photo beside the Boeing 737-700 yesterday.

The Mt. Kenya Times



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

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs receive Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki when he launches the Teso North Sub County Headquarters at Amukura. Kindiki pledged to improve services at Busia and Malaba One-Stop Border Posts by eradicating corruption and increasing revenue collection, warning corrupt officers to drop wrong dealings and instead offer quality services.



Action Against Hunger has donated non-food items to the West Pokot County Health Department to protect children in hospitals from adverse weather conditions. The items include blankets, water dispensers, bedsheets, bibs, tables, and more. The initiative was initiated in response to El Nino-related heavy downpours.



Meru County is identifying areas in nine constituencies that may be affected by the anticipated October-December El Nino rains. County Commissioner Fred Ndunga is urging each department to contribute by identifying challenges and implementing timely intervention measures. The final report will guide mitigation measures to contain flooding and pollution. Ndunga urged sector groups to move quickly to have the final report and implementation matrix ready by the end of the week. He also urged humanitarian service providers to remain alert, as heavy downpours are expected during the national examination period.



The Kenyan government plans to introduce cabotage regulations to boost local shipping business participation. Cabinet Secretary Salim Mvurya argues that despite the industry taking 90 per cent of trade, Kenyan shipping lines still lag behind in international competition. He suggests that existing maritime transport operators' regulations are insufficient, necessitating the development of cabotage regulations.

Very Few PWDs Have Been Employed In The Public Sector – CS Bore

By: PSCU

Only 1.4 per cent of persons with disabilities have been employed in the public sector.

This is according to the Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection Florence Bore.

CS Bore who appeared before the Senate yesterday to answer questions from Senators said that the 1.4 percent covered Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices, Ministries and State Departments, Public Universities, Statutory Commissions and Authorities, State Corporations and SAGAs and TVETs but minus those working in County Governments.

The CS was responding to the



Cabinet Secretary Florence Bore in the Senate yesterday

question by Sen. George Mbugua who had sought a report from the ministry on all persons with disabilities employed in the public sector indicating the level of compliance with Section 13 of the Persons with Disabilities Act, No. 14 of 2003 that

requires reservation of 5 per cent of all casual, emergency and contractual positions for PWDs.

Despite efforts put in place to embrace the PDWs, CS Bore told the Senators that the provision is weak on enforcement of the 5 per cent re-

quirement.

She however revealed that her Ministry has developed the Persons with Disabilities Bill 2023 which is currently before the National Assembly to address the shortcomings.

The Bill proposes appointment of an Inspector who will ensure enforcement of the provisions of the Act in totality.

The Bill further provides for establishment of Disability Mainstreaming Units which will carry out regular inspections to ensure implementation and compliance with provisions of the Act.

The CS told the legislators that her ministry has already put in place measures to ensure compliance with the legal provision among them incorporation of the Disability Mainstreaming Performance Indicator in the Public Performance Management Framework which will help

track and report employment of persons with disabilities.

Through the National Council for Persons with Disabilities, the government has developed a Career Portal to support persons with disabilities to access information on employment opportunities and connect with potential employers.

“The government is finalising on the development of the National Policy for Persons with Disabilities to set out obligations by all employers in the public and private sectors in regard to employment of persons with disabilities,” submitted CS Bore.

Furthermore, CS Bore told the House that the government has been carrying out awareness through media and will continue doing so to educate the public on disability issues.

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Nyeri Governor Kahiga Meets With Nyerian Diaspora Leadership In New York

By: Our Correspondent

@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- He noted that there is no greater calling than giving hope to the hopeless and compassion to the needy. He also noted with satisfaction the other activities carried out by the DAC members through the academy, including food security projects like sack gardening, square-foot gardens and environmental sustainability projects like adopting a forest in Tumutumu and other parts of Nyeri.
- He went further to highlight some of the projects he hoped to partner with the diasporans.
- In response, Prof. Ndiang'ui, expressed the Nyerian Diaspora's pride in the leadership of Governor Kahiga and his cabinet.



Nyeri County governor Mutahi Kahiga with Nyerians in diaspora.

Nyeri County governor Mutahi Kahiga met with a number of Nyerians living in the United States of America.

This was in the sidelines of the ongoing United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) forum where the governor had a historic meeting with Nyeri Diaspora leadership in Downtown Manhattan in New York.

The meeting was attended by selected Nyeri County Diaspora Advisory Council (DAC) members.

Whereas this is not the first time that the governor met with the Nyeri diasporans, it was the first time that he met them since the appointment of Prof. Peter Ndiang'ui as the Honorary Ambassador, his deputy Sarah Munyiri and the other members of the Nyeri Diaspora Advisory Committee

(DAC).

Through these appointments, the governor has established a formal connection with his people in the diaspora.

In his speech, Kahiga expressed satisfaction with the Nyerian Diasporians' work through DAC for the people at home and beyond.

He singled out the work of the Nyeri Diaspora Leadership Academy which educates 27 students from low-income families in Nyeri.

He noted that there is no greater calling than giving hope to the hopeless and compassion to the needy. He also noted with satisfaction the other activities carried out by the DAC members through the academy, including food security projects like sack gardening, square-foot gardens and environmen-

tal sustainability projects like adopting a forest in Tumutumu and other parts of Nyeri.

He went further to highlight some of the projects he hoped to partner with the diasporans.

In response, Prof. Ndiang'ui, expressed the Nyerian Diaspora's pride in the leadership of Governor Kahiga and his cabinet.

He noted that Nyeri leads Kenya in essential areas like literacy rates, development projects, loan repayments and anti-corruption.

He pointed out that the effective leadership at home and the genuine efforts to protect the diaspora investments have served as an impetus to invest more at home.

He pointed out that the potential in

the diaspora is enormous, but people are always held back by corruption and other malpractices at home.

The creation of DAC has built confidence in the leadership at home. This will inevitably increase the financial and talent remittances. The honorary ambassador urged other Kenyan Governors to initiate such channels to reach out to their people in the diaspora.

In the discussions that followed, several members of DAC presented some of the forthcoming projects. Mainah Kaigi of Texas pointed out that a project dubbed "Don't Mess With Nyeri" will be carried out with the NDA students and their families in December. This is in line with the "Don't Mess with Texas" project, which prevails in the state where he resides.

Dr. Robert Chiuri, the President of One Voice Consortium, noted the award presented to Governor Kahiga due to his exemplary leadership that has set him and Nyeri apart from other counties.

He also presented a food security project that will help mainly the people of Kieni.

Other DAC members noted that they are doing several projects with the cabinet members, expressing their confidence in the Nyeri cabinet.

After a request from the honorary ambassador, Governor Kahiga noted that his cabinet would investigate creating an office that would centralize the mobilization of harnessing the immense potential of the diaspora resources.

This office will assume the responsibility of coordinating the diaspora-initiated projects.

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National Assembly Leadership Urged To Work And Walk With Stakeholders To Transform The Country

By: PSCU

During the second day of the National Assembly’s inaugural leadership retreat, spearheaded by Speaker Moses Wetang’ula, the focus was on refining and enhancing the legislative agenda.

Lady Justice Njoki Ndung’u, representing the Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, stressed the Judiciary’s acknowledgement of Parliament’s role as a co-guardian of the nation’s constitutional values and principles.

Lady Justice Ndung’u pointed out that the separation of powers principle was intended to instil a sense of duty and accountability rather than create divisions.

She underscored the Judiciary’s responsibility to interpret the law, ensuring the rule of law and safeguarding citizens’ rights and freedoms. In contrast, the National Assembly represents the people’s will, formulating policies and enacting laws in

line with the nation’s aspirations.

“It is inevitable given our distinct roles that we may at times find ourselves on differing paths. However these differences should never be seen as conflicts but an opportunity for dialogue, understanding and growth,” said thd Lady Justice.

She emphasized the significance of a democratic system with robust checks and balances, promoting harmonious collaboration among the three arms of government.

She also emphasized that differences between arms of government should be viewed as opportunities for dialogue, understanding, and growth, fostering respect and mutual recognition of constitutional mandates.

“The two arms of government should not view each other through lenses of confrontation or divergence,” posed Justice Ndung’u

Eng. James Mwangi, Director and Chairman of the Public-Private Dialogue and Thought Leadership Board Committee at the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), highlighted the critical link between



Lady Justice Njoki Ndung’u addressing the parliamentarians

the legislative process and Kenya’s private sector competitiveness. He emphasized that the National Assembly plays a pivotal role in policy and legislative entrepreneurship, essential for improving the country’s ease of doing business, competitiveness, inclusive growth, and shared prosperity.

Parliament, he noted, reflects the will, aspirations, and needs of the people, emphasizing the importance of aligning with the nation’s political, economic, and social realities.

“We need to work and walk together on this transformative Agenda,” said Eng. Mwangi.

Ms. Diana Gichengo, in her role as the coordinator of the Institute for Social Accountability (TISA), discussed “Remobilizing Citizens and Institutions for Debt Accountability and Responsiveness for Economic Recovery in Kenya.”

Their objective is to promote political accountability in Kenya’s public

finance management. She identified key drivers of the high cost of living, including debt servicing, unsustainable public spending, high taxation, and inadequate economic policies in trade, investment, production, and agriculture.

The Speaker called on leadership and Members to rise above party differences, emphasizing the need for collaboration and unity to address the nation’s challenges and promote its growth and prosperity.

Calls On The Best Way To Conserve Forests

By: Anne Sabuni
 @themtkenyetimes

Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests Beatrice Mbula has called for fast-tracking the renewal of Participatory Management plans for the Community Forest Association (CFA) in a bid to boost forest conservation efforts.

Ms. Mbula said that forest stations across the country needed to be managed according to a Participatory Management Plan, for sustainable conservation.

Speaking when she presided over the signing of five Plans in Nakuru County for Menengai, Bahati, Kiptunga, Logoman and Dundori CFAs, Mbula noted that the Forest stations without plans including Molo, Likia, Barget, Saino and Mariashoni would be established.

“It is a legal requirement that every forest be run with the plans as they layout the obligations of the CFA with the rights of the users as well as the KFS’ obligations. Issues like conflict resolution and when we can terminate the agreement are well



spelt out in the plans. The community has also proposed activities they hope to undertake including of food crops alongside tree planting for food security while ensuring the survival of trees is high,” said the Conservator.

The Participatory Plans bind the communities living around the forests to work towards conserving the forests while benefitting from ecotourism, beekeeping, herbal medicine harvesting, firewood, and crop

cultivation among others.

“Sustainable management will help the country avert climate change effects, as more rains will be absorbed by the forests and gradually released into our rivers. Climate change has necessitated the quest for more tree planting, so we must talk less and do more to ensure the achievement of 15 billion trees by 2032,” added Mbula, noting that the CFAs have been key in tree seedling production.

World Wide Fund for Nature

(WWF) Director for Conservation Jackson Kiplagat urged the CFAs to implement the plans to the letter for economic empowerment.

“Njoro river and surrounding catchment areas are important for the survival of various ecosystems including the wildlife at Nakuru National Park and we hope to restore about 9500 ha of land including private farms, for sustainable management,” added Kiplagat.

County Forest Conservator Mbatha

Masibo said re-afforestation will ensure a healthier environment and improved livelihoods noting that 95 percent of what is to be planted would be outside the forest land. She called on farmers to take up tree planting on their lands to cover-up for the deficit.

Menengai CFA Chairperson Titus Mugi noted that the 7, 000ha forest had been strategically positioned for ecotourism in Nakuru County noting that it boasted as a natural resource with 90 square Kilometers of a crater being the 2nd largest in Africa, with Mau Caves full with millions of bats.

“This has been an open forest for so long now and we look forward to an electric conservative fence of about 55km to be completed in three months, through the partnership with Green Zones,” Mugi said.

He called on stakeholders to come up with hostel facilities to accommodate the numerous visitors to the crater, adding that the forest also served the academia as they researched on herbal medicines.

Kenya To Deepen Collaboration With China In Tackling Emerging Security Threats: Omollo

By: BRUHAN MAKONG
Capital News

Worth Noting:

- Furthermore, PS Omollo revealed that the state is currently enhancing its Command, Control, and Communication capacity to boost the operational efficiency of the National Police Service through the deployment of new hardware and state-of-the-art technology.
- Turning attention to border security, he noted that Kenya is actively working towards securing its borders with neighboring countries through integrated border management.
- Additionally, Omollo said that Kenya is seeking technical assistance, training, and capacity building for its border personnel and law enforcement agencies including the Kenya Coast Guard Service to bolster border and maritime security.
- “It is our hope that through international cooperation, we will acquire more state-of-the-art surveillance equipment and enhance our situational awareness and border control,” he said.

Kenya is seeking to strengthen co-operation with China on intelligence sharing, joint security operations and security management in a strategic move to bolster its security capabilities in the wake of escalating global threats.

Interior Principal Secretary Raymond Omollo said Tuesday when he delivered Kenya’s inaugural speech at the Ministerial Roundtable at the Global Public Security Cooperation Forum in Lianyungang, China, that the move will play a critical role in boosting Kenya’s capacity to tackle the emerging security threats.

He emphasized that the rapidly evolving global security landscape necessitates a unified approach to preserving peace.

PS Omollo singled out, terrorism, cyberattacks, transnational crime, regional conflicts and climate change among major challenges posing a threat to global peace.

“Given current trends and the inter-connectivity of our world through globalization, no nation remains impervious to these threats. However, these new challenges also offer us opportunities for strategic reevaluation and collaboration.” He said.

He noted that the forum themed ‘One World, Common Security’ sets a platform for Kenya and China to engage in candid conversations and to firm up strategic issues that bind the two countries in the pursuit of sustainable peace, security and development cooperation.

“In the face of these shared risks, we must also create global resilience,” Omollo said adding that Kenya and China regard each other as equal partners with unique con-



Interior CS Kithure Kindiki Showcases Impressive Skills during Inspection of Police Training College

tributions to realization of mutual interests.

He added that Kenya is looking to engage in more bilateral and multilateral security agreements with China and other partners.

In his address, PS Omollo further pointed out that Kenya’s police officers have been receiving technical training on the security and management of large-scale infrastructure from China.

He stressed the need for expansion of the training programme to include other topical issues such as transnational crime and maritime security so as to incorporate more law enforcement agencies.

The Internal Security PS expressed optimism that ongoing collaborations with China will expedite the Police Equipment Modernization Programme, aimed at equipping security officers deployed in high-risk areas and contribute to mobility and modern communication systems.

The government has allocated resources for modern weaponry, advanced machinery, and reliable personal protective gear for security agents.

Furthermore, PS Omollo revealed that the state is currently enhancing its Command, Control, and Communication capacity to boost the operational efficiency of the National Police Service through the deployment of new hardware and state-of-the-art technology.

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“It is our hope that through international cooperation, we will acquire more state-of-the-art surveillance equipment and enhance our situational awareness and border control,” he said.

PS Omollo also voiced concerns about the escalating impact of climate change, identifying prolonged drought and climate-induced migration as major threats to the nation’s stability.

He stressed that the region’s violent conflicts have resulted from competing for limited natural resources.

Regarding the influx of migrants, he cautioned that it could strain diplomatic relations and potentially provoke social tensions, citing instances in some refugee camps.

Kenya has adopted a cross-border cooperation approach to address these challenges in the best interests of its citizens.

“We hope that more partners can join us in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, and we look forward to the implementation of the recommendations captured during this Global Public Security Forum,” he said.

He affirmed Kenya’s unwavering commitment to strengthening bilateral relations with China and all international partners.



PS Omollo further pointed out that Kenya’s police officers have been receiving technical training on the security and management of large-scale infrastructure from China/MINA

No One Has Ever Been Both Faithful To God And Lazy!



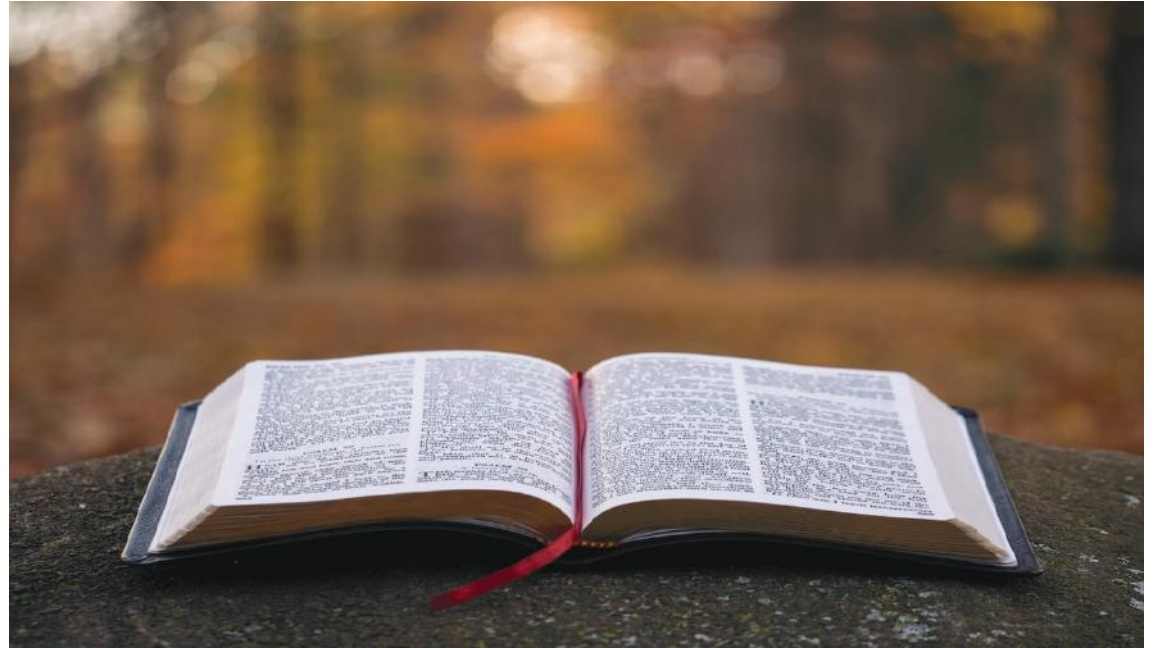
By: Eric Musa
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The disciplines of work are practical disciplines. The Scriptures are very explicit here. Energy Both the Old and New Testaments are crystal-clear on the necessity of energetic work as opposed to laziness. Proverbs mocks the false wisdom of the lazy: “Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him. The sluggard says, “There is a lion in the road, a fierce lion roaming the streets!” As a door turns on its hinges, so a sluggard turns on his bed. The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth. The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer discreetly.” (Proverbs 26:12-16; cf. 6:6-11).

The New Testament epistles likewise disparage all laziness — sort

of a spiritual ultra slim-fast for sluggards. Evidently the Thessalonian church had some “brothers” who ostensibly lived “by faith” while they sponged off the church — Christian parasites, we might say. For such, Paul gave explicit advice: “In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us” (2 Thessalonians 3:6) — “For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: ‘If a man will not work, he shall not eat’” (v. 10). In our Lord’s Parable of the Talents the master tells the servant who had done nothing with his talent, “You wicked, lazy servant!” (Matthew 25:26).

No one has ever been both faithful to God and lazy! It is impossible. But perhaps the most withering epithet comes from Paul: “If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever” (1 Timothy 5:8). There is no escaping it — godliness is associated with hard work. You cannot be lazy and be a godly em-



ployee (or employer for that matter). This said, it must be understood that the Scriptures do not commend the workaholicism that comes from pursuing wealth and a career instead of God’s glory. In this respect it should be noted that the hard-working Puritans were zealous in enforcing Sabbath laws without which employers would have made people work seven days a week. The bottom line for us,

men, is: Are we truly hard-working? And if so, are we doing it for God or merely for self?

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



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Gachagua's Remarks In Colombia Were Blown Out Of Proportion By His Critics



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Worth Noting:

- The chief Executives had agreed to dispatch their teams to come and share their experiences with Kenyan roasters as well as offering them some training. This move will help the value of our coffee to go up.
- The Gachagua was privy to the fact that Ethiopia was our main competitor in this region.
- While in Colombia, Gachagua, who had been assigned by President William Ruto the role of spearheading reforms in the Coffee sub sector, took the opportunity to market Kenya as a tourism destination.
- Kenya is the home to all breeds and species of the wild animals. We leads and others follow.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua .

A few days ago, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua was in Colombia where he represented Kenya at the Global Coffee Producers and Roaster Forum.

The Kenyan deputy President, one of those listed to make a key address delivered a powerful presentation.

He mainly dwelt on articulating the interests of Kenyan coffee farmers. He demonstrated a high level of eloquence and precision.

Listen to this. Our coffee have good taste and it is of high quality. It is among the best in the world.

We grow a lot of coffee in both small and high scale farming.

At the sidelines, the DP met and held talks with the Chief Executives of the world's leading coffee buying companies. He signed a number of agreements and lucrative deals with them.

He managed to woo new buyers. For those already buying our coffee, he convinced them to increase the volumes of their imports.

The issue of value additions would not escape his mind. He managed to convince the leading companies involved

in coffee roasting to support Kenya in these endeavours.

As the government of Kenya, we look forward to see our farmers put money into their pockets.

So, your interventions will help us greatly. We thank you for this.

The chief Executives had agreed to dispatch their teams to come and share their experiences with Kenyan roasters as well as offering them some training. This move will help the value of our coffee to go up.

The Gachagua was privy to the fact that Ethiopia was our main competitor in this region.

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Kenya is the home to all breeds and species of the wild animals. We leads and others follow.

Feel free to visit us and watch these famous animals.

We love visitors. Kenya hakuna matatu.

The DP cited tigers as some of the species. His critics in Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Coalition and thier sympathizers would pick this to renew thier onslaught against him.

The DP did not know what he was 'doing and saying' in Colombia.

In Kenya, we have leopards. He does not know the difference between leopards and tigers.

To me, these attacks were cheap and raw.

We know the two animals come from same family of carnivorous.

The DP sought to clarity what he meant a few days after jetting back to the country.

He rightly stated that he comes from the mountain and in a community that does not differentiate between the wild animals.

When you mention a tiger, my community thinks that you are talking about leopard and visa versa.

For me, this once again demonstrated that the critics were in a state of desperation. This is because their previous efforts to maliciously portray Gachagua as a weak leader and put him into a

collision course with the President had failed to bear fruits.

This explains why they would not see anything positive he did in Colombia. Instead they would pick a petty issue of the animals.

Gachagua deserves to be commended for having showcased Kenya as tourist destination.

He was fully aware that tourism is the second foreign exchange earners after the Agriculture which is the backbone of our economy.

So, all Gachagua's activities were aimed at boosting the growth of the Kenyan economy. Kenyans got value of their money in this trip.

For Azimio leadership, I urge them to look for something else. The politics around the wild animals have fell flat.

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

Senate Land Committee Meets Petitioners From Marungu, Taita Taveta County Over Eviction Threats

By: PSCU

Senate Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources yesterday met with Marungu residents concerning threatened eviction from their ancestral land by Holy Catholic Parish Mwanda in Taita Taveta County. Petitioners informed the committee that in the year 2007 the Holy Rosary Catholic Church approached the elders of Marungu area and requested to be allocated land for purposes of putting up and running a mission which was to start an orphanage and a church. The elders at that time saw it wise to donate a maximum of 75 acres for the Catholic mission and a date to identify the ideal site for the same was set. “On the site identification day, the elders were accompanied by the area Chief and Sub-Chief where the area chief directed that 1000 acres should be identified for the mission and not 75 acres.

This did not auger well with the elders present and the site identification exercise was not concluded as the meeting ended unceremoniously with those present scattering in different ways,” Mr. Samuel Mwasaru narrated to the committee. Murungu residents also informed the lawmakers that, since the year 2007 there has not been a meeting of the elders and the authorities to identify the 1000 acres for the mission nor the initial 75 acres which was to be identified. In the year 2009, the area Chief together with church officials brought in a surveyor to demarcate and excise 1000 acres for the church who declined to do the demarcation since it was evident that the land was already settled on by Marungu residents. In addition, the petitioners brought to attention of the committee that, the Ministry of lands in May this year set-up an adjudication scheme covering Marungu area named “Ngoloki Adjudication Scheme”. The committee was informed that the



Senate Committee members and some of the petitioners during yesterday's meeting



Some of the petitioners

on-going adjudication of the area has since omitted to adjudicate approximately 1000 acres in the area for the reason that the land is allegedly already adjudicated and titled in favour of the Catholic mission. “People of Marungu are now facing eviction from their ancestral land courtesy of unscrupulous dealings between the church and some land officials as well as current and former administration officers, the petitioners herein have tried to have the matter resolved by the National Land Commission in the year 2021 to which no response has been made thus far,” Mr. Samuel added. Petitioners want the committee to urgently investigate the issues raised in the petition and use its constitutional powers to demand for explanations from relevant officers and authorities. They further want the committee to demand correction of the injustice that is already underway and likely to culminate in a security and humanitarian crisis. The committee should also demand that the 1000 acres be adjudicated in favour of residents already residing in the said parcel of land as they are the rightful land owners. Legislators resolved to invite National Lands Commission (NLC), Ministry of Lands and Catholic Church to shed light on the matter.

Don't Reduce Retirement Age, Unionists Tell Parliament

By: Muoki Charles
@themkenyetimes

Trade Unionists have called on Parliament to shelve plans to reduce the retirement age to 55 years, citing a breach of contractual terms. They say that as Trade Unions, they will oppose the plans as stakeholders and civil servants have not been consulted. Speaking in Thika, the Unionists said the Collective Bargaining Agreement that they have with the employees lasts until they reach the age of 60 years and should not be breached. Led by Thomas Kipkemboi, the Deputy Secretary General of Kenya Plantation and Allied Workers Union (KPAWU), they said it would have made sense if the 55-year retirement age was introduced to new employees. He said both civil servants and those in the private sector mandatory retirement age should remain at 60 years and 55 years for those willing

to retire voluntarily. They said those currently working under permanent and pensionable terms have their retirement age outlined in their pay slips and reducing it through legislation would face legal challenges. “The contractual terms in the pay slips have the civil servants retire after attaining 60 years. How then do legislators think they can legislate on this? This might only apply to new employees. We hope the country’s workforce will not suffer in the long term due to such uncertainties,” said Kipkemboi. He said at 55 years old, most workers are strong, highly experienced, and can deliver and that losing such a group might be detrimental to service delivery. The Public Service Amendment Bill, 2023 sponsored by Embakasi Central MP Benjamin Gathiru is currently on the Committee stage and seeks to reduce the retirement age for civil servants to 55 years. The bill seeks to create more jobs in the public service.



Thomas Kipkemboi, the Deputy Secretary General of Kenya Plantation and Allied Workers Union (KPAWU), exchanging CBA documents

Pharmacy And Poisons Board To Develop Guidelines On Drug Safety

By: Roselyne Kavoo
@themtkenyentimes

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board is in the process of drafting new guidelines on good pharmaceutical practices in Kenya.

The Board's chairperson of the Training and Assessment Technical Committee Prof. Francis Ndemo has said the guidelines seek to improve the quality of pharmacy practice and training.

He said medication is now the third leading cause of death in the country hence the need to address drug safety and inappropriate use of medication.

"Drug related morbidity is on the rise and these guidelines will help us ensure that we give the best pharmaceutical care in the country," said Prof. Ndemo.

Speaking yesterday in Machakos during a stakeholders' forum, the chairperson, who is also the Dean, School of Pharmacy at United States International University (USIU), said



Some of the participants.

besides the safety issue the guidelines, the Board would also address manufacturing of poor quality drugs, supply chain management and primary healthcare as envisioned in the Universal Health Care (UHC).

"Pharmacists and pharmaceutical

technologists need to be more engaged in the provision of primary healthcare. We intend to come up with the best guidelines for pharmaceutical care and we have benchmarked in other countries for the best practices," said Prof. Ndemo.

He noted that medication is the most widely used intervention in health care and called on stakeholders to pay more attention and articulate the levels of practice for pharmacy personnel.

"Medicines being a good interven-

tion in health care also carry a lot of risks and there is need to have personnel that can offer the best care to the patients," he said.

Prof. Ndemo noted that pharmacists would have shared responsibility with medical doctors on drug therapy outcomes.

"Pharmacists were never responsible for drug outcomes. This was the responsibility of the medical doctors. However, medication if not properly handled or monitored may not have the best outcomes," he noted.

The chairperson added that pharmacy personnel should ensure that the medication given is the most appropriate, safe and the patient is able and willing to comply with the instructions given.

"Initially, pharmacists were seen as product based but we are now centred on the patient and taking responsibility of medication use," noted Prof. Ndemo.

He said the Board has between six months to one year to complete drafting of the guidelines.

Government Launches Protection Against Domestic Violence Rules To End GBV

By: Nice Wambui and Carol Mawia
@themtkenyentimes

The government has unveiled its first national plan aimed at putting an end to Gender Based Violence (GBV) and providing comprehensive protection to those affected by it.

Speaking during the official launch of the Protection Against Domestic Violence Rules, Gender and Public Service Cabinet Secretary (CS) Aisha Jumwa made a resolute declaration of the government's commitment to zero tolerance for GBV.

She emphasized that the rules would establish transparent procedures for obtaining protection orders, ensuring that survivors have prompt access to effective legal remedies.

"The government has a zero tolerance on GBV so today I want to declare total war on GBV and as a Cabinet Secretary, I want to assure you I will be at the forefront because I am a survivor/victim of this, but I have healed and I want society to be free from GBV," she affirmed.

Jumwa underscored that the rules

place significant emphasis on prevention and early intervention.

"They highlight the imperative for legal duty bearers to treat survivors with compassion, while also ensuring that the perpetrators are held accountable for their actions," she explained.

Furthermore, the government is actively working towards establishing a GBV survivor's fund.

"This fund will operate on a co-financing model, in collaboration with private sector entities, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders, to economically empower GBV survivors," she added.

Addressing an existing challenge, Jumwa spoke about the hurdles faced by GBV survivors in obtaining a P3 form, a crucial document for seeking justice.

She pointed out that the cost of the form often serves as a barrier and can lead to re-victimization. In response, she advocated for rendering this service free of charge.

Jumwa also highlighted the pivotal role of public awareness and community engagement in the fight against GBV.

She stressed that these initiatives will help challenge the social norms



Gender and Public Service Cabinet Secretary Aisha Jumwa.

and attitudes that perpetuate domestic violence, reinforcing the impact of the new rules.

"Through targeted awareness campaigns, education initiatives, and community dialogues, we aim to foster a society that embraces equality, respect, and non-violence," she added.

The CS called for a unified effort from all stakeholders, including

government bodies, development partners, civil society, community leaders, and every Kenyan citizen, to ensure the effective implementation of these rules.

Recent data from the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022 reveal the alarming extent of GBV in the country. It shows that 34 per cent of women in Kenya have experienced physical violence since

the age of 15 years, emphasizing the urgency and significance of this new initiative. Amongst the statistics, it is noted that 20 per cent of women aged 15-19 have experienced physical violence since age 15, as compared to 42 per cent of women aged 45-49.

Tursunboyeva Sabrina The Karate-Do Type Of Sports Star



Tursunboyeva Sabrina is engaged in karate-do type of sports along with her studies. Due to his interest in sports, he has been continuously improving his skills and taking part in prestigious sports competitions with the help of qualified coaches. Engaged in sports, took part in the regional and republican championships of Asia and received the nomination of Master of Sports. In addition to excellent mastery of subjects in the curriculum He has been practicing karate since he was 11 years old. Effectively using the opportunities created for young people to grow up physically and mentally healthy in our country, he actively participated in the republican and Asian championships.

My teacher is Sherali Choriyeu, a 5-time black belt. This is what Sabrina says about her teacher. Our teacher enthusiastically explains to us a lot of knowledge and skills about the secrets of karate. At the same time, my teacher prepares new methods for each training and increases our interest in the sport. I would like to express my gratitude to my teacher Sherali Choriyeu.

Sabrina has a good understanding of the IT field outside of sports. He has his own studio. At the same time, he has financial income from his studio. In her spare time, she is engaged in sewing. He worked as a senior teacher in textiles in foreign cooperation. In addition, he perfectly mastered the secrets of cooking. She makes flowers at home from soap, paper, and various ribbons.

Those who do sports will gain strength. Start a new life with morning exercises, not Monday Strong in body – rich in practice. In sports, as in casinos, it is very difficult to win by chance. In sports, megalomania is a bad help. But chase mania helps a lot. You are not friends with sports – you will be squeezed several times. Walking is a long life. A person who loves sports is healthy and cheerful.

And ingenuity is needed and persistence is important. Where there is health there is beauty. Move harder, live longer. Sun, air and water always help us. A person who gets up before noon will be healthy during the day. It is natural that a person who is familiar with sports from childhood will be physically healthy, and a person with a healthy body will grow up to be a mentally mature, strong-willed and healthy-thinking person. Sports also make a person's psyche healthy. A person with such qualities will be active and active in all aspects of the state and society and will have the opportunity to reach high heights during his life activity. We can see in real life examples that a person who is constantly familiar with physical education, regularly engages in a certain type of sports and follows a healthy lifestyle, has achieved high goals in the course of his work, regardless of the sphere of society in which he operates. . oing sports is good for health. For example: Playing sports is a great way to stay active. It's so much better than sitting around playing video games. The game brings people together. "Almost every game has some kind of competition. But continuing to enjoy playing is a great way to spend time with friends."

Tursunboyeva Sabrina I was born on May 15, 2007, my nationality is Uzbek.

I was born in Guzor district of Kashkadarya region.

I am currently a 10th grade student.

I am an 8-time republican, 4-time Asian champion in karate.

I make flowers from soap, paper, and ribbon, I make cakes, sweets, and salads for weddings and parties, I make 3-4 pictures, portraits, and vignettes on the computer.

Ninasifu Kaka Jimi

tana

Ninasifu Kaka Jimi, alijinyime tupewe

Alijinyima tupewe, wakati wavikutosha
Hakuingiwa kiwewe, wala hakuhuzunisha
Alipendelea tuwe, nayo mazuri maisha
Ninasifu Kaka Jimi, kwangu yeye ni shujaa

Kwangu yeye ni shujaa, peupe ninalikiri
Ameleta manufaa, na kutufanya mahiri
Kwani tulipochuchumaa, alitulinda kwa shari

Ninasifu Kaka Jimi, sijamwona kama yeye

Ninasifu Kaka Jimi, sijamwona kama yeye
Mazuri yeye hakomi, kututenda
nikwambiye

Wana wote pweke simi, yake niwasimuliye
Ninasifu Kaka Jimi, hadi nwisho wa dahari

Hadi mwisho wa dahari, hili likafahamike
Kaka Jimi ni mahari, na asiye na makeke
Ametufanyia shwari, na mazuri tuyashike
Ninasifu Kaka Jimi, wetu kifunguamimba

Leo nachukua zamu, samahani nikiomba
Kutumtaja kwa zamu, kaka kifunguamimba
Ndipo imenirazimu, beti hizi kuziomba
Ninasifu Kaka Jimi, wetu kifunguamimba

Wetu kifunguamimba, nambari wani
kuzawa
Akamleta Muumba, nayo furaha kujawa
Mama na baba naamba, mwanao
walijaliwa

Ninasifu Kaka Jimi, mwana wa baba na mama

Mwana wa baba na mama, alipenda ndugu sana

Akasikiliza mama, nasi tukaja bayana
Amekuwa ndugu mwema, hili nalisema

Wanjohi. P. Mugambi
Malenga Kitunguu Machoni

KHOREZM



Ruled the state with a pen in its hand,
Who has forgotten the king Feruz,
Pahlavan Mahmud's stories
It has reached distant countries like India.

In the past, the nightingale Komiljan
"Olmoxons" of trembling art,
Members are still "Bola Bahkshi"
You will find that you are better off.

"I'm Fascinated," said ul Yulduzkhani,
Created by "Art books,
Compare yourself to an apple,
He will sing the word "Father Ortiq" to the tune.

This is my country, whose blood flows
with melody,
I am proud of its courage,
No knowledge escapes my wise people,
Khorezm is such a great country, my people!

Egamberdiyeva Jayron Ikrams daughter,
1st year student of Urganch State
University,
Department of Architecture

There is so flower in the world,
Many poems have been written for it,
They say that it is an artist of its country,
This is Khorezm, my friends.

Al-Khorazmi has scattered everywhere,
Jaloladdin bled for it,
The puzzle was solved by Beruni,
Khorezm is the land of wisdom.

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Volume 2
A reflection of the strength and positivity of African women and men
COMPILED BY JOY ZENZ Editor
Founder of African Women in Europe SHAMLAL PURI

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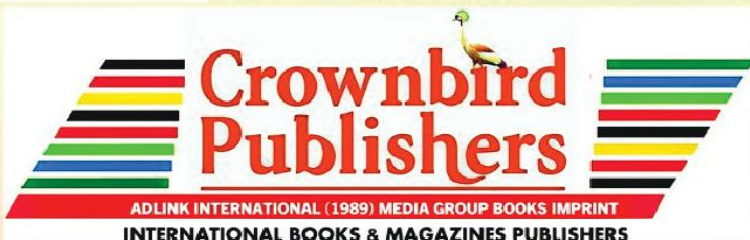
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NEW INTERNATIONAL THRILLER ON THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM
BLOOD MONEY
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The Cosmopolitan Nomad
A Globetrotter's Story
Karim
G R Ladak
EDITOR: SHAMLAL PURI

MY LITTLE BOOK OF Christian Poems
TONY TOKUNBO ETERA FERNANDEZ

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JUDICIARY

Judiciary To Tap Green Energy To Cut Cost Of Power, Blackouts

By: Erastus Gichohi
 @themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The commissioner added that the judiciary also plans to fund the establishment of more courts in Gilgil and MaiMahiu areas to enhance access to justice for hundreds of aggrieved citizens.
- In addition, she said the judiciary will also consider plans of establishing an Environment and Land Court [ELC] at the Naivasha Law Courts to address the rising case load after emerging parties currently seek justice in Nakuru.
- The move to set up an ELC court is expected to offer relief and address rising land cases and grievances that continue to affect hundreds of families across the vast sub-county.



The Judiciary team in Naivasha yesterday.

The judiciary has initiated plans to ditch diesel-powered generators in the hundreds of its courts across the country and instead tap solar energy aimed at reducing the rising costs of power.

The solar project which the judiciary has already allocated Sh40 million in the current financial year also aims to transition the Judicial arm of the government to less pollutant power as the race to green energy gathers pace.

The judiciary aims to also reduce time losses and inconveniences caused by hours-long power blackouts that have been witnessed in the country in the recent past hampering service delivery.

Announcing the plans, Judicial Service Commission Commissioner Evelyn Olwande said the Judiciary is seeking an additional Sh100 million from the National Treasury to ensure

more courts benefit from the solar project.

“The solar initiative that is set to be implemented in the coming months will boost the efficiency of court operations by reducing power grid dependency,” said Ms. Olwande during the JSC tour of Naivasha Law courts.

The commissioner added that the judiciary also plans to fund the establishment of more courts in Gilgil and MaiMahiu areas to enhance access to justice for hundreds of aggrieved citizens.

In addition, she said the judiciary will also consider plans of establishing an Environment and Land Court [ELC] at the Naivasha Law Courts to address the rising case load after emerging parties currently seek justice in Nakuru.

The move to set up an ELC court is expected to offer relief and address

rising land cases and grievances that continue to affect hundreds of families across the vast sub-county.

The commissioner said the judiciary will also partner with other players to operationalize the local Child Protection Unit that is set to host children in conflict with the law.

Ms. Olwande lauded the Naivasha Law Court for emerging as the best in hearing and determination of cases after over 3,000 cases were cleared during the 2021/22 financial year.

According to Chief Registrar of the Judiciary Ann Amadi, the commission seeks to establish challenges facing the courts across the country to inform timely interventions to facilitate easy access to justice.

Ms. Amadi called for the prudent use of limited financial resources allocated to courts by prioritizing issues that enhance service delivery to Kenyans.

On her part, Naivasha Court Users Association Secretary Njeri Kahumba, said the move to operationalize the child protection unit will be a relief to hundreds of children who are often referred to Nakuru.

Ms. Njeri welcomed the move by JSC to consider more funding for the protection unit which currently needs over Sh2 million to start operation as well as establishing a children-friendly court for minors.

Njeri who also serves as a Probation Officer said her office in partnership with the judiciary has managed to release more than 170 inmates from Naivasha Maximum Prison to ease congestion.

“We continue to review bond terms and sentencing to tens of inmates who have been released either on probation or community service,” said Njeri.



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What An Animal Of A Writer: A Eulogy To Francis Asimwe

Diving Deep Into His Infamous Poem, ‘Gentlemen, I’ve A Ask’



Nassur Tab'an El-Tablaz, Editor
@themkenyatiimes

By Zziwa Zinabala

Worth Noting:

- Who is Francis Asimwe? Many will call him the good doctor – a dermatologist. A few of us who knew him as a creative person, would also join the cue of debate to share how much we knew him.
- Francis prematurely succumbed to a blood clot in his lungs. I have been running away from writing this eulogy because I was still living in denial that Francis is still alive. Two months now.
- I feel lighter to write how I feel now and add something special about his life. With permission from the anthologist, Nassur Tab'an El-Tablaz, I was given exclusive rights to review Francis' poem and the drama it aroused in 2022.



This is the doctor/poet eulogized in the article. Dr. Asimwe Francis

For the last couple of hours, days, weeks, and months – probably even a year, I have been thinking critically, writing in silence and creating new stories. Until one Sunday evening, a friend asked me what happened to my daily rants about Ugandan writers, readers and the people in the creative industry. I immediately retorted that I have no idea why I stopped typing. This is not because I cannot write to them like Paul's epistles to different churches – by the way, Paul was a miserable pastor. I have been more argumentative of late, triggering emotions of different people. I have been in my den fighting my own de-

mons too – the demons of self-doubt, and above all, why I should probably stop writing and concentrate on my imaginary village goats bleating in my head. That is how inconsistent I have been of late; jumping with shit from a pit latrine to an open defecation. I won't censor myself today. I will type and type. The sentiments shared are nothing but the importance of self-recognition as a writer. I think I have outgrown some things of late – many things actually.

You see, the danger of writing and creating is something I do not understand. You squeeze yourself at the walls of comfort, breathing life

to something imaginary; something nonexistent, but you want to offer it a heart, lungs, eyes, ears and above all consciousness. Then later, the more interested in writing you get, the more you think about killing one or two more characters. Perhaps, you are pondering why there should be happy moments in your books. Many a time, moments in books we write encase our moods. For instance, I have never written any meaningful story while happy. I find nothing inspirational in happiness. In fact, I sometimes quietly ask why people are smiling amidst our suffering. I mean, what is there to smile about when we have failed to take our children back to school, failed to equip our hospitals with tools, medicines and personnel. I mean, there is something I hear mbu... mbu... I will not go in depth about such things but my point is: why are you smiling in the absence of progress in your country? Why don't you write about such things to make a difference? I fail to write while happy because I hold the view that happiness is a distraction to what ought to be done. Could this be the reason many youth drown themselves in the drink? They party exposing their buttocks and forget the allegation that the white man found us naked and gave us clothes. Why don't these youth donate their clothes to the people that actually need them? If you find solace in cosmetic happiness induced by chemicals, you are very sad! Fix the cause of your sadness rather than running away from it. Fix the mess and be at peace with yourself. Anyways, why am I writing today?

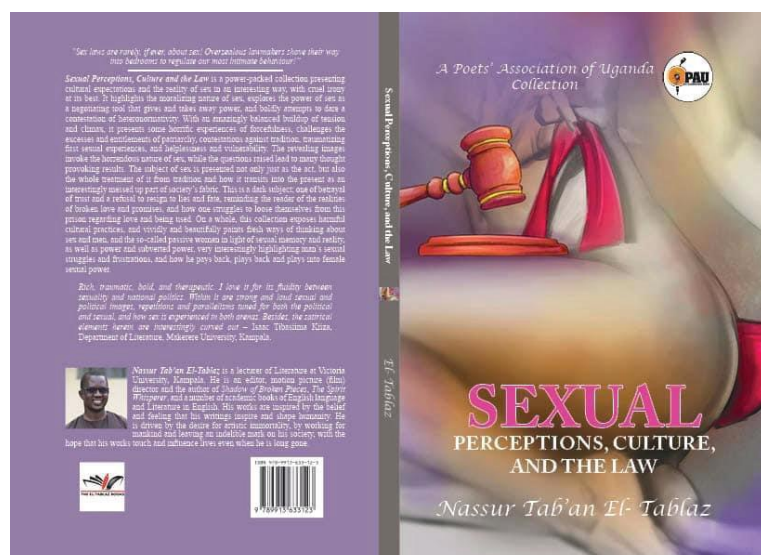
What an animal of a writer! I have critically thought about this for a few weeks now. There is a widely accepted school of thought that many writers write who they actually are. Should I believe this or trash it? My thinking is that sometimes writing is an idea; sometimes, it is the society we live in. I have read many quotes of Tolkien who is proclaimed for his love for flowers, learning and writing new languages. Well, I also believe Tolkien might have loved some little bit of darkness; his writings are never without darkness, death and bloodshed. Grapevine is that his works are banned in some states for allegedly being satanic and promoting the use of magic. Should Tolkien being declared Satanic? The illuminati theorists would be already burning their nails linking the traces of such to the mysteries of darkness or Satan.

By the way, my only quarrel is that readers have failed to love the im-

perfections of books and why every 'mistake' in the art is art. It is important for us to learn how to handle our heroes and graciously pamper their animosity. The culture of 'woke' in this genZ is killing the ability of many writers to write. A writer is caging their animal for fear of their story getting cancelled! How sad it will be, caging a story that needs to live! I have watched great animals of stories buried by good writers because they fear to be judged; they are not brave enough to stomach the societal eyes. They are afraid that their own people will disown them. That people will see them differently thereafter. This, however, wasn't the case with Francis Asimwe – now gone but not forgotten. He is missed dearly in the spaces of creatives. A wonderful poet who immortalized himself in poetry. He is the reason I am writing about an animal of a writer. Francis never feared to write what hurt him and his society.

Who is Francis Asimwe? Many will call him the good doctor – a dermatologist. A few of us who knew him as a creative person, would also join the cue of debate to share how much we knew him. Francis prematurely succumbed to a blood clot in his lungs. I have been running away from writing this eulogy because I was still living in denial that Francis is still alive. Two months now. I feel lighter to write how I feel now and add something special about his life. With permission from the anthologist, Nassur Tab'an El-Tablaz, I was given exclusive rights to review Francis' poem and the drama it aroused in 2022. I was busy with my postgraduate studies then when I read inbox (WhatsApp) that a parent was suing the anthologist for promoting homosexuality among students of one of Kampala's high-end high schools. The letters addressed to the anthologist surprised me. The parent quoted Francis' poem, 'Gentlemen, I've a Ask' which he claimed was spreading homosexuality vibe and an initiation of children! But is this the case?

The Anthologist began seeking the services of a lawyer to understand the the gravity of the matter. He settled for Eron Kiiza, a known human rights activist, who looked into the lawsuit and promised there was nothing to worry about. Today, the anthology isn't a threat anymore! The lawsuit was nothing but a complete bluff. Amidst all these claims of Francis' poem being a bad poem, many peo-



This is the anthology in which his poem appears.

What An Animal Of A Writer: A Eulogy To Francis Asimwe

Diving Deep Into His Infamous Poem, 'Gentlemen, I've A Ask'

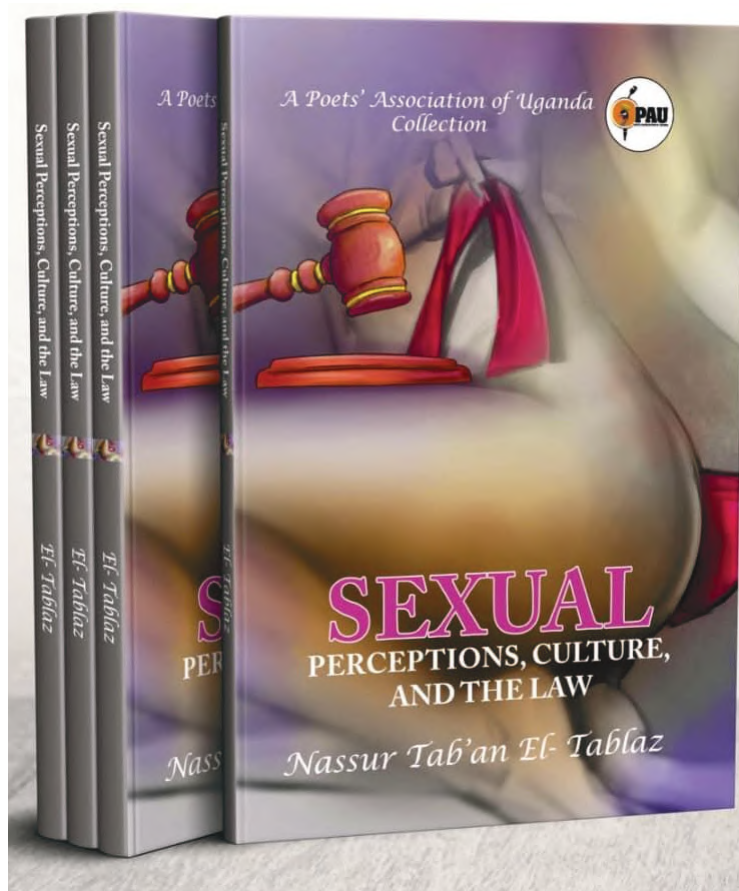


Nassur Tab'an El-Tablaz, Editor

@themtkenytimes

By Zziwa Zinabala

Contd from Page 18.



Another graphic for the anthology

Worth Noting:

- The Anthologist began seeking the services of a lawyer to understand the gravity of the matter. He settled for Eron Kiiza, a known human rights activist, who looked into the lawsuit and promised there was nothing to worry about.
- Today, the anthology isn't a threat anymore! The lawsuit was nothing but a complete bluff. Amidst all these claims of Francis' poem being a bad poem, many people have failed to understand how serious this piece is.
- In my opinion, a poem shouldn't be caged, especially such a one that shares the different concerns the boy child faces. Did you ever sit under a tree to comprehend that a boy child could be raped?

ple have failed to understand how serious this piece is. In my opinion, a poem shouldn't be caged, especially such a one that shares the different concerns the boy child faces. Did you ever sit under a tree to comprehend that a boy child could be raped? Francis, the good doctor, tackles the concerns of man being raped and urges us all to take action into the matters of rape; they silently affect the mental wellbeing of any human. The entire poem is very rhetorically argumentative. The poet navigates his prowess with quizzing [us] the readers who are compelled into a very spirited and passionate discussion of rape. The speaker very determinedly makes a case to the listening party. His heavy questions inform the listener not to take for granted rape amongst boys. He begins "Tell me dear brother, have you ever been late to get home and had to walk all the way alone in the dark after sunset?" We assume, the listener lives in denial, or perhaps lives a privileged life with stereotypical thinking that boys cannot be raped. The speaker wonders whether the listener understands the silent psychotic memories anymore. The bouts of pain. The relapses. Francis understood his journey in life. Perhaps it was his calling to tell us more about the plight of a boy-child. Francis still offered free counseling sessions for the victims

of rape amongst Ugandan poets – including men/boys.

Let's trace the concept of rape amongst boys. Many times, our people misunderstand the difference between rape and homosexuality. Homosexuality is consensual amongst two adults of the same sex, which is completely not the case with rape. Rape is forceful, aggressive and wrong. Often times people considering rape among men as something mysterious – an abomination, unworthy. But the reality is that men are getting raped and our society is mute about the matter. We have read stories of men coming out to tell their ordeal of rape. How we laugh about it, and carry on with our lives. We consider it irregular or clout chasing but truly, men are raped by both men and women, and here is Francis drum-rolling and engaging us in this very spirited poem; asking us whether we actually care to look into the rape carcinoma in both men and women.

In the second stanza, the speaker emotionally asks very tough questions. He impolitely quizzes, "Did you get a whiff of fear, a grip of cold bones in the darkest patches of the lonely walk?" Many times, men do not worry about rape in such places – they only fear for their lives and property like phones or wallets. He proceeds to ask in stanza three, "Was

the worry for the watch or wallet?" These two stanzas are juxtaposed, offering two minds of different individuals thinking differently. Stanza two plants an emotional idea of the possibility of a man being raped on a dark walkway home. He opines, "Were you afraid they would leap out and strip off your trousers, shorts and shirt?" This sounds an alarm bell; do you think you're safe because you are a man? He adds, "grip, fiddle and bite your buttocks? Poke, fidget, harass and enter your tight anus till it loosened with each thrust to a rancid fecal red discharge?" Of course, the primary role of the anus is excretion. With vivid imagery, we visualise the listener covering their ears and shaking their head in denial that a man can't be raped. The listener is determined to change the narrative that whilst he is walking home, he only fears getting robbed or perhaps lose his life in a scuffle whilst trying to save his property. Relief is provided in the line, "Let's let the gross be." As if to say, you don't need to cover it up if it is happening! But this relief is shortlived as it is immediately followed by, "did you tremor to the teacher, lecturer or boss because you had to take off your clothes, part your thighs and buttocks for him to jiggle, hiss, nibble and lip?" The speaker explores the gross sexual exploitation in the jobs market, sex-for-marks et al. Do men also have to endure sexual harassment from their bosses? Do they fear to talk freely about it for society will point fingers? That is how I revere Francis' ingenuity at the pen. He outdid himself at this poem. He is an animal of a writer. I am describing him in the present tense intentionally for I believe writer never die; they stay alive in their works. Francis is whispering in my right ear, telling me I should do justice to this masterpiece, and I hope I am doing the best in my ability to explain the need for an awareness campaign against the sexually harassment men, too, undergo.

This year, homosexuality has been a hot topic in all spheres of life in Uganda. Stringent measures have been put in place. But in all this, I realised that many times people don't understand the gravity of openly addressing rape among men without attaching it to homosexuality. It hurts that when young men report these rape cases, they are labelled perverts, they lose their place in society, their prestige and respect. They become the bad apples, unlike their female counterparts. Society is forgetting to protect the boy child.

Society thinks all men have big muscles and can fight anything that comes their way. This is one of the reasons behind the increasing suicide cases amongst men of late. No one is ready to listen. The details the good doctor shares in his poem are pertinent concerns we all need to pay attention to. He queries, "how many of your friends, brothers, ordinates and relatives have emptied their tears on your shoulders interrupting your plans and your brain?" Do we take off time to listen to a man who has been sexually harassed and he needs medical and psychological help? Do we listen to their experiences "of recurrent sickly sticky stench thoughts and whitened psychotic memories?" My ex-girlfriend once revealed to me how she had twice been raped; once by a relative and the other time by an excited young lover in high school. She narrated her bouts of pain and how her scars never healed. How difficult it becomes to love after her innocence being plundered. This is very unfortunate. I read Francis' poem again and again and feel the plight of every rape victim. The "psychotic memories"! Should we call our Francis a truly bold man to talk about rape amongst men? I would crown him with a tiara for a job well excuted. I will reiterate to you reading this write up that this poem has never been about spreading homosexuality in Uganda. It is about creating awareness of rape among men. I would recommend that various NGOs in Uganda dealing in sexuality to make use of this poem. It a societal obligation to be inclusive in our campaigns against rape in Uganda. It is quite a pity that I am writing this review after Asimwe Francis leaving us. I should have done this earlier! He should have been around to read about himself. He truly deserved a bouquet of white lilies – my favorite flowers. The best eulogy I would give is not a speech, but a review of this poem.

Read the complete poem and many others in the anthology, "Sexual Perceptions, Culture, and the Law". A copy goes for Ugx. 25,000. It is an amazing piece of work and a must buy for anyone.

There it comes,
Steals but still
No one believes it has stolen.
So, we wail until –
Earth blankets the vessel!

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Victim Of Jealousy

By: Lobar RUSTAMOVA
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Rakhimjon could not go to Tashkent after finishing school. What would his mother find? He entered the school of music education with the help of his teachers, he learned to sing ghazals.
- To the point where you can still play big songs with ease you can do it, my son, - said his teacher Gani, happy with his student's ability.
- The Youth Festival held in the region in the year of graduation from the country of knowledge "Qora ko'zim" sung with Rakhimjon Navoi's ghazals at the festival. He won the first place by performing the songs "Kelmadi". One of the well-known singers in his panel introduced himself as Muslim an old, tall man hugged Rahimjon and pressed him to his bosom



Lobar RUSTAMOVA.

I saw my son, your music teacher Alisherjon. I love you praised I am so glad that you are taking it easy. "Merciful has a juicy voice. It is necessary to educate him. You need to find a good teacher."

said.

Rukhsor mother was tall, hot-tempered, black-eyed,

He caresses his youngest son, whose black hair falls on his forehead. If you become a great singer, you will be excused by seeing the Tashkent when you come, my son. God willing! It's enough if I get into the study, the first one, i'll do this. All I have to do is turn you around in the city. Since when

I wish that. But... can I go to the conservatory, honey?

They will get it, my son, they will get it. Hearing your voice, they are also fascinated by you will remain.

Oh, you exaggerate, how many people are like me?

- Never mind. God created everyone with his provision, my child...

Rakhimjon could not go to Tashkent after finishing school. What would his mother find? He entered the school of music education with the help of his teachers, he learned to sing ghazals.

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The Youth Festival held in the region in the year of graduation from the country of knowledge "Qora ko'zim" sung with Rakhimjon Navoi's ghazals at the festival. He won the first place by performing the songs "Kelmadi". One of the well-known singers in his panel introduced himself as Muslim an old, tall man hugged Rahimjon and pressed him to his bosom:

My son, you have a bright future. This is my address. "If you go to Tashent, find me "I will help you to study," he said.

On this day, Rakhimjon's joy was boundless. He was flying in the sky as if when you get home:

Mum, congratulate me," he said. - They gave first place to me. After a month, we will go to Tashkent. If I get a place there, I will enter the conservatory without exams.

- Learn from my smart son. Don't let your eyes touch your voice, my child.

May God protect you from calamities.

- What you say...

Mukhsinjan, who won the second place at the festival, lights up a lamp inside, it didn't light up.

Will all my hard work and efforts go to waste?

I dream of singing in Tashkent, on big stages, after all...

Mukhsin could not sit at home. Mother's:

"Hey, hey, where are you going in the

evening," he said, but he went to his teacher's house.

On the day he came home, he asked for a rug to hang on the carpet.

I want to call...

He tried to hum, matching the tune, but his voice did not come out. Then he cried.

I can never sing again, honey? Why, why?! To me, what happened What happened?

Mental depression, illness overcame him. He was bedridden. Mukhsinjan was in Tashkent in those days. Take part in the competition and get a rank, after receiving it, he was accepted to study. He was extremely happy.

- Master, I have achieved my intention. I am very happy, he said on the way back.

- Now be diligent. Good job.

- Of course.

- I heard that your friend is sick. Did you get the message?

If we can get there safely today, I will definitely go see him...

I couldn't get a message because I was busy with preparations.

- Do so. He is very talented. Get well my god...

- God willing...

Muhsinjan said in his heart: "He will never sing again, he can't tell, he won't get better," he kept thinking. The villain who did it, he was calm because his work was clear only to God and to

himself.

No cure was found for Rakhimjon's pain. The old man brought by his uncle, the doctor said that mercury might have been added to the drunk, because it is quickly absorbed into the blood, it is difficult to detect and treat maybe. It turned out that the young man committed suicide...

During autumn days, more precisely, on the twenty-eighth of October Rahimjon passed away at the age of twenty...

There was no one left who did not burn and cry. It's raining non-stop on this day, poured...

Mukhsinjan's popularity increased... In large gatherings, they invited Mukhsinjan to weddings. He was full and had a belly. He bought a car.

Tashkent became a step towards it.

On one of those days, it was snowing in January, In his twenties, Mukhsinjan had a car accident on his way home from work, met the car fell into a ravine... What was he thinking in his last breath is unknown. But he was punished for what he did.

Many years have passed since this event. Rakhimjon's mother is also getting old and passed away. But his instrument and his picture are still hanging on the carpet.

Lobar RUSTAMOVA
Uzbekistan.

SPORTS
NEWSPHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Tottenham chairman Daniel Levy included a buy-back clause for Harry Kane, in the deal which saw the club legend leave for Bayern Munich in August.

Daniel Levy: Tottenham Have A Buy-Back Clause For Harry Kane

By: TEAMtalk Media

Tottenham chairman Daniel Levy included a buy-back clause for Harry Kane, in the deal which saw the club legend leave for Bayern Munich in August.

Levy reportedly made the comment – without providing further details – while appearing at a fans' forum on Tuesday night alongside current Spurs boss Ange Postecoglou.

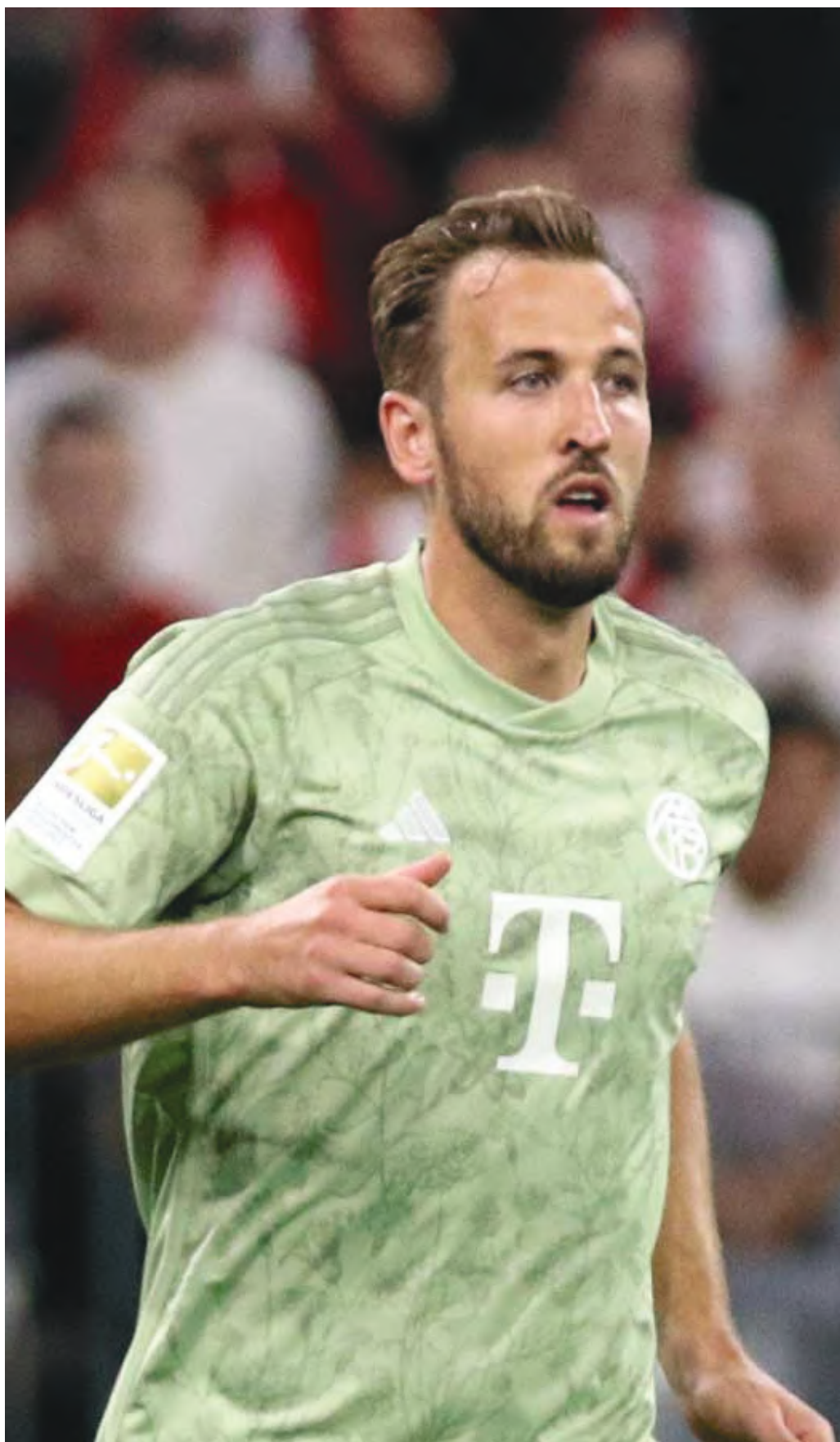
Tottenham's record goalscorer ended his two-decade association with the club after joining the Bundesliga giants in a deal worth in the region of £100million.

Levy had been prompted to sell the unsettled striker in order to avoid the possibility of him running down his contract and leaving for nothing the following year.

Kane has made a superb start for his new club, scoring four goals in five games, and is set to feature in their opening Champions League clash against Manchester United on Wednesday.

Speaking ahead of the game, Kane revealed how much Spurs still mean to him, insisting: "I'll keep an eye on Tottenham for the rest of my life.

"I'm really happy to see the team playing the way they are and to see the fans happy is a great thing."



Harry Kane. Photo/TEAMTALK MEDIA

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> * Pep Guardiola felt his team were given a useful test after coming from behind to begin their Champions League defence with a 3-1 win over Red Star Belgrade.

Pep Guardiola Lauds Man City Response In Champions League Opener



Pep Guardiola. Photo/TEAMTALK MEDIA.

By: TEAMtalk Media

Pep Guardiola felt his team were given a useful test after coming from behind to begin their Champions League defence with a 3-1 win over Red Star Belgrade. The holders were stunned when the Serbian champions claimed a shock lead on the stroke of half-time through Osman Bukari in Tuesday's Group G clash at the Etihad Stadium. Yet as they did in the Premier League at West Ham last weekend, they hit back to win after the break, this time with two goals from Julian Alvarez and one from Rodri. City manager Guardiola said: "At the end, going in at half-time 1-0, after what we've done that's nice – after winning the treble we need to be the type of champions who prove to ourselves that we are able

to make a comeback. "In this situation it's nice to prove it. In both games we played incredible and immediately at the start of the second half. "We have things to improve in general but that's really, really good." Guardiola was particularly impressed with the performance of his goalscorers. Alvarez has benefited from a run in the side this season while Rodri, match-winner in last season's final, continues to excel. Guardiola said of Alvarez: "His movement was so quick and he's so young. What a signing the club have done. "He has everything – fighting, goals, assists. Incredible. And he's a lovely guy. Playing behind Erling (Haaland) he is an incredible threat." Rodri has developed into one of

the best midfielders in the game during his time at City and Guardiola is in no doubt he is now at the top. He said: "Yes, he's the best – but hopefully he can be better. He has a good mentality and good things to improve. "But we were lucky again that the club has signed these type of players." The downside for City was the loss of Bernardo Silva shortly before half-time with an unspecified injury. Guardiola said: "I didn't speak with the doctors but apparently for the next games he will not be able to play." The Portuguese joins an injury list that includes Kevin De Bruyne, Jack Grealish, John Stones and Mateo Kovacic. Guardiola said: "When we have five important players – really, re-

ally important players – injured, to sustain that for a long time will be difficult. But it is what it is. "We cannot have the salaries and budgets for transfers to have 55 players. It would be chaos for the clubs and they would be bankrupt. Sometimes it happens." Red Star coach Barak Bachar admitted City were the better side. He said: "We tried, we fought, but we conceded an early goal in the second half. They should have scored more. "They are a great team, they have exceptional players. After we conceded it was difficult to maintain the pace, because we never play at this pace in our league. We learned a lot from this match."

SPORTS NEWS

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One on One With Mr. Ngatia Muhoya



By: John Kariuki
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Our motivation stems from witnessing the issues that have plagued Kenyan youth for far too long. Youth apathy, radicalization, and limited economic opportunities were pressing concerns.
- Badilico operates as a metaverse town hall, allowing users to create avatars and engage in political discussions. What sets it apart is the unique combination of gamification, data collection, and direct engagement with decision-makers.
- Our primary target market is Kenyan youth aged 18 to 35, a demographic that represents the future of the country. We've adopted a freemium model, offering free access to ensure inclusivity.

1. Briefly tell us about yourself and your innovation:

We are Ngatia Muhoya and Mugambi Kinoti, the co-founders of Millennials Speak Ltd, the organization behind the innovative Badilico game. Badilico is more than just a game; it's a transformative platform that harnesses the power of gamification and technology to address critical societal challenges.

Badilico is a groundbreaking meta-verse town hall experience designed to empower Kenyan youth and connect them with decision-makers. In this immersive digital platform, users create avatars to engage in gamified political role-play, fostering a deeper understanding of governance processes. It uniquely combines gaming, data collection, and direct interaction with leaders.

Users can voice their opinions on development and security issues, contributing to data-driven civic discussions. Badilico bridges the gap between the youth and influential decision-makers, including governors, facilitating informed conversations. It's a safe space for youth to express their views, address societal challenges, and advocate for positive change. With its innovative approach, Badilico aims to combat youth apathy and radicalization while empowering the next generation of Kenyan leaders.

2. What motivated you to come up with this innovation and which problem is it coming to solve?

Our motivation stems from witnessing the issues that have plagued Kenyan youth for far too long. Youth apathy, radicalization, and limited economic opportunities were pressing concerns. Badilico was born from the desire to empower the youth, providing them with a voice and a platform to engage in constructive civic discussions. The game serves as a solution to bridge the gap between Kenyan youth and decision-makers, ultimately fostering informed and data-driven conversations.

3. How does it work and how different is it from other products in the market?

Badilico operates as a metaverse



CoG Chair Governor Anne Waiguru with Mr. Ngatia Muhoya co-founder of Millennials Speak Ltd.

town hall, allowing users to create avatars and engage in political discussions. What sets it apart is the unique combination of gamification, data collection, and direct engagement with decision-makers. Users not only learn about political processes through gamified role-play but also contribute valuable data that informs discussions. Our partnership with The Council of Governors enables direct interaction with political leaders, making it a one-of-a-kind platform for civic engagement.

4. Have you commercialized it, and if yes, what is your target market and what are your charges?

Yes, we have commercialized Badilico. Our primary target market is Kenyan youth aged 18 to 35, a demographic that represents the future of the country. We've adopted a freemium model, offering free access to ensure inclusivity. Users can enhance their experience through in-app purchases, such as avatar customization and premium features. Our pricing is competitive, ensuring accessibility while sustaining the

platform's growth.

5. What are some of the challenges you faced trying to come up with this innovation?

Developing Badilico was not without its challenges. Technical complexities in creating a dynamic metaverse demanded substantial resources and expertise. Ensuring data privacy and compliance with data protection regulations required meticulous attention to detail. Onboarding decision-makers, including governors, necessitated extensive partnerships and negotiations. Overcoming these challenges required a robust technical infrastructure, a commitment to data security, and a dedication to fostering meaningful partnerships.

6. Your future plans for your business?

Our future plans for Millennials Speak and Badilico are ambitious yet purpose-driven. We aim to expand Badilico's reach to engage even more Kenyan youth and potentially extend our impact beyond borders. We're continually enhancing our

data analytics capabilities to derive deeper insights from user-generated content, enabling more impactful discussions. Additionally, we seek strategic partnerships with organizations that share our commitment to youth empowerment and civic engagement, aiming to amplify our collective impact on society.

7. What do I need to do to start using your innovation?

Starting to use Badilico is a straightforward process. Interested users can visit the google play store to download the app, where they can create a personalized avatar. Registration is user-friendly and typically requires basic information. We provide comprehensive user guides and tutorials to help newcomers get acquainted with the platform's features and functionalities. Once registered, users can dive into vibrant discussions, interact with fellow users, and become an integral part of the positive change Badilico aims to foster in Kenya.