



People And Culture: The Burial Rite Of A Circumciser Among Kabras Community In Western Kenya

Culture gives us a sense of belonging and identity. Despite the 'heavy' flow of the western culture, many communities in the country have stood firm in passing their cultural practices, beliefs and traditions to other generations.

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News>> Small Teams Upstage Dominants In Waiguru's Football Tournament

P. 8. Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru's football tournament entered the third round with teams earlier seen as underdogs staging surprise wins against dominant ones.

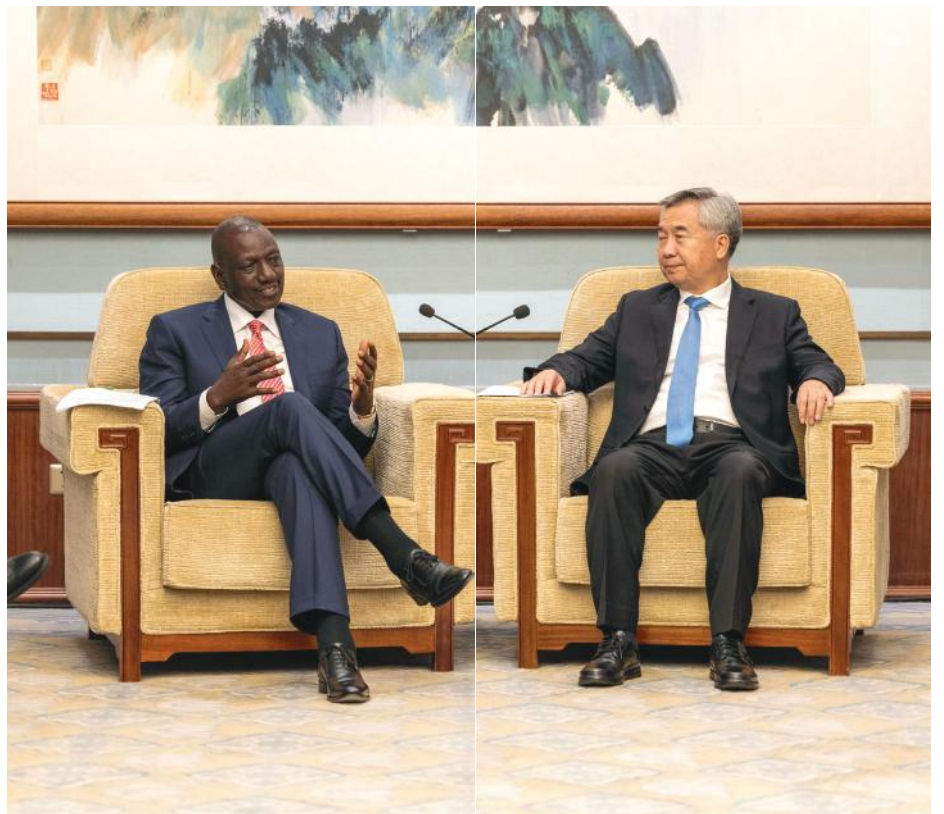


News>> Do Not Disappoint The President, DP Gachagua Tells Public Officers

P. 12. Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has asked government appointees from the Mt Kenya region to work exceedingly well in their respective docket and not to disappoint President William Ruto.

Ruto Woos Chinese Investors

The MoU entails optimising flexibility and reliability of electrical power system; planning, designing, transformation and modernisation of power generation, transmission lines, distribution lines and substations. Others aspects of the MOU are; utilising or unlocking the potential of renewable energy and advanced energy storage for supporting higher domestic energy sufficiency and electricity interchange; digitalisation, modernising and innovative management of power systems and power plants.



President William Ruto meeting with Mr Li Xi, a senior member of China's Communist Party Political Bureau in Beijing

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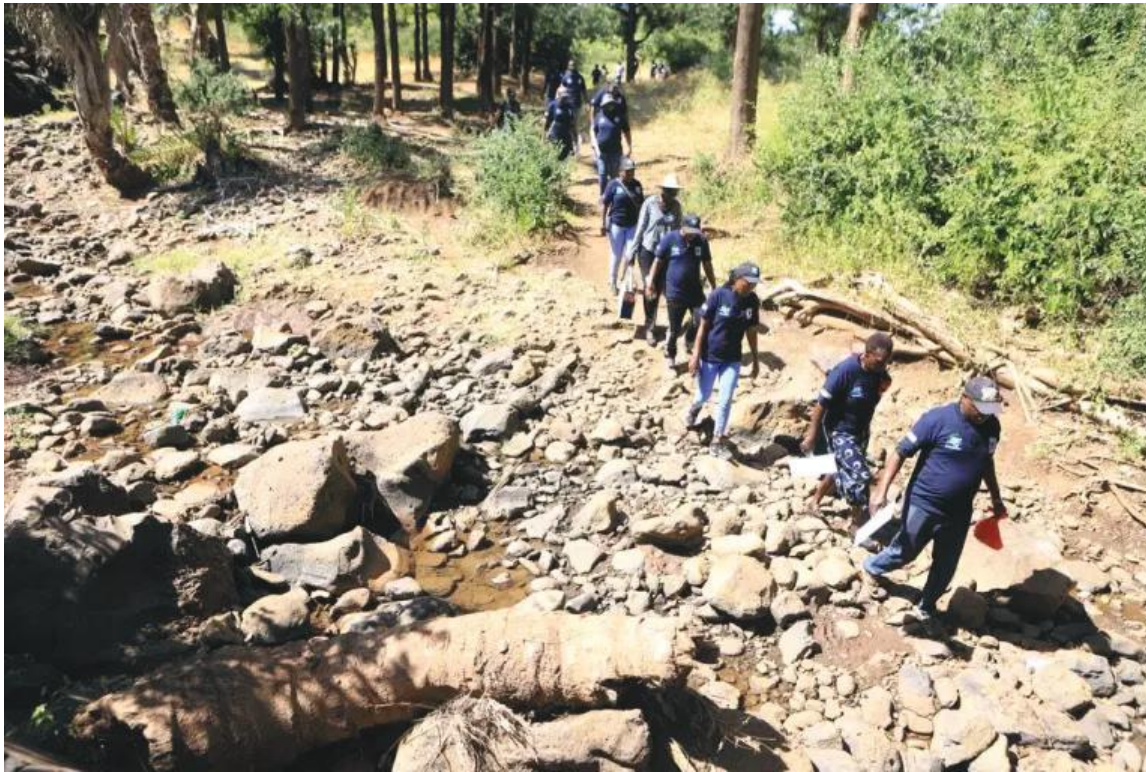
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Report: Water Crisis Threatens Ksh 8.7Q In Global Economic Value

By: Beth Nyaga



A dry section of the Isiolo River, a tributary of the Ewaso Nyiro River. Photo | WWF-Kenya

Worth Noting:

- “Water is one of the cornerstones upon which our shared future stands,” said Dr Kirsten Schuijt, WWF International’s Director-General. “WWF’s report reveals the staggering underlying value of water and freshwater ecosystems to our global economy and environment. Healthy rivers, lakes and wetlands are essential for water and food security, adapting to climate change and sustaining biodiversity, but they also provide priceless cultural and spiritual values that are vital to people’s wellbeing worldwide.”
- “It is time for governments, businesses, and financial institutions to invest in protecting and restoring our freshwater ecosystems to ensure we build a future where water flows in abundance for all,” added Schuijt.

Water, the world’s most precious yet undervalued resource, lies at the heart of a mounting global crisis that threatens both human and planetary health, warns a new report, published by WWF.

Released on World Food Day, Monday, 16 October, The High Cost of Cheap Water uncovers a stark reality: the annual economic value of water and freshwater ecosystems is estimated to be Ksh 8.7 Quadrillion (US\$58 trillion) – equivalent to 60% of the world’s Gross Domestic Product. But the world’s freshwater ecosystems are in a downward spiral, posing an ever-growing risk to these values.

Since 1970, the world has lost one-third of its remaining wetlands, while freshwater wildlife populations have, on average, dropped by 83%. This disastrous trend has contributed to growing numbers of people facing water shortages and food insecurity, as rivers and lakes have dried up, pollution has increased and food sources, such as freshwater fisheries,

have dwindled.

It is also worsening economic pressures and undermining global efforts to reverse nature loss and adapt to the worsening impacts of climate change, from devastating droughts and extreme floods to sea level rise.

“Water is one of the cornerstones upon which our shared future stands,” said Dr Kirsten Schuijt, WWF International’s Director-General. “WWF’s report reveals the staggering underlying value of water and freshwater ecosystems to our global economy and environment. Healthy rivers, lakes and wetlands are essential for water and food security, adapting to climate change and sustaining biodiversity, but they also provide priceless cultural and spiritual values that are vital to people’s wellbeing worldwide.”

“It is time for governments, businesses, and financial institutions to invest in protecting and restoring our freshwater ecosystems to ensure we build a future

where water flows in abundance for all,” added Schuijt.

The report finds that direct economic benefits, such as water consumption for households, irrigated agriculture and industries, amount to a minimum of Ksh 1.1 Quadrillion (US\$7.5 trillion) annually. It also estimates that the unseen benefits – which include purifying water, enhancing soil health, storing carbon, and protecting communities from extreme floods and droughts – are seven times higher at around Ksh 7.5 Quadrillion (US\$50 trillion) annually.

However, the degradation of rivers, lakes, wetlands, and groundwater aquifers is threatening these values as well as undermining action on climate and nature and progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Extracting unsustainable amounts of water, harmful subsidies, alterations to river flows, pollution, and climate change-related impacts are endangering freshwater ecosystems.

Shockingly, two-thirds of the world’s largest rivers are no longer free-flowing, while wetlands are continuing to be lost three times as fast as forests.



Combined with poor water management, the destruction of freshwater ecosystems has left billions of people worldwide lacking access to clean water and sanitation, while water risks to businesses and economies are growing. By 2050, around 46% of global GDP could come from areas facing high-water risk – up from 10% today.

To address the global water crisis, WWF calls for governments, businesses and financial institutions to urgently increase investment in sustainable water infrastructure. However, it cautions that outdated thinking, which focuses solely on more built infrastructure and ignores the source of the problem: degraded rivers, lakes, wetlands, and aquifers, will not solve the water crisis, especially in the era of climate disruption.

The key lies in reversing the ongoing loss of freshwater ecosystems. Governments, for example, should join the Freshwater Challenge, a country-led initiative that aims to restore 300,000km of degraded rivers and 350 million hectares of degraded wetlands globally by 2030 and protect intact freshwater ecosystems. Meanwhile businesses must transform their approach to water and scale up collective action to build more resilient river basins.

“Water and freshwater ecosystems are not only fundamental to our economies, they are also the lifeblood of our planet and our future,” said Stuart Orr, WWF Global Freshwater Lead. “We need to remember that water doesn’t come from a tap – it comes from nature. Water for all depends on healthy freshwater ecosystems, which are also the foundation of food security, biodiversity hotspots and the best buffer and insurance against intensifying climate impacts. Reversing the loss of freshwater ecosystems will pave the way to a more resilient, nature-positive and sustainable future for all.”

Editor’s Desk

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NEWS IN BRIEF



The Plug Mtaani business competition programme for youth in Kenya will award Sh10 million to the overall winner. The program aims to train and capacity-build young entrepreneurs to generate innovative and sustainable business ideas, addressing the 61% of unemployed youth. The first runner-up will receive Sh5 million, while the second runner-up will receive Sh2.5 million. The consortium, working with the Ministry of Trade and the Kenya Investment Authority, plans to use up to Sh130 million to train, capacity-build, and award youths from all counties within the next 10 years. The programme will have three components: training on innovation, packaging business plans, and coaching on scaling up plans. From next year, Plug Mtaani will take investors to every county to pitch their ideas, providing financial and mentorship support. The program aims to impact over 200,000 livelihoods directly or indirectly across Kenya.



Kenya Good Neighbors, an International Humanitarian and Development Non-Governmental Organization, has trained 500 coffee farmers from Kururumwe Cooperative Society in Manyatta Constituency, Embu, to improve production and income. The five-month-long training, facilitated by Kenya Good Neighbors, covered key areas such as soil fertility, coffee plant nutrition, primary processing, quality assessment, and coffee tree canopy management. The training also covered disease, insects, pest control, and understanding the coffee value chain. The project aims to improve coffee quality, leading to higher prices and increased farmers' benefits. The training also strengthens bilateral relationships between Kenya and Korea, with plans to carry out similar projects in other coffee growing regions.



Narok County leaders have urged the National Government to expedite the completion of two multi-million project in Transmara, Kenya. The Kilgoris-Lolgorian Road and Kilgoris-Lolgorian Water Supply and Sanitation Projects, funded by the Kenyan government and the African Development Bank, are set to serve 12,000 households. Despite visits and assurances from senior government officials, the project has not been completed. The leaders are concerned about the poor road infrastructure and lack of water in Transmara, a popular tourism hub. Governor Patrick Ole Ntutu has held talks with Roads Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen, expressing optimism for a lasting solution.



The National Assembly is set to approve several Cabinet resolutions, including the deployment of troops to Haiti. National Assembly Majority Leader Kimani Ichung'wah said Parliament will consider these proposals, ensuring due process and avoiding conflict with the Constitution. He emphasized that Kenya's current economic hardships cannot allow extra spending on a foreign peacekeeping mission. Ichung'wah also praised the move as it would provide police officers with more experience and skills. The United Nations Security Council approved the deployment of a multinational security mission to curb gang violence in Haiti. A total of Sh 10 million was raised during a fund drive.



Nakuru's county government is establishing an urban observatory using smart city components to facilitate data collection, analysis, and evidence-based decision-making. The initiative, implemented through the Directorate of Urban Development and City Management, aims to make the world's data more understandable and useful. The observatory is an interactive exhibit that compares maps of cities worldwide, aiming to make the world's data more understandable. The city manager emphasized the importance of observatories in formulating policies, involving people in decisions, compiling data, and ensuring data availability. The UN-Habitat estimates that two-thirds of the world's population will reside in urban areas over the next five years.



Over thirty Nyumba Kumi community policing members from the Kiahuria location in Witethie, Thika Sub-County, have received a two-day community policing training organized by Zetech University. The training focused on leadership, conflict resolution, community policing, and customer service excellence. The training was facilitated by the School of Education, Arts and Sciences Dean Prof. Owen Ngumi, in collaboration with Assistant County Commissioner Ms. Cecilia Mwangi and Chief Kiahuria location Mr. John Wainaina. The training aimed to improve community policing efforts, particularly in tackling rampant crime and drug abuse among the youth. Hospital administrator John Njuguna also expressed the improvement in community policing, particularly among the youth, with the support of administration and religious leaders. The training concluded with a certificate award ceremony for the participants.

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CS Kuria Hints At Introducing Fees For Services At Huduma Centres

By: Muraya Kamunde

@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

“Our Huduma centres have been a popular source of government services for so many of us, and we must make sure they become self sustainable without depending so much on the National Treasury. What of introducing a small fee for services offered? What of providing private sector services at a small fee? Venturing into E-commerce?” he posed.

The CS also spoke on a wide array of issues that he intends to implement in his new docket to align with the vision of President William Ruto.



Public Service, Performance and Delivery Management Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria

Public Service, Performance and Delivery Management Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria has hinted at introducing fees for services offered at Huduma Centres.

Kuria who was speaking to the media yesterday after taking over his new role at the Ministry said the move will ensure that Huduma Centres become self sustainable without depending on the National Government.

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for so many of us, and we must make sure they become self sustainable without depending so much on the National Treasury. What of introducing a small fee for services offered? What of providing private sector services at a small fee? Venturing into E-commerce?” he posed.

The CS also spoke on a wide array of issues that he intends to implement in his new docket to align with the vision of President William Ruto.

He vowed to have a microscopic eye

on all projects done in the country, and also relieve President William Ruto of the task of following up on the progress of government projects.

“On Delivery management, I will have a microscopic view on all projects done in this country be it National or County Govt’s. We have no time to waste and everybody must be ready to work extra hard to make sure all these projects are completed on time. No time for laziness. I’ll henceforth relieve the President the task of fol-

lowing up on progress of the government’s projects and move around this country ensuring all is well,” CS Kuria said.

He also promised to re-engineer the National Youth Service (NYS) to lead a great transformation in the agricultural sector, revive manufacturing and incarcerate the culture of patriotism, which he said will be a tool of hope and discipline for youths.

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Small Teams Upstage Dominants In Waiguru's Football Tournament

By: Our Correspondent
 @themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- In Wamumu Ward, Nganga Rising Star Fc served Bright star Fc a gut-wrenching defeat after Misheck Mwendia scored the team's sole winning goal.
- Nganga Rising Star's captain Erick Murimi was elated after their win saying that previously there has never been such a massive tournament, adding that Governor Waiguru had given many youths an opportunity to showcase their talents.
- "This is the largest tournament we have had in Kirinyaga and it has given us a platform to showcase our talents," he said.
- Bright Star Fc's Captain Elijah Thiong'o echoed his competitor's remarks and said that the games have kept all teams on their toes with the players taking the tournament very seriously.

Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru's football tournament entered the third round with teams earlier seen as underdogs staging surprise wins against dominant ones.

On Sunday, 80 matches were played across the 20 wards with each team seeking to be at the top at the ward level.

About 200 teams are participating in the round robin tournament whose winner will go home with KSh1 million cash reward.

Winners of the ward level matches are expected to proceed to the Sub-County level where 20 teams will battle it out to get to the County level.

Finals of the tournament dubbed "Governor Anne Waiguru- Minji Minji Football Cup" are expected to be played around 10th December.

Governor Waiguru has said the tournament, under the theme "Nurturing Talent for Livelihood," will see about 5,000 youth from about 200 football clubs compete from the ward up to the county level.

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ents," he said.

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The local fans have been an essential part of the excitement. The tournament has attracted huge spectatorship with each team bringing in supporters to cheer its players.

In Tebere Ward, Gathigiriri Prison Fc and Kiarukungu Fc entertained spectators with a thrilling match, with Gathigiriri Prison Fc emerging victorious after scoring the game's only goal.

Gathigiriri Prison Fc's captain Shadrack Njuguna said his players were looking forward to winning the tournament.

"The top prize of KSh1 million is a huge motivation boost for all the teams and we all look forward to Sundays as we get to compete and test our power as players," he said.

Kiarukungu FC's captain Kennedy Mwangi said that his team remains optimistic of proceeding to the next round despite losing to Gathigiriri Prison FC, dubbing it a minor hitch on the road.

"This tournament has motivated us to grow our talents and abilities as football players and as a team we

remain committed to getting to the finals despite our loss today," he said.

Winning team will get a reward of KSh1 million while the second will receive Ksh.750,000. The third will walk home with Ksh.500,000 as the fourth bags Ksh.350,000. The fifth will get Ksh. 200,000 with top teams in ward level also receiving cash rewards.

The two months tournament is the largest football competition to have ever taken place in the county and is aimed at empowering youths to generate income from their talents.



President Ruto Urges Chinese Investors To Exploit Opportunities In Energy, Water, Housing

By: Presidential Communication Service



President William Ruto has urged Chinese investors to exploit existing opportunities in Kenya in the fields of energy, water and housing.

Worth Noting:

- The MoU entails optimising flexibility and reliability of electrical power system; planning, designing, transformation and modernisation of power generation, transmission lines, distribution lines and substations.
- Others aspects of the MOU are; utilising or unlocking the potential of renewable energy and advanced energy storage for supporting higher domestic energy sufficiency and electricity interchange; digitalisation, modernising and innovative management of power systems and power plants.
- The MoU was signed by Energy PS Alex Wachira on behalf of Kenya while Lyu Zexiang signed on behalf of China Energy International Group.
- Chairman of the organisation Song Hailiang, said they were ready to collaborate with Kenya in projects aimed at transforming the lives of its citizens.

President William Ruto has urged Chinese investors to exploit existing opportunities in Kenya in the fields of energy, water and housing.

He said Kenya will support foreign investors who can engage in the value addition of the country's abundant raw materials, especially in the energy, water and housing sectors.

"We have many opportunities in our country that you can explore especially in the areas of energy, water and housing," said President Ruto.

He made the remarks yesterday when he made an extensive tour of China's Engineering Corporation limited in Beijing, China.

The company deals with energy integration solutions, construction and contracting, equipment and manufacturing, integrated ecosystem restoration and urban development operations.

During the tour, President Ruto witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum and Energy China.

The MoU entails optimising flexibility and reliability of electrical power system; planning, designing, transformation and modernisation of power generation, transmission lines, distribution lines and substations.

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The MoU was signed by Energy PS Alex Wachira on behalf of Kenya while Lyu Zexiang signed on behalf of China Energy International Group.

Chairman of the organisation Song Hailiang, said they were ready to collaborate with Kenya in projects aimed at transforming the lives of its citizens.

"We already have our projects running in Kenya and we want to explore other opportunities in the country," said Mr Hailiang.

At the same time, Kenya signed a MoU with Huawei telecommunications company to promote digital transformation.

President Ruto witnessed the MoU after a tour of Huawei Beijing Exhibition.

The MoU was signed by the Principal Secretary of the State Department of ICT and the Digital Economy of Kenya, Eng John Tanui, his Foreign Affairs counterpart Korir Sing'oei and Gao Fei, CEO of Huawei Kenya.

The MoU states that the two parties will collaborate to further develop the ICT infrastructure of Kenya and promote the digitization of various sectors of the country, such as transportation, e-government, education and digital energy.

This would contribute to the country's Digital Superhighway and Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda.

The two parties also agreed to continue to cultivate digital skills and enhance capacity building in Kenya by signing the MoU.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, President Ruto emphasized on the need to develop a green, digital and creative economy in Kenya.

He praised Huawei telecommunications company, for its commitment to helping Kenya accelerate its digital inclusion.

Dr Ruto said the move has led to expanded access to online platforms and services by providing innovative technologies.

He said Huawei and Safaricom have played a greater role in meeting the technological needs of Kenyans.

Dr Ruto said technology has made it easier for the Government to move 13,000 services to a digital platform. "Technology has enabled us move 13,000 Government services to a

digital platform courtesy of Huawei and Safaricom among other organizations," said President Ruto.

Chairman of Huawei's Board of Directors, Dr. Liang Hua said Huawei was ready to work more closely with Kenyan government to grow the digital and creative economy in the country.

"We are encouraged by how Kenya puts the development of ICT infrastructure and the use of digital technology at the centre of development," he said.

Dr Hua disclosed that Huawei was willing and ready to further contribute to the improvement of inclusive connectivity across Kenya.

He said this can be achieved by promoting the adoption of new technologies in various industries and equipping Kenyans with adequate digital skills.

The chairman noted that since starting operations in Kenya in 2003, Huawei has been dedicated to boosting ICT infrastructure, providing digital services, and promoting digital skills in the country.

The global ICT leader supported the construction of computing power infrastructure including National Optical Fiber Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI) and the KONZA National Data Center.

You And I Need The Church!



By: Eric Musa
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The dazzling images of the Church assault us again and again in the New Testament in an effort to raise our thinking to the proper height. As the Church, actually we are Christ's Body (Ephesians 1:22, 23). He is the Head, and as members of His Body we have at the same time a profound unity, diversity, and mutuality. We are a temple (Ephesians 2:19-22). He is the cornerstone, and we are living stones (1 Peter 2:5) — forming a living place of worship. We are the bride (Ephesians 5:25-33). And Christ, our groom, loves us with a holy love which will bring us to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb. We are his sheep, and He is the nurturing shepherd (John 10:14-16, 25-30). He is the vine, and we are the branches. We are organically in Him, drawing all our sustenance for life from Him (John 15:5ff).

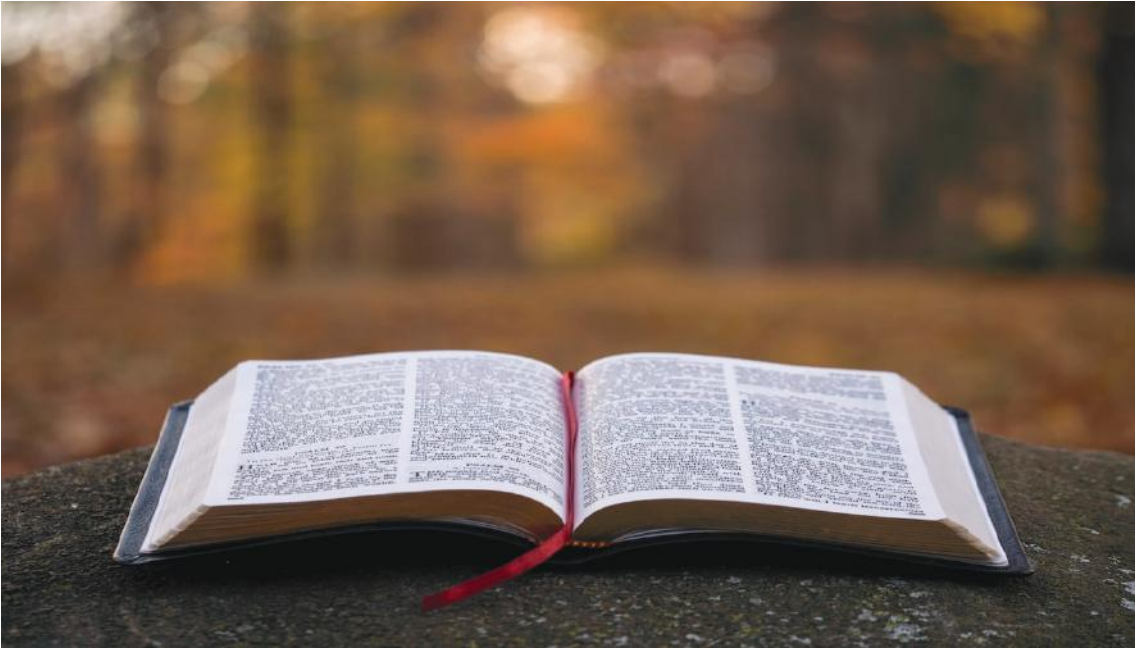
What should the truth that we are the

Church mean to us? It should fill us with wonder and thanksgiving. We ought to sing, "I am His body, His temple, His bride, His sheep, His branch. I have come to His city — to angels — to brothers and sisters — to God Himself — to the Church glorified — to Jesus — to forgiveness through Christ's blood." This doctrine also tells us that the Church will outlive the world. Harry Blamires wrote:

"The world is like a great express train hurtling towards disaster — perhaps towards total destruction. And in this truly desperate situation certain passengers are running up and down the corridors announcing to each other that the Church is in great danger! The irony of it would be laughable if it were not so searing. Why, most of the Church's members have already got out at stations en route. And we ourselves shall be getting out soon anyway. And if the crash comes and the world is burnt to ashes, then the only thing that will survive the disaster will of course be the Church.

Personally, the doctrine of the Church ought to tell us that we are part of the grandest institution the universe has ever known, and that we are tragically diminished by non-participation in Christ's Body. Correspondingly, the Church is diminished by our nonparticipation as well. You and I need the Church! The Scriptures are most explicit regarding this: "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:25).

SELAH. ALMIGHTY EVERLASTING FATHER, PLEASE IN YOUR LOVE AND TENDER MERCIES



, HELP US THROUGH AND THROUGH: AMEN IN JESUS NAME.

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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Athi River Demolitions, Kamba Leaders Owe Ruto An Apology



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
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Athi River Demolitions.

Worth Noting:

- This fury emanated from ongoing demolition of the residential houses and public structures in Athi River, Machakos county.
- Records showed that they had been built on a grabbed land owned by East African Portland Cement Company. The company had moved the court. The demolition was a culmination of protracted legal battle that had dragged on for more than 10 years.
- In a ruling delivered a few days earlier, the judge of the Land and Environment Court noted. Upon listening to submissions presented by the parties involved in this case, I have come to a conclusion that this land is owned by the cement manufacturing company.

Since he assumed office, President William Ruto has been walking the talk in fidelity to the constitution and laws of the land.

Noting about the critical role that the Judiciary was playing as the custodian of law and in administration of justice, Dr Ruto in various occasions minced no word in vowing to respect the decisions of the courts.

We have a robust and vibrant constitution and in light of this the provisions were very clear. You have a right to file an appeal if you disagree with the rulings.

President Ruto's commitment to this course had been put to a big test through the cases filed by the President of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) and Busia Senator Okiya Omtata.

Ruto's response. It is your right to file your respective cases. The government will respond appropriately by filing counter arguments. The judges will deliver final verdicts. We will respect them and I would expect you to do the same.

During the Raila Odinga led Azimio demonstrations, the President read the same script. You are free to hold your protests so long as you follow the law to the letter and spirit. Article 37 of the constitution was explicit that such demonstrations ought to be peaceful. This means protestors must be unarmed and their representatives only allowed to carry written petitions.

Given this background, I totally

disagree with Kamba leaders latest bare-knuckled attacks on President Ruto.

This fury emanated from ongoing demolition of the residential houses and public structures in Athi River, Machakos county.

Records showed that they had been built on a grabbed land owned by East African Portland Cement Company. The company had moved the court. The demolition was a culmination of protracted legal battle that had dragged on for more than 10 years.

In a ruling delivered a few days earlier, the judge of the Land and Environment Court noted. Upon listening to submissions presented by the parties involved in this case, I have come to a conclusion that this land is owned by the cement manufacturing company.

The land had been grabbed and so those residing there are occupying it illegally.

These are the orders. They should vacate this land immediately. If not, the cement company should seek the help of the government to remove them.

It is worth noting that this matter had roped in Cabinet Secretary Alfred Mutua when he was the governor of Machakos. In a letter he wrote to the relevant arms of government he decried the grabbing of this land.

The information I have shows the land belongs to Portland Cement Company. I urge you to commence the investiga-

tions and speedily sort out this matter.

I'm persuaded to believe this letter which is currently circulating in social media is authentic. Mutua have not denounced it.

Given this scenerio, the Kamba leaders had no justification to take on President Ruto. The attacks were in bad faith and politically motivated.

Majority of those evicted were Kambas. They were out to cast a picture of holier than thou that they cared for them.

The onslaught was being led by Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka and Governor Wavinya.

The former have been a defacto leader of the Kamba community for as long as one can remember.

For more than 10 years, he knew this was a disputed land. As a lawyer, I'm sure he also knew the cement company stood a high chance of winning the case. Has he ever play any role to save these people? If yes, he should tell us.

For Governor Ndeti, I heard her lamenting that she had called President William Ruto before the demolitions started.

She alleged that the President did not heed her call to stop the evictions.

The decision had already been made by the Lands Court. So, she wanted Dr Ruto to defy the court order.

President Ruto would not fall prey to her trap. Such a move would have been interpreted to mean he was preaching

water and drinking wine.

For the governor, I want to ask her. What efforts had you made before to stop the evictions? You knew the matter was in court. Why do you wait until the last minute?

If indeed Kalonzo and Wavinya cared for thier people, I would have expected them to seek to have this matter sorted out of court.

This is by first talking with management of the cement company and persuading them to withdraw the case.

We would have expected to hear them seeking audience with President Ruto over the same matter.

It is also worth noting the dispute had been existence since the era of President Mwai Kibaki and his successor Uhuru Kenyatta. One may ask. Did they ever brought this matter to thier attention?

I heard Wavinya saying that Kambas have many ways of dealing with those they consider to be thier enemies. She fell short of disclosing one of them is a curse (kithitu).

If you opts to do this, you should curse yourselves.

As leaders, you failed your people of Kamba nation.

It was also wrong to condemn the GSU police officers. They had not broken any law. The law allows them to ensure court orders are obeyed and respected.

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

Do Not Disappoint The President, DP Gachagua Tells Public Officers

By: DPCS

@themkenyatimes



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua being welcome in Ol-Kalou, Nyandarua

Worth Noting:

- “The President loves this community, he gave Mt Kenya people key positions in the public service. I urge them to work hard and avoid disappointing or embarrassing the President. Let us work hard for the people and the nation so that in future, there will not be fears by the President over performance of persons from this region,” said the President on Sunday in Ol Kalou town, Nyandarua County.
- He spoke during the Akorinu Christian community church service and official launch of their Redeemer Sacco Credit.
- The Deputy President was accompanied by a host of leaders led by National Assembly Majority Leader Kimani Ichung’wa, Nandi senator Samson Cherargei and MPs Alice Ng’ang’a (Thika Town) and Muchangi Karemba (Runyenjes).

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has asked government appointees from the Mt Kenya region to work exceedingly well in their respective dockets and not to disappoint President William Ruto.

This comes as a group of politicians and religious leaders from the Gikuyu Embu and Meru (Gema) community endorsed the DP and declared that they will rally behind him as the regional political kingpin and that they support his bid for unity of the region. Stating that the President appointed various persons from the region’s to control key dockets in the government, the Deputy President said the officials were holding the public positions on behalf of the community and must make the President proud.

“The President loves this community, he gave Mt Kenya people key positions in the public service. I urge them to work hard and avoid disappointing or embarrassing the President. Let us work hard for the people and the nation so that in future, there will not be fears by the President over performance of persons from this region,” said the President on Sunday in Ol Kalou town, Nyandarua County.

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The Deputy President was accompanied by a host of leaders led by National Assembly Majority Leader Kimani Ichung’wa, Nandi senator

Samson Cherargei and MPs Alice Ng’ang’a (Thika Town) and Muchangi Karemba (Runyenjes).

Among other leaders present was the host governor Kiarie Badilisha, area MP David Kiaraho, Nyandarua County Woman Representative Faith Gitau, and MPs Wanjiku Muhia (Kipipiri), Jane Kihara (Naivasha), Michael Muchira (Ol Jorok), Benjamin Gathiru alias Mejja Donk (Embakasi Central), Mary Wamaua (Maragua), George Gachagua (Ndaragwa) and Nyandarua senator John Methu.

Principal Secretaries Amos Gathecha (Public Service) and Engineer Joseph Mbugua (for Roads) were also in attendance.

In his remarks, the Deputy President said that the Kenya Kwanza administration will remain strong because it was brought to power through prayers and that it will be sustained by prayers.

“We are proud of the church and we will continue to support it. The President and I are grateful for the prayers of believers. We will not get tired of supporting the church.

You supported President Ruto’s election bid and he won. We will attend your annual national prayers service fete at the Nakuru shrine,” he told the over 5,000 worshippers gathered at the event.

The clergy of the congregation led by Bishop Isaac Kariuki, the national coordinator of the Akurino and Israel churches, said they will support President Ruto’s administration.

He further asked the church to support the ongoing crackdown on toxic and illicit brews, adding that the National Government Administration Officers (NGAOS) have up to December this year to ensure their areas of jurisdiction were free of the menace.

“I am calling upon the church to support the operation because the alcohol menace is a community problem. We have to eradicate it. All toxic brews were dumbered in Central to lower the community’s economic production and population. There were people who had bad plans for us, they do not wish us well,” said the Deputy President.

He added, “the County Commissioners and NGAOS, continue working on the crackdown. Some chiefs may be sacked over laxity. I have trust you can do a good job and by December make this year, make sure we are free of illicit brews and drugs.”

The Deputy President further vowed to continue with his mission to unite leaders and voters in Mt Kenya region and reach out to those allied to Opposition coalition Azimio in a bid to consolidate support in the region ahead of the 2027 elections.

He said that his new drive to consolidate Mt Kenya is to ensure President William Ruto gets reelected and secures 100 per cent support from the region.

The Deputy President said he will reach out all leaders irrespective of their political affiliation.

“In Mt Kenya region, President Ruto got 87 per cent of the votes cast. I am reaching out to the 13 per cent group including those in Azimio. We want Mt Kenya to give President Ruto 100 per cent in the 2027 General election,” said Mr Gachagua on Sunday while addressing worshippers at Ol Kalou town, Nyandarua County, during the Akorinu Christian community church service and official launch of Redeemer Sacco Credit.

Politicians and religious leaders said that Mr Gachagua is the regional political kingpin and they will rally behind him and that they admire his courage.

“Last week on Friday 11 governors from Mt Kenya met in Nyeri and we resolved to support the Deputy President and rally behind him as our kingpin in his development agenda,” said Nyandarua Governor Moses Kiarie Badilisha.

National Assembly Majority Leader Kimani Ichung’wa, asked the leaders to unite for prosperity of the region

“Let us train our people on politics of prosperity not poverty. Let us unite behind the Deputy President as he continues with development programs such as revival of the agricultural sector. Let us pray for President as he delivers on his mandate because globally economy is bad,” said Mr Ichung’wa.

Committee On Communication, Information, And Information Tours Konza Technopolis

By: John Kariuki
 @themkenyatimes

The developers of the Multi-billion Konza City have been urged to adequately brand the technopolis to attract more attention, and showcase the milestones so-far made. While undertaking an inspection tour of the project, members of the Departmental Committee on Communication, Information and Innovation noted that the project has so far consumed billions of shillings with very little physical proof of the accomplishment.

“Put the brand out there, do not allow brand Konza to be swallowed by its subsidiary projects like Jitume. Let the world see the vision in images, starting from the outlook of the project site,” urged the Committee chairperson and Dagoretti South MP John Kiarie.

He outlined the need to prioritize the flagship programs within the Technopolis as it will set the pace of faster uptake by potential development part-

ners. “There is a massive expense already undertaken in the vertical development even before the horizontal uptake. We have witnessed great milestones in the development of utilities like fibre, water, electricity. This means the project is ready for take-off.” Said Kiarie.

The Committee committed to champion efforts to ensure that the Nation Assembly prioritizes Konza as one of the key priority projects to be funded in the next budget cycle.

According to the MPs, the operationalization of the tier three data centre, conference centre, among other complemented parts of the project will encourage more investors to come on board.

The Konza management team led by the Chief Executive Officer John Paul Okwiri highlighted budget constraints and understaffing as some of the bottlenecks to their delivery of their mandate.



CCII Committee chairperson and Dagoretti South MP John Kiarie.

West Mugirango MP, Steve Mogaka Vows To Collaborate With Leaders From Various Political Parties

By: Elizabeth Angira
 @themkenyatimes

West Mugirango MP, Steve Mogaka, has expressed his commitment to collaborate with leaders from various political parties.

Speaking in Nyamira County, Mogaka urged leaders to prioritize development over political maneuvering and unite for the betterment of the community.

He emphasized that elected leaders should focus on their roles in serving the public and promoting development, rather than engaging in divisive politics.

Mogaka stressed the importance of supporting elected leaders to achieve more progress and unity.

Mogaka believes in making the most of every leader’s potential and urged opponents not to underesti-

mate the value of elected officials.

“Let’s support them so that they can bring more development,” he said.

He called for a collective effort to improve the well-being of the public and address issues like the poor condition of schools.

Mogaka emphasized the dire state of many schools and urged leaders to prioritize their renovation and improvement.

He stressed the need to focus on revitalizing our educational institutions.

“Let’s make it a priority to renovate and improve our schools,” Mogaka urged.

Mogaka has appealed to the public to stand united and resist divisive politics driven by selfish leaders.



West Mugirango MP, Steve Mogaka has expressed his commitment to work with leaders from various political parties. Photo/ Elizabeth Angira.

Let's Make Man



By David Jomo

Rome was not build in a day
But should we add nine months on our
ages
For we were alive all along, too?

Ideas

Mona Lisa begun with a single drop of
ink

And the world was made with few
words,
Let there be Light,
And the lord was pleased.

Yesterday I said hi to her
She shied away
Today in the morning,
I held longer her hand
'Let there be love' I said
And she broke off
To where her momma was.

I had planted a tree
But the rain passed over my farm
Will I see the fruits of my labour?
In that, at the end
I may command
'Let's make man of our own image
And likeness'
Before resting on our special day.

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Mother

Your daughter is far away
From you
A word you have said over
and over again
I still have your face in front
of my eyes
I miss you today mom

I follow you on the road
You are the only one for me
You have a smile on your
face
I miss you today mom

Eshmurodova Raziya
Nukus is a 2nd year student
of the Faculty of Turkish
Languages of the State
Pedagogical Institute.



LIFE

You can never give me up
You are not strong enough to surrender.
You can bow my head with me,
Or your strength is enough to make your
heart beat,

You can never give me up
I'm going to wake up again.
Know this, know this, dear life
Anyway, I'll live with laughter.

MURTAZAYEVA NAZOKAT ODIL's
daughter was born in 2003 in Kumqorgan
district, Surkhandar'ya region. Currently,
she is a 2nd year student of the Faculty
of History of Termiz State University.
Her poems were published in the
newspaper "Kumqorgan Sadosi"



Friend

Today, the villagers are busy with various
chores from early morning till nightfall.
Some are harvesting crops, while others
are carrying water. Yulduz is still sleeping
soundly beside her mother Dilnura, who
has already prepared breakfast. Everyone
is busy except for Yulduz. Her mother
came to her and asked, "My dear
daughter, are you still sleepy? Wake up
and have breakfast." Yulduz helped her
mother after having breakfast. After
finishing her work, she watched TV and
then went out. She had not gone out for
a long time and was excited to take a
break. Finally, the night approached and
she wanted to talk to the moon. She
eagerly awaited the moment to converse
with the moon and stars. She greeted her
friends with a smile and went to bed. She
couldn't sleep, so she stayed up reading.

Morning arrived, and Yulduz went to her
friend Sevara's house with permission
from her mother. Sevara was a book
lover, and when she learned that Yulduz
was interested in books, she presented
her with a book from her personal library.
Yulduz was very interested in this book
and started reading it every day. She also
found a new friend in Sevara through her
help. Now she no longer feels lonely.

Sitorakhon Buriyeva.

Buriyeva Sitorakhon Azamatovna was
born in 2001 in Kumkurgan district of
Surkhandar'ya region. Currently, he is a
3rd year student of the Navoi State
Pedagogical Institute. "Ilhom

A member of the literary club, a
young volunteer of the "Golden Wing"
organization. His creative works have
been published in Kenyan magazines. He is
an ambassador on behalf of Uzbekistan in
several international organizations.

In particular: Africa Nigeria is the
ambassador of the organization "Global
Education Ambassador" at Wisdom
University of the country.

Member of the International Union of
Writers of Science and Literature "Juntos
por las Letras" of Argentina.

APHORISMS.

- If you pour clean water into a dirty
glass, it will become dirty.
- The greatest happiness is a smile that
gives you pleasure.
The greatest wealth is actually a pleasure.
- Sometimes life puts a person in a bag
and suffocates them.

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BUSINESS

Government, Huawei Signs MoU To Promote Digital Transformation

By: Christine Muchira

President William Ruto yesterday witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Kenya and Huawei in Beijing China when he visited Huawei's Beijing Executive Briefing Center (EBC).

The MoU states that the two parties will collaborate to further develop the ICT infrastructure of Kenya and promote the digitization of various sectors of the country, such as transportation, e-government, education, digital energy among others.

Additionally, the two parties agreed to continue to cultivate digital skills and knowledge sharing to enable Kenya youth to be job ready.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, President Ruto stated that, "We rec-



On October 16th, 2023, witnessed by Kenyan President William Ruto and Chairman of Huawei's Board of Directors Liang Hua, The Government of Kenya signed an MoU with Huawei to promote Kenya's vision of a digital economy.

ognise the urgent need to develop green, digital and creative economy in Kenya. In this regard, we therefore regard Huawei as a reliable partner

of Kenya in terms of improving digital infrastructure, with its pioneering strength in ICT technologies driven by its heavy R&D investment.

We look forward to strengthening the partnership for more positive outcomes of the ICT infrastructure construction and industrial digitalization."

Chairman of Huawei's Board of Directors, Liang Hua said Huawei is ready to work more closely with Kenyan government to grow the digital and creative economy in the country.

"Huawei hopes to facilitate Kenya's development in fields like the ICT connectivity infrastructure, national data center and solar power generation. We will continue to dedicate ourselves to improving young Kenyans' digital skills and literacy. Huawei values in on openness, collaboration and win-win results. We will enhance investment in the R&D of cutting-edge technologies across connectivity, computing and digital power. Our team will work with local customers and partners to make greater contributions to the digital

economy in Kenya."

Since starting operations in Kenya in 2003, Huawei has been dedicated to boosting ICT infrastructure, providing digital services, and promoting digital skills in the country.

The global ICT leader supported the construction of computing power infrastructure including National Optical Fiber Backbone Infrastructure (NOFBI) and the KONZA National Data Center.

Huawei also supported Safaricom in launching the first 5G network in East Africa in 2021.

Besides, Huawei has long been a firm supporter of Kenya's inclusive development and digital skills agenda, contributing to Kenya's inclusive finance innovations such as the M-PESA and the Hustler-fund, and has provided digital skills training to about 10,000 Kenyan people in the past year.

DP Gachagua Lauds Community Health Promoters' Role In Realization Of UHC

By: Prudence Wanza

The government is banking on Community Health Promoters to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) for all Kenyans, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has said.

Gachagua stated that the impact of Community Health promoters is already evident at the grassroots level, just a few days after President William Ruto flagged off over 100,000 Community Health Promoters to work in the 47 Counties.

"I wish to commend the Community Health Promoters, who have been engaged for this assignment. You are our heroes. We can't pay you enough for the splendid work you are already undertaking. Once again, we count on your utmost dedication to deliver to Kenyans, the Promise of Universal Health Coverage," said

Gachagua.

The DP spoke on Monday during the opening of the universal health coverage pre-mashujaa conference week at Kapkatet stadium, Kericho County ahead of Mashujaa Day celebrations scheduled for Friday.

Gachagua also inaugurated an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at Kapkatet Sub County Hospital in Bureti Constituency.

He noted that the facility will enhance medical services in the region and create a conducive environment for medical research and innovation.

This year's Mashujaa Day is being celebrated under the theme of Universal Health Care.



PHOTO: Courtesy.



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People And Culture: The Burial Rite Of A Circumciser Among Kabras Community In Western Kenya

By: Sefu Sabila
@themkenyatimes



The Burial Rite of A Circumciser among Kabras community in Western Kenya

Worth Noting:

- “This is an important rite of passage for any Luhya man, we always welcome this season with a ceremony, animals are slaughtered knives are sharpened, and each one knows which area to conduct the curcumson. Everything is set ready, including the herbs and disinfection of the knives, as we also ask for blessings from our ancestors of zero deaths after curcumson.” Mzee Matayo explained.
- The ceremony is also conducted by Bukusu elders in Trans Nzoia county for the people ready for initiation to begin. Mzee Matayo further says the practices vary from one Luhya community to another. While some practice after every one year, communities like Maragoli of vihiga county practice after every 5 years for boys to usher them into adulthood from childhood.

Culture gives us a sense of belonging and identity. Despite the ‘heavy’ flow of the western culture, many communities in the country have stood firm in passing their cultural practices, beliefs and traditions to other generations.

Luhya communities are known for their cultural practice of circumcision, for instance, the Kabras a substitute of the Luhya tribe found in Kakamega County, practice curcumson on August of every even year. Before the season begins, the elders come together and perform rituals to cleanse the period. The ‘Abashefi’ (circumcisers) come together to bless the month and the practice.

Matayo Mukwei an elder from Kabras says, the ritual is to appease their ancestors to have a successful season, with zero deaths recorded. During this ceremony, they will be in their uniform, red in colour and a hat made from animal skins.

“This is an important rite of passage for any Luhya man, we always welcome this season with a ceremony, animals are slaughtered knives are sharpened, and each one knows which area to conduct the curcumson. Everything is set ready, including the herbs and disinfection of the knives, as we also ask for blessings from our ancestors of zero deaths after curcumson.” Mzee Matayo explained.

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nities like Maragoli of vihiga county practice after every 5 years for boys to usher them into adulthood from childhood.

“We the people of Kabras practice after every one year, similar to the Bukusus in Bungoma and Trans Nzoia, in August while others get prepared for December. However, some like Maragoli initially used to circumcise boys after every 10 years, but the elders after many considerations including age, reduced to 5 years; which they conducted this year August since 2016.” Mzee Matayo explained.

On Saturday was the burial ceremony of one the ‘Abashefi’ in Mutsuma area, Malava Constituency, Mzee Japheth Namusia, who hails from a family of curcumcisers. The late was among the few old curcumcisers in the village, according to mzee Matayo. His burial was followed by a series of traditions from his colleagues.

After the Christian service, the team if curcumcisers take over the ceremony, in full attires, singing curcumcison songs as they head to the grave with the body of the late, one carrying a banana plant. The community members join in singing and dancing just like any other curcumcison ceremony.

“Being his final ride on earth, and nurture of his work, we have to perform a symbolized curcumcison with a banana tree at his grave yard. A senior most curcumciser performs the rite, ‘omushefi’ is also buried with some traditional herbs and his tools, marking the end of era.” Mzee Matayo explained.

“ There are other traditions performs

that women and children are not allowed to see around his body, for example while they check the state and position in which the deceased is laying. In our tradition, it said a certain posture in which the deceased is laying and faces when being buried, if not careful confirmed can make bring bad omen to his household. In cases where the deceased has his hands folded, special herbs are used to straighten or someone close to the deceased speaks to them, and they happen to unfold their hand. “ Mzee Matayo added.

Mzee Matayo urged that such unique traditions need to be documented and passed to other generations. He refuted those associating the traditions to cultism and witchcraft, saying it’s the reasons leading erosion and disregard to many beautiful African culture.



“There is a very wrong belief in the society today by modernization that, everything tradition is associated to dark powers. Even the Holy Bible says give ceaser what belongs to ceaser, and God what belongs to God. We want our culture show cased across the world. We have many beautiful cultures and traditions apart from the only known Maasai culture. We condemn any culture that is oppressive, but that which makes us outstanding we shall pass to our generations.” Mzee Matayo affirmed.

On 10th October, the country marked the Utamaduni Day for the first time ever since it was gazetted in the constitution as a public holiday. The event was graced by the first lady Mama Rachel Ruto, Kenyans from across the country showcasing their beautiful cultures and traditions from attires, food and dances.

As Mzee Matayo frames it, we should not be slaves of our culture but take pride in our traditions and culture. “Culture should not be a yoke in our necks, but something to be proud of without the feeling of being guilty.” Mzee added.

With diverse culture and traditions in Western Kenya, the cultures of curcumcison and burial tires have been maintained by residents of Western Kenya. Over the weekend, the Turkana community in Northern Kenya had their annual cultural festival Tobong’u Lore, which show cased the beautiful culture of the Turkana people, the festival gives another face of Turkana County, far from drought and cattle rustling that have become a menace on Northern Kenya. There were calls from leaders to promote culture largely from across the country to the world, as there is much beautiful untold cultures along the Maasai culture known worldwide.

Govt. Urged To Support Local Leather Processors

By: John Kariuki
 @themtkenyatimes

The Government has been implored upon to walk the talk and show its commitment towards boosting local leather Production as opposed to allowing imports of products which can be locally manufactured.

According to Kenya Tanneries Association Chairman Robert Njoka, he observed that with proper support, the leather value chain can be upscale to create more than two million jobs in just two years.

At the moment the Government has established the Kenya Leather Industrial Park in Kenanie which is currently under construction. This will be the hub of leather development in Kenya. Once complete it shall be able to manufacture quality leather products enough for local consumption and export. This will create hundreds of thousands of jobs.

But Mr Njoka observed: "Currently the leather industry as a whole it has got the Greatest challenge it has never faced for the last over 30 years. The last financial bill

the government removed the duty of export of raw hides from eighty percent to fifty percent or point 35 dollars per kilo or whichever is high. So with that it leaves us with minimal solutions to our problems having in mind that our Kenya raw hides quality is very poor due to lack of quality management from the ministry of livestock and where we have been pushing right left to see whether we can improve raw hides because you see having the second highest livestock population in East Africa from Tanzania you find if we require high quality hides we can only do that from Uganda or from Rwanda.

So it's unfortunate then when the government come on board and give us a position that this is a country where they want to become a manufacturing country and the same time the same administration is giving us a position that they want our raw material to be exported.

These are double standards because you can't be exporting your raw material at the same time you are telling the investors to increase the capacity for more production of the leather, for more consumption of raw material and at the same time the gov-



Kenya Tanneries Association Chairman Robert Njoka.

ernment is busy setting up a leather industrial park where it has spent almost three billion, actually it leaves the stakeholders confused is the government sure of what it's telling us or there's somebody interested with

his own game in the whole industry. So it's my humble request if the government can have second thinking for one reason because everyday we hear our president is very interested in this industry and if you look

even at his Kenya Kwanza manifesto leather industry was one of the areas the government promised to support."

Kiama Kia Ma Elders Makes Changes In Kiambu North Branch

By: Janet Wangechi
 @themtkenyatimes

The Eng. Muiru the National Secretary General Kiama Kia Ma Gikuyu Elders Organisation called the Kiambu County Northern Side of the county to a Final Delegates meeting held at Gatundu North Sub county Mwakiini Wa Mukurwe 16th, Oct 2023 at 3pm.

As mandated by National Kiama Kia Ma office and guidelines the secretary general should collect the returns of the Delegates at county level when need be. Eng. Muiru thus called the meeting to collect collective views of both the southern and northern parts of Kiambu.

He got confirmation from Kiambu Kiama Kia Ma bonafide delegates that they have halted both muthigi wa Munyua Wa N'gan'ga and that of Nditu wa Gitau from handling Kiambu County Matters up until when we shall hold a Kiambu Congress that was presumed by the Kiambu Patron



Some of Kiambu Kiama Kia Ma Elders leadership.

George Nyanja to be held at around February 2024 when they shall elect a new office as a United Kiambu, Patron Nyanja also stated that Capt. Kungu is not the national Patron since he has never been coronated

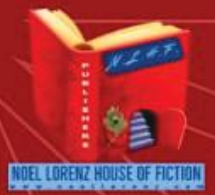
at any ceremony known to Kiambu delegates, the nominated and coronated National Patron is one Mr. Kinyua Mwangi from naivasha who was coronated at a ceremony held in Nyeri by delegates from all over the

12 counties that our members belong to Mr. Kinyua Mwangi is deputised by Mr. George Wainana Njugu from Kikuyu Sub County. He also added that Capt. Kungu is thus not mandated to call any Kiama elders meeting

in Kiambu county. The Sec. Gen Eng Muiru appreciated the Kiambu delegates efforts to bring unity in kiambu county kiama Kia ma and thus confirmed the interim office that was appointed to be the caretaker office of kiambu led by Gathura Muringa as interim Chair, Njaramba Waweru as the interim Vice chair, Mutha Maina as the interim Sec General, Kibe Ngigi as the interim Treasurer, Kiarie N'gan'ga as the interim org. Sec, he also stated that the interim office is in place up until kiambu county holds its elections soon after this year's boys circumcision exercise coming in November. He also gave this year's age set name as Gutiriha 8.4.4 as agreed upon by the national Elders and Athamaki. National Sec Gen also flagged off the mass registration of membership in kiambu County after the process was well elaborated by the Kaima Kia ma led lawyer who is also the Gatundu North Patron waki-li Kimemia Kimani.

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Digital Technologies In Education Prospects Of Use



By: Madina Fayzullaeva

@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- It is not surprising that the educational system today is absorbed by digital technologies, because it serves as a basis for serious analysis and pedagogical justification of many things that are offered in the information space today.
- It is also important that in recent years, no research has been conducted on the basis of any state project or survey on the problems of “digitalization” of education and its impact on its formation.
- At the same time, we can see the importance of the influence of the environment on the Internet system on the minds of young people in the reports of the government, modern mass media, pedagogical public discussions, researches of graduate students and researchers, as well as deputies.

Nowadays, digital technologies are actively used in all spheres of life, in particular, they serve the rapid development of the economy, banking, service sector, as well as the educational process. All citizens living in the country, including young children and pensioners, are forming the opinion that all problems in society can be solved through digital technologies. In addition, the robotization of production and management processes, for example in the banking sector, raises the issue of competition between robots and workers. With the undoubted benefit of digital technologies, issues related to ethical, personal data protection, legal aspects of competition between robots and employees of organizations are increasingly being considered.

In this regard, as the President of our country, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, stated, “To achieve development, it is necessary and necessary to acquire digital knowledge and modern information technologies. This gives us the opportunity to take the shortest path to ascension. After all, information technologies are deeply penetrating all areas of the world today. Of course, we know very well that the formation of the digital economy requires the necessary infrastructure, a lot of money and labor resources. However, no matter how difficult it is, if we don’t start today, when will we?! Tomorrow will be too late.”

It is possible to widely introduce digital technologies in state and community management, social sphere, increase efficiency, in a word, dramatically improve people’s lives. The digital economy is not only a type of activity, but also business, industrial facilities, quality education and services. The term “digital” refers to the active use of information technologies in all areas. If in the ordinary economy material goods are considered the main resource, in the digital economy it will be information and data that can be processed and transmitted. After their analysis, a solution for proper management is developed.

It is not surprising that the educational system today is absorbed by digital technologies, because it serves as a basis for serious analysis and pedagogical justification of many things that are offered in the information space to-

day. It is also important that in recent years, no research has been conducted on the basis of any state project or survey on the problems of “digitalization” of education and its impact on its formation. At the same time, we can see the importance of the influence of the environment on the Internet system on the minds of young people in the reports of the government, modern mass media, pedagogical public discussions, researches of graduate students and researchers, as well as deputies. It should be noted that before we were limited to the implementation of digital technologies in all spheres, that is, industry, economy, banking and other spheres. Today, taking into account that the digital economy is rapidly developing, deputy heads of all areas of digital development are included in the position.

Activation in the direction of digitization is being carried out in all business structures. Today, digital technologies are “aggressive” in all areas, especially where economic benefits are found, and are being supported at all levels. The dynamics of the processes taking place in the economy require an active position of the educational community in the analysis and development of proposals for the development of higher education in the digital transformation of the economy.

What needs to be done to effectively use digital technologies in education while maintaining the quality of teaching?

- we should improve the Internet infrastructure in our country, increase the quality of services provided by mobile operators, and most importantly, create conditions and privileges for the population, especially students and young people, to master the latest achievements of modern information and communication technologies;

- expanding the scope of using digital technologies in the organization of the educational process and developing information resources, teaching tools and distance learning technologies, to involve creative students in digitization projects of the university and make suggestions to the competent authorities on making changes to the normative legal documents regulating the activities of higher education institutions, organi-

zation of centers, including structures equipped with high-performance digital devices, classrooms, laboratories, media studios, etc., and application of the experience gained there in all higher education institutions of Uzbekistan;

- ensuring the solid integration of modern information and communication technologies and educational technologies, creating additional conditions for the continuous development of the professional skills of pedagogues in this regard;

- organizing and conducting courses for improving the qualifications of teachers on topics such as the use of interactive presentation systems, the development of interactive and multimedia presentations in connection with the Internet for lectures and seminars;

- implementation of distance learning process at any time using real-time interactive presentation systems, video conference communication systems, virtual halls, electronic resources;

- the use of cloud technologies, virtual reality, augmented reality and the use of a 3D printer in the development of didactic materials and experimental designs, as well as, it is necessary to develop scientific websites for the application of digital didactics and digital education models, for teachers and students to discuss projects, theses, scientific research, etc. Only then will we be able to use digital technologies to provide students and young people with knowledge at the level of today’s demand without lowering the quality of education.

It should be noted separately that today our life is connected with techniques and technologies in every way, that is, the time from early in the morning until the end of planning and studying. We wanted to create an opportunity for beneficial use of technologies to improve and develop the quality of education. When the tablet becomes an element of education, children are more interested in the learning process. It is equivalent to combining classical education with play. As a result, the school will improve, assimilation, level of education and efficiency of personnel training will increase. An educated generation, professional personnel are the guarantee of the development of the society on a

large scale.

In conclusion, today’s classrooms are very different from ten years ago, and classrooms are equipped with computers, iPads, tablets, smart boards, and other types of educational technology. As in other parts of the world, a seven-screen generation of the digital generation - television, computer, tablet, phablet, smartphone and smartwatch - is emerging in Uzbekistan. As a result of having such a dense digital environment and constant interaction with it, the thinking and information processing processes of today’s students are fundamentally different from the previous thinking and information processes. The digital generation cannot and should not be taught the way our parents learned. It is not possible to use blackboard and white chalk in teaching this generation. Changing the blackboard to white and the chalk to a marker doesn’t change anything, it’s not the way to motivate today’s students to learn and develop the skills to succeed in the job market. It is necessary to adapt the educational system to the digital generation through mass and effective use of innovative educational technologies and didactic models based on modern information and communication technologies. At the same time, it is necessary to actively use the approach based on research in the educational process, and with this, it is possible to develop the skills of students in scientific research and to form their creative abilities and creative thinking based on IT competence.

Information and communication technologies are not a solution to all problems in the education system, but a tool for making lectures and seminars informative and interactive for the digital generation. It should also be noted that teachers retain the main role in the interactive learning process focused on the needs of students.

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SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *Harambee Stars head coach Engin Firat says Monday evening's friendly match against Russia in Antalya, Turkey will give him and his technical bench a clear picture of the state of the team ahead of the 2026 World Cup qualifiers which kick off next month.

Russia Friendly Will Give A Clear Picture For World Cup Qualifiers – Firat



Head coach Engin Firat shouts from the touchline. PHOTO/Timothy Olobulu.

Harambee Stars head coach Engin Firat says Monday evening's friendly match against Russia in Antalya, Turkey will give him and his technical bench a clear picture of the state of the team ahead of the 2026 World Cup qualifiers which kick off next month.

Stars who have been camping in Antalya over the last one week play the Russians, just less than four days after they played Cameroon's Indomitable Lions and won 1-0.

Coach Firat believes the game against a very tough opponent is what his side needs to measure up for competitive football next month.

"Russia is a tough opponent and we saw what they did when they played against Cameroon.

They would have won by maybe three more goals. We expect a competitive match against a very top team. The boys have worked well and we know it will be a good game for them," Firat said after the team's final training session.

The sentiments are shared by skipper Michael Olunga who says the players are motivated to play against a team that is constantly competing at the highest levels.

"It is a very interesting fixture for us. Russia is a good team as they are ranked highly in the world and competing against such a team is good for us. We will gain a lot of experience and there is plenty to learn from there," noted the skipper.

Firat will have his whole pre-

ferred squad at his disposal, save for Denmark based defender Daniel Anyembe who was not released by his club Viborg FF.

Kenya has played several high profile friendly matches, including away to Iran and Qatar, before losing at home to South Sudan in the last game.

And now, Firat wants to see more improvement.

"Against Iran we played well. Against Qatar, we got the result we wanted against the Asian champions. These friendlies are not just about results but opening up opportunities for Kenyan football," said the coach.

"I am hopeful that these matches will not only expose our players to better opportunities but also market Kenyan football, and in the long run, generate income for

our clubs through transfer fees," he added.

The coach, in the meantime, rallied Kenyans to support the team as it embarks on a crucial journey ahead, this as he reiterated his trust in the players called up to the team.

"Everyone has their expectations on our squad selection. My job is to build a formidable team for the upcoming assignments. Nonetheless, the door is open for anyone to come in or out. I am confident that the squad I have is capable of the task ahead," said coach Firat.

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Beldine Odemba will have a date with Cameroon once again, after her Rising Starlets thrashed Angola 10-1 on aggregate to qualify for the third round of qualification for the 2024 FIFA Women's World Cup.

Hello Dear Old Friend: Odemba's Starlets Book Cameroon World Cup Qualifier Date



Rising Starlets players line up before their match against Angola in Luanda. PHOTO/FKF

Beldine Odemba will have a date with Cameroon once again, after her Rising Starlets thrashed Angola 10-1 on aggregate to qualify for the third round of qualification for the 2024 FIFA Women's World Cup.

Odemba's senior team, the Harambee Starlets, last month eliminated Cameroon in the qualifiers for the 2024 Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) and Kenya now has another opportunity to complete a double over the Central African nation.

Cameroon progressed to the third round after edging out Botswana 6-1 on aggregate, following a 4-1 victory at home in the return tie.

The Rising Starlets, playing the World Cup qualifiers for only the third time in history, dismantled Angola 4-0 away from home, with red hot Valerie Nekesa proving her mettle once again with another fine display.

She scored the opener, with Anna Arusi adding a double and Charity Midewa, who scored twice in the first leg, adding on to the haul.



Rising Starlets forward Fasila Adhiambo dazzles past an Angolan opponent. PHOTO/FKF

Nekesa broke the deadlock after just six minutes when she ran on to a through ball from the left before side stepping the keeper and tapping into an empty net.

Arusi then gave Starlets a 2-0 lead at halftime in Luanda, curling the ball home direct for a corner to

virtually put the tie to bed.

She completed her brace in the second half with a brilliant goal, turning her marker inside out on the right before striking a brilliant shot past the keeper.

Midewa put the icing on the cake with the fourth, clipping the ball

over the keeper after brilliant team move by the Starlets.

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Govt To Distribute Tree Seedlings Through Chiefs, CS Tuya Says

By: Capital Correspondent

Worth Noting:

- The Cabinet Secretary spoke yesterday morning at Ngong Road-Southern Bypass Interchange road reserve where she led Ministry of Environment, Climate and Forestry, and Kenya National Highways Authority (KenHA) staff in a rapid tree growing exercise.
- The 15 billion national tree growing and ecosystem restoration programme strategy identifies road reserves and wayleaves as potential sites for planting trees in an intervention christened, 'greening infrastructure'.
- Hon Tuya reiterated her Ministry's commitment to ensure that 30 percent of the 15 billion trees the country aims to grow in 10 years will be fruit species to serve Kenya's economic and food security needs.



Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya

Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya has announced a Government plan to distribute tree seedlings through chiefs in an effort to accelerate tree growing activities across the country.

"The (tree growing) targets we have set touch on each and every individual Kenyan. We have set targets on the number of trees that each Kenyan is expected to grow.

"We will ensure that seedlings are accessible starting at the chief's level so that any Kenyan can walk to a chief's office to collect seedlings to grow in their farms," Tuya announced.

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Kenya National Highways Authority (KenHA) staff in a rapid tree growing exercise.

The 15 billion national tree growing and ecosystem restoration programme strategy identifies road reserves and wayleaves as potential sites for planting trees in an intervention christened, 'greening infrastructure'.

Hon Tuya reiterated her Ministry's commitment to ensure that 30 percent of the 15 billion trees the country aims to grow in 10 years will be fruit species to serve Kenya's economic and food security needs.

"Of the 15 billion trees we intend to grow in 10 years, 30 percent will be fruit trees so as to ensure that tree growing contributes to the economy and Kenya's food security," the Cabinet Secretary said.

Once again, Hon Tuya said the Min-

istry was using the 'whole-of-Government, whole-of-society' approach, where every Kenyan has a role to play in the implementation of the 15 billion national tree growing initiative.

"Everywhere we go, we will be hosted by the area chief and forest managers at all levels, in an all-Government approach. Our role as a Ministry is to coordinate; the actual tree growing will be done by wanauchi and partners at all levels," CS Tuya underscored.

On the impending onset of short rains season, the Cabinet Secretary expressed confidence that the country will soon experience rainfall, and urged Kenyans to intensify tree growing over the 3 months.

To enable the Government to keep track of the 15 billion trees initiative, Hon Tuya advised tree growers to re-

cord their activities on the Ministry's Jaza Miti digital application.

CS Tuya, who earlier received a donation of 450,000 seedlings from the Standard Chartered Bank and the Nairobi Arboretum Community Forest Association, thanked Kenya National Highways Authority and other state and non-state actors including the private sector that had taken up tree growing as a core business activity.

Forestry Principal Secretary Mr Gitonga Mugambi also spoke at the tree growing event that was attended by several senior Government officials among them Ag Director General of Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) Dr Jane Njuguna and Secretary for Administration in the State Department Evans Mutari.