



Never Disregard Weather Advisories - Weatherman
 As the much-anticipated El Nino rains continue to pound a large part of the country, residents of Nyeri have been warned against disregarding advisory statements being issued by the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD).
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News >> iZola Unveils App To Support Special Needs Families

P. 8. iZola, a biotech company operating in Kenya, has unveiled the Xaidi Application, a digital health assistant designed to guide parents and caregivers through the day-to-day challenges experienced by families of children with special needs.



Motivation >> Communication And Play Combined

P. 12. Between fifteen and eighteen months, your child will use more complex gestures to communicate with you and will continue to build her vocabulary.

Police Officers To Get 40% Salary Increase

⚡ The review of the terms and conditions of service for our men and women in uniform will enhance their morale and transform our security. It will increase our capacity to protect Kenyans, their belonging, their freedom and their interests the appropriate environment for investments and enterprises to grow and thrive," said President William Ruto



President William Ruto (R) receiving the final report from the head of the taskforce on police reforms, CJ Emeritus David Maraga. [Source: WSR, Facebook]

STORY ON PAGE 9

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Prisoners In Tharaka Nithi County Enjoined in Tree Planting

By: OSDP



Pastor Dorcas Rigathi helps serve lunch to inmates at Chuka prison, Kathwana, Tharaka Nithi County yesterday..

Worth Noting:

- “I have seen you have planted many trees here, and this information I will make sure it reaches the President, because this is his directive and you are working towards its fulfilment. Congratulations to all of you!” said Pastor Dorcas.
- She said the prison would be part of history for participating in the greening of the environment and fighting climate change. She also recommended that the Kenya forest officers visit the facility to share the best practices in tree growing for the prison tree nursery and other activities towards tree planting.

More than 300 prisoners at the Chuka Prison in Kathwana, Tharaka Nithi County yesterday planted 1,000 tree seedlings in line with the Presidential target of planting 15 billion trees by the year 2032.

The spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi led in the exercise at the prison when she visited the institution for the boy child outreach program against alcohol, drugs and substance abuse.

Pastor Dorcas commended the prison management and inmates for participating in the exercise, and working towards fulfilling the government directive of planting 15 billion trees by the year 2032.

“I have seen you have planted many trees here, and this information I will make sure it reaches the President, because this is his directive and you are working towards its fulfilment. Congratulations to all of you!” said Pastor Dorcas.

She said the prison would be part of history for participating in the greening of the environment and fighting climate change. She also recommended that the Kenya forest officers visit the facility to share the best practices in tree growing for the prison tree nursery and other activities towards tree planting.

“My dear sons, you can also come out with some great things from behind these prison walls. We must train the inmates in different forms of farming, and prepare them for life out of prison. Even give them opportunity to have skills in carpentry and driving,” said Pastor Dorcas.

She urged the prison management and staff to use acres of idle land within the facility to practice farming, and create revenue that would help dignify the lives of the inmates through food provision, and payment of fines and cash bails.

Tharaka Nithi Woman Representative Susan Ngugi said the boy child agenda

targeting even those in prison would help reduce depression, stress, and addiction to alcohol and other drugs.

“Anyone under the sun can find themselves in prison. We have prisons for the male gender in Marimanti and here at Chuka Igambagombe, but women have to be transferred all the way in Meru to be imprisoned. Women need a prison in this locality so that their spouses and children can easily visit them while in incarceration,” said the Wangui.

Deputy Commissioner of Prisons David Ndumu encouraged the inmates to have a good relationship with their parents and spouses, so they could receive them warmly upon release.

Another Prison officer Moses Ndiema, however, pointed out that most of the ‘boy children’ were suffering in silence.

“Your initiative targeting the boy child is good because many are suffering in silence. Here in prison, the men have re-

ceived and I urge the community to receive them once they are released. They are more useful out there,” said Ndiema.

Also present was Youth Adviser at the ODP, George Theuri who urged the inmates not to give up in life despite the circumstances they were in.

Later in the day, Pastor Dorcas held a session with students at Chuka University as part of the preventive program against alcohol, drugs and other substances under the boy child agenda.

The office of the Deputy President, under which the office of the spouse of the Deputy President, is under has a target of planting two million trees annually.

The vision of the OSDP is ‘A Dignified Future for Vulnerable Populations’ who include the boy child, widows an orphans, and people with disabilities.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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Group Executive Chairman
M. Danson

Our Contacts
P. O. Box 101 675 - 00101 Nairobi, Cell: 0700 161 866, 0705 215 262
Editorial Desk: editorial@mountkenyaintimes.co.ke, Adverts: ads@mountkenyaintimes.co.ke,
News Desk: news@mountkenyaintimes.co.ke, Web: www.mountkenyaintimes.co.ke

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NEWS IN BRIEF



KTDA Management yesterday held discussions with the County Government of Kakamega officials over a partnership to establish a new Tea Factory in the county. Present during the consultative meeting were Abungana Khasiani KTDA Board Member and Director for Zone 12 (Bungoma, Kakamega, and Vihiga), Wilson Muthaura KTDA Holdings Group Chief Executive Officer, Ayub Savula, the area Deputy Governor, KTDA Legal Team, and Kakamega County officials.



Laikipia County government led by Governor Joshua Irungu and his deputy Reuben yesterday held a consultative meeting with officials from the 105 cooperative societies from Laikipia East and North sub-counties. The meeting, organised by the Department of Trade deliberated on the ways of enhancing their capacity to offer solution-based services to their members. They noted that Cooperative societies play a strategic role in uplifting the livelihoods of our community members. In Laikipia, there are 210 registered cooperatives, membership of over 98,000 and a total asset base of Ksh7.4 billion. The farmers leaders noted that they offer services that are adaptive to the needs of their members, creating an equitable distribution of wealth through farming, aggregation of produce for value addition, promoting a saving culture as well as offering low-priced loans.



A technical team is renovating prison warders' housing, addressing a significant deficit. They're working with the State Department for Correctional Services and Housing and Public Works to provide quality housing, reorganize probation and after-service officers, and establish a high-quality daycare center.



The Kenya Deposit Insurance Corporation (KDIC) has launched the Well Enabled Training Programme to promote a saving culture and financial stability in the country. The programme focuses on banks, microfinance institutions, and mortgage companies. The principal secretary, Chris Kiptoo, praised the KDIC for its role in safeguarding depositors and enhancing public confidence in the banking system.



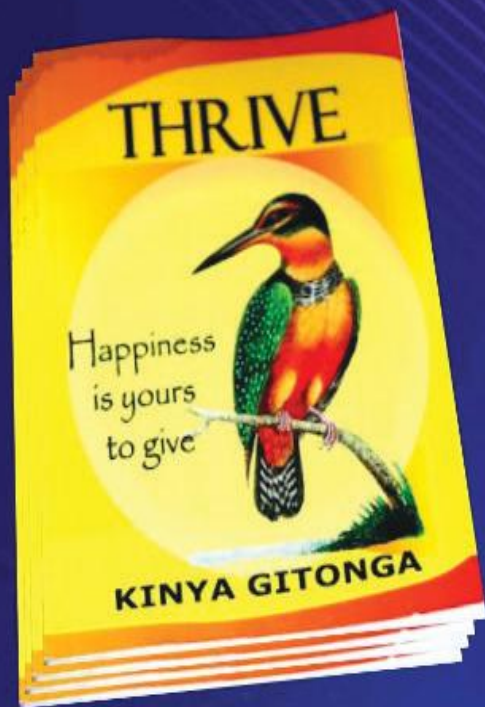
Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu has praised the Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) for its progress in creating relevant, globally competitive, and portable qualifications that enable labor and skill mobility. The move was made during the inauguration of a 10-member KNQA Council, chaired by former Baringo Governor Stanley Kiptis. The new Council members include representatives from various sectors, including Technical Vocation, Education, and Training, The National Treasury, Basic/Early Learning, Commission for University Education, TVETA, and the Central Organisation of Trade Unions. The KNQA is also working on key reforms in the education and training sectors to enhance relevance, equity, and access to education, leading to decent employment and living. The new Council members, who will serve for three years starting October 19, 2023, are expected to seize opportunities and make National Qualifications operational in the changing world. KNQA Chairperson Stanley Kiptis assured the PS that the Authority is ready to develop all required national policies for the implementation of the qualification framework.



Rift Valley Regional Coordinator Abdi Hassan and Eastern Counterpart Paul Rotich warned politicians against financing criminals, addressed cattle rustling, and deployed security officers. Over 200 firearms were surrendered, and Samburu County yielded to government amnesty. Rotich challenged pastoralist communities to stop outdated practices and directed disarming NPRs.

Kingya N. Gitonga

PSYCHOLOGIST, AUTHOR, MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE
& FOUNDER SOUND MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION
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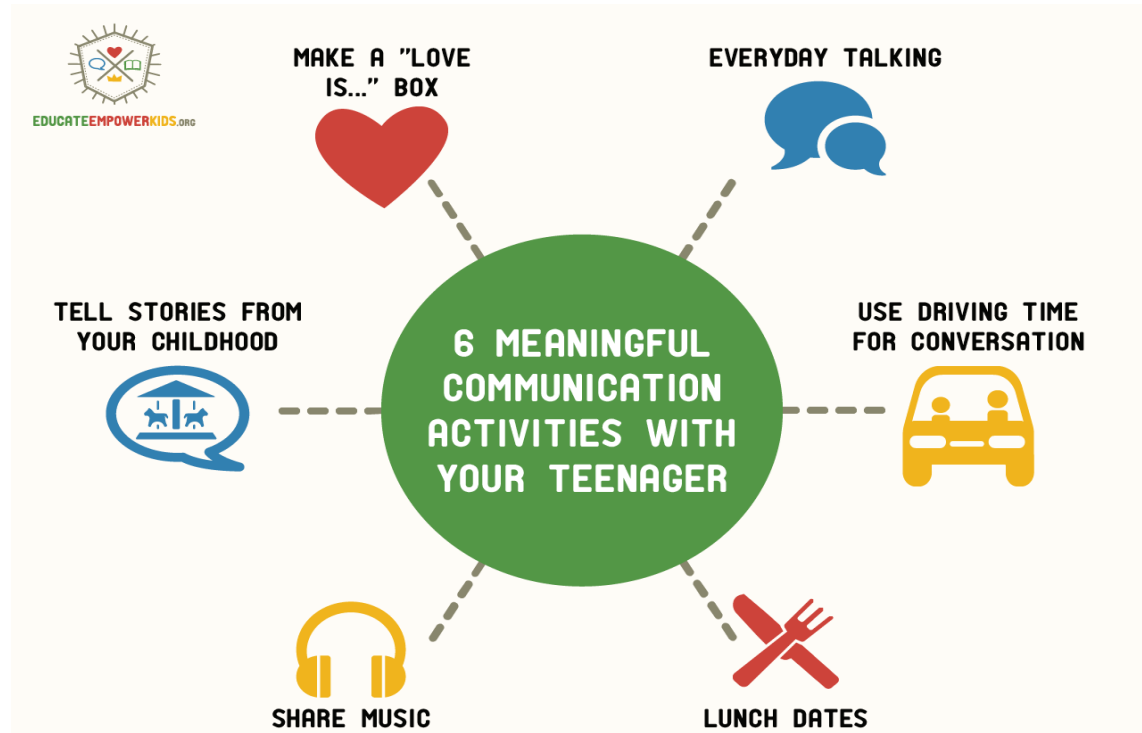


Kingya N. Gitonga

Effective Communication With Teens: Talking To And Not Talking At Them



By: Amanda Birkenstock
@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Parents need to embrace technology as an important part of their teen's lives. Instead of viewing it as a barrier to communication, use it as a bridge. Be open to discussing the technology they use, learn from them and find ways to connect with their interests and online activities.
- While indulging at their level, light conversations can be held to discover more about them and the issues affecting them. In the process set boundaries for screen time to help balance their online and offline lives.

The world has changed significantly in the 21st century and so have our teenagers.

Today's adolescents are growing up in an era of rapid technological advancement, complex societal issues and unprecedented access to information. To connect with and support these young minds, it is crucial for parents and educators to understand their unique challenges and adapt communication methods that produce the best outcome.

The first step in understanding and connecting with teenagers is acknowledging their world.

Their exposure to technology and information presents diverse challenges, such as cyberbullying, increased academic pressure, mental health concerns and exposure to a variety of information.

It is important to recognize that these challenges can impact their emotions, behaviours and communication.

Parents need to embrace technology

as an important part of their teen's lives. Instead of viewing it as a barrier to communication, use it as a bridge. Be open to discussing the technology they use, learn from them and find ways to connect with their interests and online activities.

While indulging at their level, light conversations can be held to discover more about them and the issues affecting them. In the process set boundaries for screen time to help balance their online and offline lives.

Active listening is an essential aspect of effective communication with teens.

Give them your undivided attention, show genuine interest in what they have to say. Avoid interrupting and do not rush to offer solutions, or advice. Instead, create a safe space for them to express their thoughts, feelings and concerns without judgement. Acknowledge their emotions and validate their experiences, this can go a long way in building trust. Once trust

is built, honesty follows.

Nonverbal cues in teens plays a key role in how they communicate with others. Pay attention to your body language and tone of voice when talking to a teen. Maintain good eye contact, use a calm and reassuring tone and avoid expressions of frustration, or impatience. These cues can influence the quality of the conversation.

Communicating discipline channels effectively to teenagers is a crucial aspect of maintaining a harmonious and respectful relationship.

Discuss the rules and consequences openly, allowing them to have a say in establishing certain boundaries. Emphasize the fact that discipline is not about punishment, but rather a way to help them learn and grow. This collaborative approach empowers teenagers to understand the reasons behind the rules and consequences, making them more likely to abide by them.

Teenagers strive for independence and respecting this desire is essential.

While guidance and boundaries are still necessary, acknowledging their need to make independent choices, take responsibility and learn from their personal experiences is important. Collaborate with them to make decisions together instead of dictating, this smoothens the process.

Selecting the appropriate time and place for discussions is vital. Public confrontation is never well received, image is everything to a teen. Avoid confrontational settings and choose moments when you both have time to talk without interruptions. Practise patience while talking to them, you will need it.

Give them time to process the issues being discussed in order to give logical responses.

Just like when they were little, teens learn by observing the behaviour of their parents and teachers. It is the responsibility of the adults to be intentional by demonstrating good communication skills, empathy and problem-solving abilities in daily interactions. Show them how to handle difficult situations and disagreements constructively.

It is seemingly clear, parents and teachers need to understand they are dealing with a different generation, born and raised in the technological space and exposed to unlimited information. Old ways of communicating with teens cannot apply.

As they wade through adolescence, parents are obligated to be intentional in their interaction and communication.

Amanda Birkenstock, Crawford International School Deputy Principal, Schools Management

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IZola Unveils App To Support Special Needs Families

By: Nkooma Samson and Michael Omondi
 @themkenyatomes

iZola, a biotech company operating in Kenya, has unveiled the Xaidi Application, a digital health assistant designed to guide parents and caregivers through the day-to-day challenges experienced by families of children with special needs.

The Xaidi App introduced by iZola addresses a critical gap in healthcare support for families with special needs children, with the hope that the app will transform the lives of millions globally.

The App seeks to empower families of special needs children living with Autism, ADHD, and Cerebral palsy, amongst other mental health conditions, by enabling them to navigate challenges and opportunities related to neurodiversity.

Speaking on Wednesday during the event, the Deputy Director of the Directorate of Children Services, Mr. Philip Nzenge, commended the initiative, citing the alarming number of children and adolescents facing developmental disabilities worldwide.

In his endorsement, Nzenge high-



Deputy Director of the Directorate of Children Services, Mr. Philip Nzenge being taken through the new health application.

lighted the alignment of iZola's mission with global initiatives, stating, "I commend iZola on launching the Xaidi App as this is in line with our mission of creating a barrier-free society for persons living with disabilities."

The Xaidi App, born out of a collab-

oration between Kenyan and German minds, sets out to create a community health assistant that goes beyond language barriers.

The app's ability to provide information in both English and Swahili positions it as a comprehensive solution for diverse families.

In addition, Nzenge emphasised the urgency of addressing the needs of children with developmental disabilities, a population he believes has been historically neglected.

Shedding light on the motivation behind Xaidi Innovation, the Co-Founder and CEO of iZola, Dr.

Wamuyu Owotoki, stated, "For many parents of special needs children, it can be difficult to find resources to enable their children to thrive. iZola has created Xaidi, a health helper App leveraging artificial intelligence to foster a healthcare ecosystem tailored to the diverse needs of special needs families."

Dr. Owotoki maintained that the app's role in creating a safe space for parents and caregivers is to offer instant feedback 24/7.

"It provides safe spaces for parents to gather tips and educational resources on learning and thinking differences while seeking advice," she added.

The CEO said that the Xaidi App stands as a testament to the power of collaboration, technology, and a shared commitment to making healthcare more inclusive.

Most importantly, the Xaidi App appeared as a symbol of progress and inclusivity through its potential to transform the lives of millions, therefore ringing innovation bells to reaffirm the importance of leveraging technology for the betterment of society.

Government Asked To Increase Research Budget

By: Fatma Said
 @themkenyatomes

The National Research Fund (NRF) has called upon the government to consider and advocate for a substantial increase in the budget allocated to research and development in the country.

The NRF Chairman, Ratemo Michieka, said that the National Research Fund is currently allocated only 2 per cent of the GDP.

NRF is mandated to mobilise, allocate, and manage financial resources to facilitate an effective national innovation system that creates the required knowledge and innovations in all fields of Science and Technology for the growing economy.

Michieka noted that research should be the driving factor for any nation and that without adequate funding in research aspects, there will be hardly any development.

Speaking at the ongoing 2023 Science Granting Council Initiative (SGCI) Annual Forum, Michieka said



National Research Fund (NRF) Chief Executive Officer Dickson Andala

that the primary focus of the conference is to discuss and identify methods for gathering the financial and material resources required to support research initiatives.

He added that research requires a collaborative effort to explore solutions for African nations' challenges. "Many African nations are facing the

same challenges of water, trees, food, modern development, and health, and with a unified approach, we can come together, exchange ideas, and learn from each other, moving away from duplicating research already conducted by other countries," Michieka said.

The Chief Executive Officer of NRF, Dickson Andala, said that the gov-

ernment does support the research initiatives, allocating 2 per cent of the GDP; however, currently, only 0.8 per cent is utilised.

Andala said that the discrepancy raises concern about the adequate financial backing required to drive impactful research endeavours across the country.

At present, he said that 19 universities are benefiting from generating research articles and have been successful in contributing to the academic and scientific knowledge base.

Andala alleged that research institutions have the capacity not only to draft compelling proposals but also to secure grants for their projects.

He went on to mention the steps that need to be taken to strengthen research in the country, increase research funding to provide ample resources for scientific projects, and foster more collaborations between research institutions, universities, and the private sector to bring in new ideas and diverse perspectives.

He also encouraged investment in training for researchers to enable them to learn new methodologies and stay updated on the latest advancements.

The SGCI Annual Forum is set to provide the opportunity for considered input from the region to the Global Research Council's (GRC) 2024 Annual Meeting on the theme "Effective Research Contributions towards Sustainable Development".

Police Officers To Get 40% Salary Increase In Proposed Recommendations

By: Prudence Wanja

The National Police Service Officers, National Prisons Services Officers and National Youth Service Officers are set to receive a 40 percent salary increment in the next three years.

Speaking in State House Nairobi after receiving recommendations on police reforms from the David Maraga led taskforce, President William Ruto said the review in salaries will enhance the morale of police officers. “The review of the terms and conditions of service for our men and women in uniform will enhance their morale and transform our security. It will increase our capacity to protect Kenyans, their belonging, their freedom and their interests the appropriate environment for investments and enterprises to grow and thrive,” said Ruto.

The head of state further vowed to firmly deal with corruption which he

cited as a serious problem in the police service.

In addition, the President directed the review of legislative and policy framework governing operations within the NPS, KPS, NYS to ensure accountability and transparency.

Ruto also ordered the implementation of the human resource policy on transfer for all officers to ensure no officer service for more than three years in the same county.

The Maraga led taskforce was appointed on 21st December, 2022 to access and recommend improvement of working and living conditions of police officers and identify and recommend legal, policy, administrative, institutional, and operational reforms in the National Police Service (NPS) and Kenya Police Service for effective service delivery.



National Police Service.

Deployment Of Police Officers To Haiti Approved By Parliament

By: PSCU

The National Assembly has approved a Motion by the Joint-Committee of the National Assembly’s Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security and that of the Senate Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations, on the National Security Council’s proposed deployment of officers of the National Police Service to the Multinational Security Support Mission for Haiti.

While moving the Motion, the chairperson of the committee on Administration and Internal Security Gabriel Tongoyo, briefed members that the officers are to be deployed in phases for an initial period of twelve months, following the adoption of the resolution, with a review set to be undertaken nine months thereafter.



Tongoyo also told the House that the cost of the mission will be borne by the United Nations in strict compliance with international law, including, international human rights law, as applicable, to support the efforts of the Haitian National Police to re-

establish security.

The Leader of the Majority Party Kimani Ichung’wah, while supporting the Motion noted that the officers being deployed to Haiti will be doing their national and patriotic duty.

“The proposed deployment is an-

chored on the responsibility of Kenya as a United Nation Member State and as part of a global community of nations. Historically, Kenya has been a leading participant in providing solutions to global security challenges. We should feel honoured that our country has been called up by the UN Security Council and other nations of the world, to serve in restoring security and dignity of other human beings “ Ichung’wah told the House.

On his part, Belgut MP Nelson Koech who is also the chairperson of National Assembly’s Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations Committee, while justifying why we need the security officers to go to Haiti noted that, “this country has been on different missions before even in countries where we are not even related in any way. Our foreign policy is inched on five pillars including peace, economic diplomacy, environmental diplomacy, cultural diplomacy and diaspora diplomacy”,

he submitted

“Kenya has been continuously the anchor of peace. Our officers are able and there is no reason why our officers should not be deployed to Haiti,” Koech added.

While replying to the Motion, Tongoyo affirmed that the Committee had followed due process of the law and observed that all the relevant organs in this approval had been involved.

“It is true that Kenya has been previously involved in the security missions and they have performed with great distinction and honour. I urge all of us to support our disciplined officers to go to Haiti with our prayers and support, as we continue reclaiming our position as a country, in the global stage. We have done it before and we are going to continuously do it,” Tongoyo affirmed.

Mental Discipline In Giving



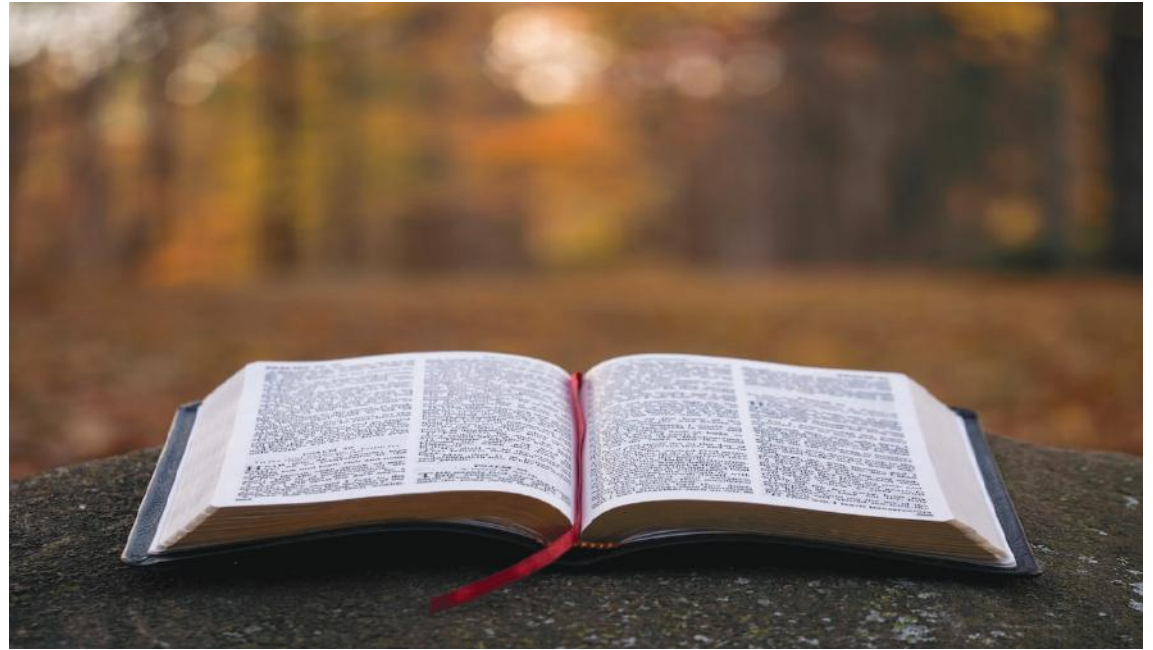
By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

We must understand that God's grace in our lives demands discipline. This is why the great apostle of grace says, "discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness" (1 Timothy 4:7, NASB). And in this matter of the grace of giving, there must be the discipline of giving as well. Before there are any outward disciplines of giving, there must be a disciplined understanding of giving.

First, you must bear in mind that giving is not a meritorious work which will enhance your position before God. Similarly, giving will not make you better than other Christians. Second, you need to understand that while giving will not gain favor with God, giving does bring blessing! Jesus said: "Give, and it will be given

to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (Luke 6:38). Correspondingly, Paul wrote: "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously" (2 Corinthians 9:6).

Admittedly these blessings are essentially spiritual. But which would you rather have — a spiritual blessing or a bigger bank account — inner contentment or a new yacht? Third, you must keep in mind that giving which pleases God is generous and sacrificial. As we have seen, the Macedonians gave out of their deep poverty. We can also profitably reflect on what Jesus said about the poor widow who humbly gave only a fraction of a penny: "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others" (Mark 12:43). Fourth, you must understand that what you give is to be determined between you and God. Giving should never be decided casually or flippantly, but through serious



prayer — asking God what He wants you to give.

SELAH. GOD HELP US AND DELIVER US. TO HIM WHO IS ABLE, THE ETERNAL KING, BE THE GLORY, HONOR AND MIGHT.

References:

The Living Bible

Discipline of a Godly Man(Book by Kent Hughes)

Evangelist Eric Musa:

(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit, as it is written; "NOW is the acceptable time, TO-

DAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2". For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact Evangelist on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember, God Loves you and I unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM

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Claims That Ruto Was Being Held Hostage By IMF And World Bank Were Borne Out Of Malice, In Bad Faith



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandong@yaho.com



Worth Noting:

- As a way of fooling the masses, they would feature a photo of the Kenyan head of state and the President of IMF taken a long time ago.
- Ruto's critics would further allege. Ruto said during the campaigns that his administration will never go for foreign loans.
- Today, he is doing the opposite. He had borrowed more than his predecessor. I would call this a big lie because they were yet to provide any documentary evidence. I would also have expected them to do a scientific and comparative analysis.
- I'm not holding brief for President Ruto but in my view he has not changed his position.



Kenyan President William Ruto and Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), at the "New Global Financing Compact" summit in Paris on 22 June 2023. © Ammar Abd Rabbo/Abaca/Reuters.

I have been hearing critics of President William Ruto claiming that he had surrendered his authority to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.

The country was being run by the two Bretton Wood Institutions, they would allege without providing an iota of evidence.

It is true IMF headquarter is in America and the President has made a number of trips to that country.

It is also true that President Ruto has been holding talks with the President of IMF.

You cannot however use this as a basis of making such claims.

The recent social media reports have been alleging that Dr Ruto has so far signed up foreign loans worth billions of shillings.

In most cases, the critics would come out of blue to publish these alarming claims.

They would not tell us where they got this information.

As a way of fooling the masses, they would feature a photo of the Kenyan head of state and the President of IMF taken a long time ago.

Ruto's critics would further allege. Ruto said during the campaigns that his administration will never go for foreign loans.

Today, he is doing the opposite. He had borrowed more than his predecessor. I would call this a big lie because they were yet to provide any documentary evidence. I would also have expected them to do a scientific and comparative analysis.

I'm not holding brief for President Ruto but in my view he has not changed his position.

What meant during the campaign is that he will reduce in a big way the insatiable appetite for borrowing foreign loans that was the hallmark of the previous administration.

He has kept his word. The money that his administration has borrowed is a drop in the ocean.

It is worth noting that the IMF and World Bank have been partnering with many countries across the world.

In Kenya, the two institutions have been working together with the leaderships of the successive governments of Independent Kenya. This is on matters of resuscitation of economy and devel-

opment.

They made the most memorable interventions during the era of President Daniel Arap Moi.

Upon realizing our economy was doing badly, they started to engage Moi and his administration.

This led to Bretton Wood unveiling Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs).

The public opinion was divided. Some supported the conditionalities and others argued they had been imposed terming them as a bitter pill.

At some point, the efforts started bearing the fruits. This prompted the doubting Thomases to drop their hardline stances.

President Moi had formed a team, dubbed the Dream Team, to coordinate and oversee the implementation of the SAPs. The team was led by Richard Leakey.

So, the lesson we learn here is that the pain of the IMF and World Bank prescriptions is for a while. The situation improves and get better thereafter.

Besides Moi, William Ruto's predecessors Mwai Kibaki and Uhuru Kenyatta had also met and held talks with

the President of the Bretton Wood Institutions.

Some of these meetings would take place in US.

The latter had made numerous trips to the USA. At one point, it dawned on President Uhuru that the economy was doing badly.

In the meantime, the Bretton Institutions were piling pressure on him to allow them to intervene. He had no option but to succumb.

So, President Ruto took over at a time when the IMF and World Bank had already rolled out their prescriptions. His predecessor had signed them. It is therefore hard for Dr Ruto to get out. Uhuru is one who had been held hostage. Ruto is working hard to undo this.

He has so far made great strides towards rebuilding of our economy. He knows this is only way that can make them leave our country on their own volition.

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

Communication And Play Combined



By: Wanjohi P. Mugambi
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Between eighteen months and two years, your baby will be able to follow directions and begin to put words together, such as “car go” or “want juice.” She will also begin to do pretend play which fosters language development.
- You can spur your child’s communication skills when you: Ask your child to help you. For example, ask her to put her cup on the table or to bring you her shoe. Teach your child simple songs and nursery rhymes. Read to your child.
- Ask him to point to and tell you what he sees. Encourage your child to talk to friends and family. She can tell them about a new toy.



Communication And Play .

Between fifteen and eighteen months, your child will use more complex gestures to communicate with you and will continue to build her vocabulary. She may take your hand, walk you to the bookshelf, point to a book and say “buk” to say, “I want to read a book with you.” You can help your child talk with you when you: Tell him “Show me your nose.” Then point to your nose. He will soon point to his nose. Do this with toes, fingers, ears, eyes, knees and so on. Hide a toy while she is watching. Help her find it and share in her delight. When he points at or gives you something, talk about the object with her. “You gave me the book. Thank you! Look at the picture of the baby rolling the ball.” Between twelve and fifteen months, babies begin to use words. This includes using the same sounds consistently to identify an object, such as “baba” for bottle or “juju” for juice. Many babies have one or two words and understand 25 or more. He will give you a toy if you ask for it. Even without words, he can ask you for something—by pointing, reaching for it, or looking at it and babbling. You can help your child say the words she or he knows when you: Talk about the things you use, like “cup,” “juice,” “doll.” Give your child time to name them. Smile or clap your hands when your child names the things that he sees. Say something about it. “You see the doggie. He’s sooo big! Look at his tail wag.” Talk about what your child wants most to talk about. Give him time to tell you

all about it. Ask about things you do each day—“Which shirt will you pick today?” “Do you want milk or juice?” Build on what your child says. If he says “ball,” you can say, “That’s your big, red ball.” Introduce pretend play with your child’s favorite doll or toy animal. Include it in your conversations and your play. “Rover wants to play too. Can he roll the ball with us?” Between eighteen months and two years, your baby will be able to follow directions and begin to put words together, such as “car go” or “want juice.” She will also begin to do pretend play which fosters language development. You can spur your child’s communication skills when you: Ask your child to help you. For example, ask her to put her cup on the table or to bring you her shoe. Teach your child simple songs and nursery rhymes. Read to your child. Ask him to point to and tell you what he sees. Encourage your child to talk to friends and family. She can tell them about a new toy. Engage your child in pretend play. You can talk on a play phone, feed the dolls or have a party with the toy animals.

Between two and three years, your child’s language skills will grow by leaps and bounds. He will string more words together to create simple sentences, such as “Mommy go bye-bye.” He will be able to answer simple questions, such as “Where is your bear?” By 36 months he will be able to answer more complicated questions such as, “What do you do when you are hungry?” He will do

more and more pretend play, acting out imaginary scenes, such as going to work, fixing the toy car, taking care of his “family” (of dolls, animals.) You can help your child put all his new words together and teach him things that are important to know.

Infants are born pre-wired to be social and are amazingly adept at initiating and sustaining the relationships with their parents and caregivers. One of your roles is to help fathers and mothers understand that communication with the baby starts even before birth and that infants are social and seek interactions with their caregivers. Parents can learn to attune and synchronize their own interactions to their infant’s cues. They can start by imitating their infant’s facial expressions and the sounds they make. Infants also use body movements, gazing, and sounds to communicate and interact. Caring, responsive, respectful, and reciprocal interactions with infants and toddlers contribute to their overall and brain development and build positive relationships with them. Ways in which fathers and mothers can ensure that these interactions are positive include showing love, interacting with and not just talking to the child, following the child’s lead, appreciating what the child does, helping the child focus attention, helping the child make sense of his world, helping the child widen her experiences, and helping the child learn rules, limits, and values. As children get older, parents can help their children make more sense of their

world and widen their experiences by interacting with them in ways that encourage them to talk more and by asking open-ended questions about what they think about something or linking past experiences with present ones. Playing with children is one way parents can have more positive interactions with them. Play is pleasurable for children and parents and helps parents learn more about their child. Play contributes to children’s overall development and children whose parents play with them do better in school.

Playing with children and encouraging their play does not require expensive toys. There are many items around the house that children love to play with, including their parents. Unstructured materials will stimulate toddlers’ imaginations and creativity. The role of the adults is to make sure that the environment and materials are safe and developmentally appropriate for the child to play with and explore. During your home visits, you can make fathers, mothers and other caregivers aware that talking with a young child is very important. Parents need to understand that in order to foster their child’s development they need to talk to him, listen to him and engage in conversation. And that it is never too early to start. Talking, listening, reciprocating should happen right from the very beginning when the child is pre-verbal, through an exchange of touch, facial expressions and sounds. Reading to babies and toddlers contributes to their overall development. It should be pleasurable and a time for feeling loved. Books appropriate for infants should contain colourful pictures. As children grow, they like to be able to handle books, so cloth or sturdier board or waterproof books (for the bath) will be appropriate. If families do not have books at home, they can borrow them from libraries, buy them in markets or second hand shops, or make their own books. You have power and opportunity to help fathers, mothers and other caregivers understand that the best way to show love to infants and toddlers is to spend time with them, talk with them, play and read with them. Quality time that infants, toddlers and parents spend together in enjoyable and loving activity is the most precious gift that parents can give to their child.

Communication, Information And Innovation Committee Discuss The Pros And Cons Of Reducing The Mobile Termination Rates

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

The Committee on Communication Information and Innovation that is Chaired by John Kiarie (Dagoretti South), on Wednesday held a meeting on the inquiry into the review of Mobile Termination Rates by the Communication Authority, with officials from the Kenya Revenue Authority and the Competition Authority of Kenya.

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) Commissioner for Domestic Taxes Ms. Rispah Simiyu, noted that reduction in the current Mobile Termination Rates (MTRs) and Fixed Termination Rates (FTRs), of Kshs. 0.58 to the proposed new rate of Kshs. 0.12, will impact on VAT, Excise and Corporation Tax remittances.

“Safaricom’s market share is 65.6 percent and based on the approximate Call Termination Revenue per year of Kshs. 5.1 billion per year, the expected revenue loss if this is effected will be Kshs. 4.04 billion.” Noted Ms. Simiyu.

Ms. Simiyu however noted that since Telkom and Airtel pay Safaricom for mobile termination, this move will give them greater price flexibility hence offering effective competition and boosting their revenue given the reduction in costs.

The Government on the other hand, which has a 35 percent shareholding in Safaricom, will suffer a reduction in revenues as a result of this reduction in termination rates, leading to a reduction in dividend payout to the Government.

The Acting Director-General of the Competition Authority of Kenya Mr. Adano Roba, also appeared before the committee and supported the move

to lower the termination rates, noting that it will reduce barriers to enter the market; which will prevent abuse of dominance, narrow differences between on-net and off-net prices, increase customer choice, reduce cost of doing business, increase voice traffic and operator revenue, thus increasing Government tax revenues.

“This will ultimately generate efficiency in the telecommunications sector for the benefit of Kenyan consumers.” Stated Mr. Roba.

He further cited a study conducted by the Communications Authority, which expounded on the need to implement low termination rates as has been the trend worldwide in the sector, with some jurisdictions like Canada and India implementing zero rates, and also the need for symmetric termination rates between large and small operators.



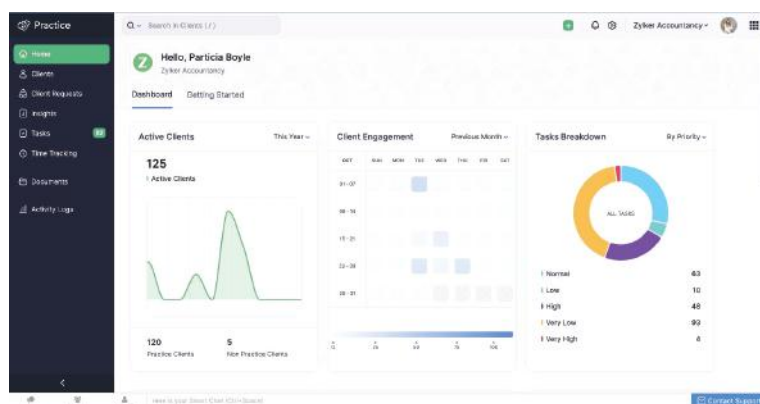
Chair of the committee and Dagoretti South MP John Kiarie.

Zoho Expands Ecosystem of its Finance Platform, Launches a New App for Accountants

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

Zoho, a global technology company, today launched Zoho Practice, an end-to-end practice management solution for accountants, and expanded its Zoho Finance Platform with the launch of 230+ extensions in Zoho Marketplace, and a dedicated developer portal. The company further announced that its Zoho Finance Platform has achieved 102% y-o-y growth in new customers in Kenya. This growth was driven by Zoho Books, the company’s flagship VAT-compliant accounting solution that integrates with Tax Invoice Management Systems (TIMS).

“Zoho has been committed to serving its customers and the business community in Kenya. Last year, we launched the VAT-compliant editions of Zoho Books, Zoho Invoice and Zoho Inventory. Today, with the new additions, we are further strengthening our ecosystem by offering Kenyan businesses the ability



Zoho Launches a New App for Accountants.

to tailor their applications according to their business needs. Additionally, with the launch of Zoho Practice, we aim to help accountants streamline their firm’s day-to-day operations, thereby saving them time so that they can focus more on providing exceptional client experience,” said Veerakumar Natarajan, Country Head, Zoho Kenya.

Continued Growth of Zoho Finance Platform

The Zoho Finance Platform has

evolved over the course of 15 years, from a single invoicing product to a full-fledged finance and operations suite. With the addition of a wide variety of integration partners, system integrators, implementation partners, and accounting partners, it evolved into a comprehensive platform with a rapidly growing ecosystem.

The Finance Platform saw a 50% increase in new customers in the MEA region. It also grew its global accounting partner network by 63%

last year. Continuing on this momentum, the company also launched an enterprise-grade Developer Portal using which developers can easily build solutions to customise specific functions of their finance applications, automate routine processes, and publish the extensions in Zoho Marketplace. Additionally, businesses can also use the portal to build their own extensions and use them within their organisations.

Zoho Practice, a Modern Solution for Accountants

Today, accountants are expected to go beyond providing traditional services like day-to-day accounting, bookkeeping, financial reporting, auditing, and tax filing. Clients also expect business insights from their accountants like how to curb organisational spend, identifying additional revenue sources, and strategies for accelerating business growth. However, to provide these bespoke services, the accountants need a holistic view of their clients’ businesses, in addition to managing their own firm’s operations.

Zoho Practice, a one-stop solution for accountants, comes with client management, document management, task management, timesheet, and billing capabilities. The application also offers a few industry-first capabilities built from the ground up for distributed firms like advanced collaboration through chat, voice or video call, documents sharing. It also has AI-driven anomaly detection to identify inconsistencies in their client’s transactions, so that they can quickly rectify the issue.

The practice management solution comes pre-integrated with Zoho Books (accounting app), and Zoho Expense (travel and expense management app), providing a comprehensive central repository while enabling seamless interoperability between an accountant’s practice and their client’s finance and operations. This empowers the accountants to grow their firms by offering more value-added services.

Move Forward Towards

Goals



Don't Be Afraid Of Anyone Or Anything.

All people in the world have their own goals. Of course, it is not easy to reach them. Goals set us on the path to big dreams and a beautiful life.

How to achieve the goals? If we move forward with self-confidence and move towards the goal without retreating, we will definitely achieve it.

In life, sets a goal for each person. Of course, we should clearly write down each goal. Only then we will easily achieve our goals. If we think about our goals without

writing them down, we are less likely to achieve them. That's why, if you want to achieve your goals quickly and easily, definitely write them down.

Sets big goals for many people. But they wonder how to achieve them. Surely they have fear. Firstly, one shouldn't be afraid of difficulties leading to the goal. But we will certainly achieve it if we try to do it in stages. For example, we set a goal to read a hundred books. At first this may seem like an unattainable goal. If we divide it into parts, that is, we plan to read one book every day, we will certainly achieve our goal. This is what I call in my language, "the philatelic method". Only then everything will be easy and brilliant.

Never be afraid of difficulties in achieving your goals. When you achieve your goals, you forget all the difficulties. Believe me, it is very beautiful, amazing to achieve goals. Mohinur Vohidova was born in 2006 and lives in Fergana city located in the central part of Uzbekistan. She is interested in different kind of things, like, reading books, writing poems and essays

I Am From Uzbekistan



Who we are, who we have become
We became a great sultan and king.
In the bosom of ancient history,
We were the biggest caravan.

The past is your name
Old Turan, Turkestan,
Currently - Uzbekistan!
It suits you

The coat of arms is the flag, the anthem
My beloved country,
My place of worship.

You are a civilization in history,
He taught the world
cradle of the great,
The door of enlightenment
My intellectual, my torch - my Uzbekistan

Do not disturb your peace
May my journey be prosperous.
We are your perfect descendants
We will support you
My Motherland is my Uzbekistan.

MY LOGHANIM

When I hear your name, my eyes fill with tears.
The dearest of my heart is my native land -
Logan.

You are a shining star, guiding everyone,
The crown on my head is my throne, my support
is my Logan.

Your soil is like gold, your four sides are cotton,
Firdavsmonand is my land, and my Gulistan is
Logan.

How many secrets you have in your bosom,
You are Logkhanim, the swing of the past -
Loghanim.

The abode of the saints, the holy ground,
My strong faith, you are my Logan.

I will justify your rights by giving knowledge to the
world

My bright land is mine, you are my logan - my
Logan

GUARDS OF UZBEKISTAN

You are there, peaceful nights, you are there, calm
hearts,
Always a shield, the brave are the guardians of
Uzbekistan.

Day and night, they are ready, always alert, on the
border.

My mother, my country, my child - guardians of
Uzbekistan.

Fear knows nothing, the fire in its heart does not
go out,

Hearty, brave young men - the guardians of
Uzbekistan.

May you always be healthy, O Uzbek wrestlers,
We are proud of you - the guardians of
Uzbekistan.

SPRING

Spring comes again to the world,
The snow melts and the water flows.
The field is in the lap of the mountains,
Flowers are blooming.

Wednesday - revitalization around,
Renewal, living.

Welcome to the bride of the seasons!
Pleased us,

You have come to our country.

Makhamadov Abduhoshim

The son of Makhamadov Abduhoshim
Mominjon was born on June 11, 2003 in the village
of Logan, Fergana district, Fergana region, in an
intellectual family.

In 2010-2021, he studied at the 36th
secondary school of the district. Due to his
interest in history, he took part in science
Olympiads at the district and regional levels and
won honorable places. Participant of a number
of events held at the district level. In 2021, he
graduated from school with a "Gold Medal" for
excellent grades and exemplary behavior.

In 2021, he was admitted to study history
at the Faculty of Pedagogy and Social Sciences of
the Bukhara State Pedagogical Institute. Currently,

he is a third-year student at this educational
institution. Makhamadov Abduhoshim is one of
the most talented students of the institute
and has been active as an active and talented
student until now. As a talented student, he can
be shown as an example to the students of the
institute by showing enthusiasm in studies, public
works, institute events. Due to the student's
broad outlook, knowledge and talent, he mastered
all subjects with excellent grades and took a
worthy place among the talented students of
the institute. Makhamadov Abduhoshim actively
participated in republican and international
scientific-practical conferences and journals with
scientific articles and theses, and published about
10 theses and articles. 10 scientific articles were
published in international and local journals and 2
theses were published in conferences.

Abduhoshim is not limited to scientific work,
but is also engaged in creative work. His creative
works, "MT. Published in international newspapers
such as KENYA TIMES, and The Diaspora Times
Global. In November, the collection of Abduhoshim's
creative works was published in the American
publishing house "Lulu". In addition, several other
creative works are actively participating in
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Wake Up Heart



There will be stars at night, my dear
If you remember, take me to the sky
Look at the distant star, my spring
Look at it with anger, it's a bonfire
Your touch is my heart
Just melt the ice and finish it.
Sorrows filled my heart

My nights are dark, my days are dark.
You are my bright sun, my unfaithful
soul

I wanted, I begged, I ordered
Let, it did not affect the poor heart

BREAD

Bread is a symbol of glory,

Bread is a sign of fasting

Non-la big apartment

Bread is a big table

The appearance of the table is bread

Patir, kulcha, shirmoy bread

Best of all

My mother closed - "Jizza Non"

Bread is a symbol of abundance

Kut is the messenger of blessings

Not for nothing

"Bread is bread too"

Makhamadov Abduhoshim with his
teacher Shokirov Mubin Rustamovich in
the palace of Sitorai Mohi Khossa.

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BUSINESS

Nyeri's Bantu Africa Resort And SPA Marks 4th Anniversary

By: Business Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

The prestigious Bantu Africa Resort and SPA has marked its fourth year since it opened its door to the public.

The Nyeri County based establishment marked the anniversary with pomp and colour during the event that was graced by dozens of guests from various parts of the country.

Addressing the guests, staff and his family members, the establishment chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge said opening of the Resort was culmination of one of dreams of having such a facility that offers high standards hospitality services.

Among those who graced the event were a national director of Poverty Eradication Kenya Purity Ngunjiri, Nyeri County Government Tourism Chief Officer George Mwangi and Catholic priest Father Ngatia from Kahira-ini Parish who led the Mass.

Others were officials from the National government led by Assistant County Commissioner I Nyaga and Chief Stephen Kambu from Mboi-Kamiti area, Kiambu County where Dr Mathenge stopped killings that used to take place because of land tussles. After he was elected chairman, Dr Mathenge brought all members together, where after consultations, they agreed to subdivide it amongst themselves, instantly ending the merciless killings.

A Member of Nyeri County Assembly for Kamakwa/Mukaro Ward John Kamau Taiti who is a former employee of Brade Gate Food Industries, which is also owned by Dr Mathenge also graced the event where he nostalgically remembered his days as an accountant.

Guests were entertained by among others, musician from Mukurwe-ini constituency David Mambo.

Bantu Africa Resort prides itself of among other things offering the widest varieties of children entertainment activities and longest swimming pool in the country.

Dr Mathenge disclosed that the Resort, situated at Kahiga-ini area, along Marua-Nanyuki Road, off Nairobi-Nyeri Highway has lined various activities for all during this festive season.

“We have all what everyone in this world requires during this festive days. Even before and after the season, our services remains unrivalled in the whole country,” Dr Mathenge noted after the colourful anniversary ceremony.



Dr Thuo Mathenge and his wife leading their children in delivering their offerings during a Mass to celebrate the Bantu Africa Resort and SPA fourth anniversary.



Guests being entertained during the anniversary celebrations



The establishment

Worth Noting:

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By: Samuel Maina
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Boda Boda rider in a water filled road.

Worth Noting:

- “We had a workshop about El Nino preparedness, which was attended by the Governor and County Commissioner Pius Murugu, where we insisted that we will have heavy rains and people need to be prepared. So, we cannot change that condition, whether people dispute our prediction or not,” he pointed out.

- Regarding advising those still living in areas marked as hotspots to relocate to safer grounds to avert flash floods and landslides, the official said their work ends with giving the advisory warning.

- Muiruri noted that while Nyeri may not be prone to landslides and massive flooding, those occupying areas located near rivers and in hilly areas still face the risk of being washed away by the downpour.

As the much-anticipated El Nino rains continue to pound a large part of the country, residents of Nyeri have been warned against disregarding advisory statements being issued by the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD).

The caution comes in the wake of a recent announcement by the weatherman warning that the ongoing rains will intensify in the coming weeks and will likely result in widespread flooding and destruction of human settlements, crops, and livestock in several parts of the country.

Nyeri County Director of Meteorological Services John Muiruri has stated that while the county may be spared from the ravages of widespread floods and destruction being witnessed in other parts of the country, it still behoves every person to take caution and avoid putting themselves in harm's way.

“We had a workshop about El Nino preparedness, which was attended by the Governor and County Commissioner Pius Murugu, where we insisted that we will have heavy rains and people need to be prepared. So, we cannot change that condition, whether people dispute our prediction or not,” he pointed out.

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He also said that he had received information about the occurrence of a landslide in the King'ong'o area near Nyeri town but clarified that he had yet to verify the authenticity of the report.

“When we issue a forecast, we tell those people living near rivers to move to higher ground, but it is upon you to decide whether you will move out or not. We cannot come and remove people from where they are staying. Ours is to issue the forecast and warning,” he stressed.

On Tuesday, Nyeri County Deputy Governor David Kinanie told journalists that three people have so far lost their lives while trying to cross the River Chania, which is currently in flood.

The latest victim is an 11-year-old boy from Nyeri town who disappeared four days ago, only for his

body to be retrieved from the river, several kilometres away from his home.

The Kenya Red Cross (KRC) has already warned the country to brace for more humanitarian crises within the next few weeks, even as seven counties report widespread destruction of crops and displacement of both people and livestock due to flooding.

Statistics from KRC put the number of people who have lost their lives due to flash floods at 46, with 15,264 families having been forced to relocate from their homes due to flooding. In addition, 1,067 livestock have been lost and 241 acres of agricultural land have been submerged under water, posing a threat to food production in the affected areas.

Among the counties that have borne the brunt of the deluge are Marsabit, Garissa, Mandera, Isiolo, Wajir, and Tana River.

The regions of Nyanza, Western, and South Rift have also been identified as flood hotspots, with KRC Secretary General Idris Ahmed saying the country needs a 24-hour disaster alert and response system to help reach out to those who will be affected by floods.

“If you look at the weather forecast in the next two weeks, we shall have

more concern in western Kenya, the lake basin, and the south rift region,” said Ahmed while speaking on Citizen TV on Sunday night.

The official also disclosed that at least 29 counties had been affected by flooding, with those residing in the North Eastern region being the worst affected.

“As we speak now, the counties that are most affected in the northern parts of the country are Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Tana River, Marsabit, Samburu, and Isiolo, but the spread is pretty much across the country,” he noted.

According to a KMD report dated August 30, 2023, the climate outlook for the October–November–December period indicates the whole country will likely experience enhanced rainfall, a departure from what has been the norm for the last few years.

The high precipitation will be driven by warmer-than-average Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, indicating the presence of El Nino conditions.

Nyeri is one of the counties expected to experience heavy rains throughout the three-month cycle.

Koskei Suspends 6 Ceos, 67 Police Officers Over Alleged Graft

By: Prudence Wanza

Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service Felix Koskei has directed the suspension of 6 Chief Executive Officers and 67 police officers over alleged involvement in corruption and procurement irregularities.

In a statement released by State House Spokesperson Hussein Mohamed, the EACC has written to several Cabinet Secretaries recommending suspension of officers involved in graft.

“The directives follow recommendations by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) for the suspension of the officers, who are currently under investigation,” the statement reads in part.

Koskei states that EACC has written to the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, Zachariah Njeru, recommending the suspension of Eng. Fredrick Mwamati, the CEO of the Tanathi Water Works Development Agency.

Mwamati is under investigation for procurement irregularities in the



Felix Koskei, Chief of Staff in the Executive office of the President and Head of Public Service. PHOTO/COURTESY

award of a tender for the construction of a Leather Industrial Park Water Supply Project.

EACC has also written to the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Florence Bore, to suspend Stephen Ogenga, the Director-General of the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA), for alleged procurement irregularities in the award of a tender

for supplies at NITA.

Similarly, the commission has written to the Board of the National Museums of Kenya to suspend Stanvas Ong’alo, the Acting Director-General, for alleged embezzlement of Ksh490 million through irregular payments.

In another letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Performance and Delivery Management,

Moses Kuria, the EACC has recommended the suspension of Benjamin Kai Chilumo, the CEO of Huduma Centre Secretariat.

Chilumo is under investigation for corruption allegations when he served in the County Government of Kilifi as the Chief Finance Officer.

The graft agency has also written to the Cabinet Secretary for Gender, Culture, the Arts and Heritage, Aisha

Jumwa, recommending the suspension of Peter Gitaa Koria, the CEO/GM of Bomas of Kenya, for allegations of procurement irregularities in supplies for the institution.

Additionally, the EACC has called for the suspension of Eng. Anthony Wamukota, the General Manager of Design & Construction at Kenya Electricity Transmission Company Limited (KETRACO), for alleged procurement irregularities related to the construction contract of the 400KV Loiyangalani Power Project.

The commission has also written to the Director-General of KeRRA, Engineer Philemon Kandie, to suspend Esther Wanjiru Chege, an accountant at the institution, for alleged conflict of interest and possession of unexplained wealth.

“In these letters, the EACC states that the continued stay in office of the mentioned officers during the investigation will interfere with and undermine its work,” says Koskei

Furthermore, the EACC has asked the Inspector-General of Police, Japhet Koome, to suspend 67 police officers implicated in corruption-related malpractices.

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KPA Holds Pre-Bid Conference On Its Assets

Capital Correspondent

The Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) yesterday held a pre-bid conference marking a significant step towards concessioning of its port assets.

The conference, which attracted participants both physically and virtually, provided a platform for potential investors to engage directly with Government and KPA officials and gather essential information.

A total of 63 people representing various potential investors attended the conference (21 in-person attendees and 42 online via TEAMS).

The pre-bid conference offered the interested investors an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the project and to seek for clarification(s) on various aspects.

In his address to the participants, the KPA Managing Director, Capt. William Ruto, said that the primary objective of partnership with the private sector is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of ports, improve their capacity and competitiveness regionally and globally.

“The purpose of today’s conference is to provide you with information and in-

sights into the concessioning process, as well as address any queries or concerns you may have. We understand that this is a significant undertaking, one that requires careful consideration and meticulous planning,” said the MD.

He assured them that the concessioning process will be conducted with utmost transparency, fairness and adherence to the highest standards of governance.

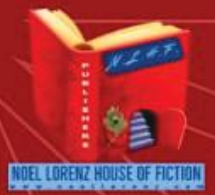
The concessioning of port assets represents a strategic move by the KPA to attract private sector investment, encourage technological advancements, and improve overall service delivery.

The pre-bid conference marks the beginning of a comprehensive and transparent bidding process, which will ultimately provide interested and qualified investors with an opportunity to submit their proposals.

KPA will evaluate the bids based on predetermined criteria, including technical expertise, financial capability, and sustainability plans. The successful bidders will then enter into concession agreements with the KPA, outlining their responsibilities, obligations, and the expected outcomes.

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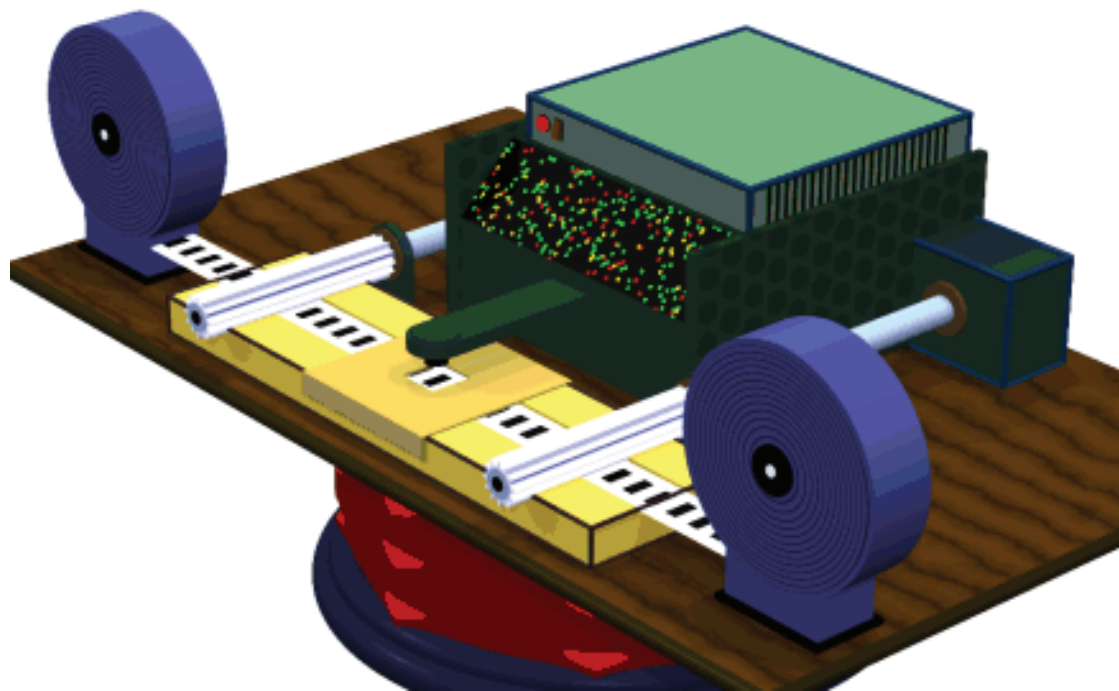


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Beyond the Tape: Turing Machines and the Computational Armor of Cybersecurity



By: Danstan Akwiri
@themkenyatimes



Turing Machines

Worth Noting:

- One of the key contributions of Turing machines to cybersecurity is the concept of undecidability, famously demonstrated by the Halting Problem.
- Turing machines play a crucial role in the study of algorithmic complexity, which is central to the design and analysis of cryptographic algorithms. Cryptography, a cornerstone of cybersecurity, relies on the mathematical foundations of computational complexity to ensure the security of communication and data.
- By leveraging the principles of Turing machines, researchers and cybersecurity professionals can create formal models that represent the behavior of systems. These models can then be subjected to rigorous analysis, employing mathematical proofs to verify their correctness.

Introduction

Cybersecurity can as well be described as an infinite discipline; the battle between attackers and defenders is a constant struggle for supremacy. As technology advances, so do the threats that exploit vulnerabilities in digital systems. One theoretical concept that has significantly influenced the field of computer science and, by extension, cybersecurity is the Turing machine. In this article, we will explore the foundations of Turing machines, their relevance to cybersecurity, and how they contribute to the development of robust defense mechanisms in the digital realm.

Understanding Turing Machines

The Turing machine, conceptualized by the British mathematician and logician Alan Turing in 1936, is a theoretical model of computation. It consists of an infinite tape, a read/write head, and a set of states. The tape is divided into cells, each capable of holding a symbol. The read/write head can move left or right along the tape, read the symbol at the current cell, write a new symbol, and change its internal state based on predefined rules.

Turing machines are instrumental in the study of algorithmic computation, providing a theoretical framework for understanding the limits and capabilities of computing devices. Although not a physical machine, the Turing machine serves as a powerful abstraction that helps researchers analyze the fundamental aspects of computation.

Relevance to Cybersecurity

The connection between Turing machines and cybersecurity lies in the fundamental principles of computation and algorithmic complexity. As cybersecurity professionals strive to secure

digital systems, they grapple with the challenge of identifying and mitigating vulnerabilities in software and hardware. Turing machines provide a theoretical foundation for understanding the concept of computability, which is essential in designing secure systems.

1. Undecidability and the Halting Problem:

One of the key contributions of Turing machines to cybersecurity is the concept of undecidability, famously demonstrated by the Halting Problem. The Halting Problem states that it is impossible to create an algorithm that can determine, for every possible input, whether a given Turing machine will halt or run indefinitely. This inherent limitation has implications for cybersecurity, as it underscores the difficulty of developing foolproof methods for detecting all possible security threats. The undecidability of certain problems highlights the need for probabilistic and heuristic approaches in cybersecurity, as absolute certainty is unattainable.

2. Algorithmic Complexity and Cryptography:

Turing machines play a crucial role in the study of algorithmic complexity, which is central to the design and analysis of cryptographic algorithms. Cryptography, a cornerstone of cybersecurity, relies on the mathematical foundations of computational complexity to ensure the security of communication and data. The study of polynomial time algorithms, as introduced by Turing machines, helps researchers assess the strength of cryptographic schemes and identify potential vulnerabilities.

Moreover, Turing machines contribute to the development of encryption algorithms, key exchange protocols, and digital signatures. The complexity

theory, rooted in the principles of Turing machines, guides the selection and design of cryptographic primitives that form the backbone of secure communication in the digital age.

3. Formal Verification and Security Protocols:

Turing machines are instrumental in the field of formal verification, a process that involves mathematically proving the correctness of a system or a software program. In the realm of cybersecurity, formal verification is employed to ensure that security protocols and critical software components operate as intended without vulnerabilities.

By leveraging the principles of Turing machines, researchers and cybersecurity professionals can create formal models that represent the behavior of systems. These models can then be subjected to rigorous analysis, employing mathematical proofs to verify their correctness. Formal verification helps identify potential flaws in security protocols before they are deployed, reducing the risk of exploitation by malicious actors.

Applications of Turing Machines in Cybersecurity

1. Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS):

Turing machines inspire the design of intrusion detection systems that aim to identify and respond to unauthorized access or malicious activities within a computer system. The undecidability of certain problems, such as the detection of all possible intrusion attempts, necessitates the use of heuristic and machine learning-based approaches in intrusion detection. Turing machines provide the theoretical underpinnings for developing adaptive and intelligent IDS that can evolve to detect new and previously

unseen threats.

2. Vulnerability Analysis:

The complexity theory associated with Turing machines guides cybersecurity professionals in conducting vulnerability analyses. Understanding the computational complexity of different algorithms helps prioritize security patches and updates based on the potential impact of vulnerabilities. Additionally, the concept of undecidability underscores the need for continuous monitoring and adaptive defenses, as new vulnerabilities emerge and evolve over time.

3. Secure Software Development:

Turing machines contribute to the field of secure software development by emphasizing the importance of rigorous testing, formal verification, and adherence to secure coding practices. The undecidability of certain problems serves as a reminder that achieving absolute security is unattainable, but through careful design and verification processes, developers can significantly reduce the attack surface of software applications.

summary

In cybersecurity, the influence of Turing machines extends beyond theoretical abstractions to practical applications that shape the way we defend against digital threats. The undecidability inherent in certain computational problems reminds us of the inherent challenges in achieving absolute security. However, by leveraging the principles of algorithmic complexity, formal verification, and the theoretical foundations laid by Turing machines, cybersecurity professionals can develop robust defense mechanisms that adapt to the evolving threat landscape.

As technology continues to advance, the principles derived from Turing machines will remain relevant, guiding the development of innovative cybersecurity solutions. The synergy between theoretical concepts and practical applications underscores the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in securing the digital frontier. In the ongoing battle between security and threat actors, the legacy of Alan Turing's theoretical contributions continues to serve as a beacon, illuminating the path toward a more secure digital future.

Author: Danstan Akwiri, Msc, computer Science, Bsc, Computer science, CISSM, CEH.

Director of cybersecurity and IT Infrastructure.

SPORTS
NEWSPHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Harambee Stars fell 2-1 to Gabon as the Central African Nation rallied from behind to get a win in the opening World Cup Qualifiers fixture at the Stade de Franceville.

Harambee Stars Fall To Gabon In 2026 World Cup Qualifiers Opener



Harambee Stars coach Engin Firat.

Harambee Stars fell 2-1 to Gabon as the Central African Nation rallied from behind to get a win in the opening World Cup Qualifiers fixture at the Stade de Franceville.

Dennis Bouanga and Guelor Kanga scored one each to guarantee the hosts a promising start, while Masoud Juma's strike in the first half only served as a consolation.

Gabon started well with the Panthers winger Denis Bouanga forcing a save from Harambee Stars shot-stopper Patrick Matasi in the 13th minute after dispossessing Stars defender Amos Nondi.

Gabon had another chance to score when full back Johann

Obiang latched onto a poor clearance by Nondi but shot wide as Matasi had it covered.

Chances were hard to come by in the start-and-stop half that saw the Gabon goalkeeper Noubi Fotso require stoppage of play to receive medical attention before being subbed off for Ngoubi Demba in the 31st minute.

The stoppage of play seemed to bring Stars into the game as striker Michael Olunga took matters into his own hands dribbling from near the half way line but could not keep his shot on target in 34th minute.

It was a moment of madness for Gabon in the 40th minute as Nondi latched onto a loose ball from Gabon's throw-in to find

Juma in the box who flicked it over a rushing Demba who had come out for the ball but missed to put the Stars a goal to the good going into half time.

Second half started on a similar note with Gabon trying to impose themselves on the game, looking for an early equaliser but the away side kept their cool.

Engin Firat's side sat back for majority of the early minutes of the second half with their best chances coming from set pieces as Gabon huffed and puffed to finally get their reward in the 60th minute.

Bouanga finally got the better of Matasi after being denied in the first half when teammate Bruno Manga found him with a

long range pass which he slotted past the Stars shot stopper.

Bouanga yet again in 82nd minute was through on goal but Matasi was on top of his game as he pounced on the winger's hard shot to keep the scores level.

Matasi's effort was undone nearing stoppage time when Guelor Kanga beautifully taken long shot found the back of the net leaving Matasi helpless to sink Harambee Stars.

Stars will next take on Seychelles on Monday, November 20 in Abidjan – Ivory Coast while Gabon takes on Burundi on Sunday November 19.

Citizen Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Football teams that will take part during National championship on Jamhuri day will be known next week.

Youngsters Football Teams For Jamhuri Championship To be Named On Wednesday



Migori County Girls team (in Sky Blue Jersey) battle it out with Marsabit county's team at Nyeri Primary School yesterday.

By Our Correspondent
Football teams that will take part during National championship on Jamhuri day will be known next week.

The search for the eight under 19-football teams started yesterday in Nyeri County.

A total of 21 football teams from 18 counties have converged at the Nyeri Primary School the Talanta Hela tournaments which will culminate Wednesday next week.

According to James Theuri, a Talent Development Officer at the Kenya Academy of Sports, the second stage of the football competition taking place in Nyeri town has brought together teams from 12 regions of the country

that clinched second position during the first stage of the games that took place in August.

“From these teams we have a total of 10 boys’ teams and 10 girls’ teams that will play in a league of five teams each and produce the winners and the losers. The games will be played within the week, with finals taking place on November 21,” said Theuri.

The first round of the playoffs produced 24 teams comprising 12 boys teams and 12 girls teams which directly qualified for the national round.

Theuri said by Wednesday next week, they will have picked eight top teams which form part of the 32 teams that will take part in the

final round which will kick off on December 3 in Nairobi county.

“From this whole tournament we are going to pick the best four from each category; 4 for boys and 4 for girls to join the 12 teams that were already selected after the August tournament and the number will come to 16 teams for boys and 16 teams for girls playing in that tournament and the best teams will play in the finals,” stated Theuri.

The matches, Theuri added, will be officiated by Football Kenya Federation referees to ensure the highest levels of sportsmanship are upheld during the five days of the tournament.

Yesterday’s morning fixtures

brought together the Kwale County boys team against Mandera County ended with a 2-0 win for Mandera while the match between Kakamega County boys team beat the Homabay boys team ended in a 2-0 win for Homabay.

In the girls category, the Migori County team braved the chilly weather to beat Marsabit County team 4-1 by the end of the first half.

Today, Marsabit County boys will face Busia County boys team in the morning while Machakos County girls team will play against Mombasa County girls team.

SPORTS NEWS



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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Easy And Effective Memory Of Foreign Words

By: Abdurashidova Mukhtasar
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Making sentences before words. Forming sentences leads to active memorization of words and does not create difficulties to use them later in other sentences. If you want, you can add wise words, aphorisms, poems that you hear in our daily life.
- Memorization through flashcards. What do you think it will be like? You write the translation of the words you want to memorize on one side of the card, and the word itself on the other side. You look at the cards one by one, remove the words you know, and what you don't know remains. You memorize until you run out of cards and what you don't know remains. You memorize until you run out of cards.

ANNOTATION

One of the problems that plagues students learning a foreign language is vocabulary memorization. Because most learners use ineffective and outdated vocabulary memorization methods. But in the modern era, many solutions have been found for this. Nowadays, there are many effective and easy ways to memorize words. But, unfortunately, not many people know about it. This article provides a solution to this very problem and covers the topic in full.

KEY WORDS;

- effective ways of memorizing words,
- creating an orderly dictionary,
- learning through synonyms and antonyms, method of adaptation to the Uzbek language.

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the need to learn foreign languages is increasing. Everyone wants to travel and study a foreign language in prestigious universities. As Frank Smith said: "One language will get you on the path of life. Two will help you overcome all the obstacles on the way."

Vocabulary is the main basis for learning foreign languages, but many students have problems memorizing words. Most of us memorize words by repeating them over and over again. This is a very outdated method.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Method 1.

Creating a dictionary. A dictionary is a working tool of a student learning any language. It is very boring if you look at the vocabulary of many students. Because they used the same pen.

Using different colored pens in our vocabulary book inspires us to memorize words.

Decorate words with pictures. If you have an artistic talent, draw a picture before your word for summer. As soon as you say yes, you should divide the words into groups and write them with colored pens. For example, green verbs, red nouns,

blue adjectives, etc. Of course, the choice of colors is up to you.

Method 2.

Making sentences before words. Forming sentences leads to active memorization of words and does not create difficulties to use them later in other sentences. If you want, you can add wise words, aphorisms, poems that you hear in our daily life.

Method 3.

Memorization through flashcards. What do you think it will be like? You write the translation of the words you want to memorize on one side of the card, and the word itself on the other side. You look at the cards one by one, remove the words you know, and what you don't know remains. You memorize until you run out of cards. and what you don't know remains. You memorize until you run out of cards.

Method 4.

Memorizing words with synonyms or antonyms will help you memorize and remember more words. For example, big-small, right-left, day-night. Remember that synonyms should be memorized together with their original meaning. Because each word has a different meaning.

Method 5.

Adaptation to the Uzbek language. A student memorizing words in English may face another interesting situation. It is also the fact that some English words are not only in tune with Uzbek words, but also have the same meaning. Of course, there are only a few words like this, but with effort and research, you can find many such words and increase your vocabulary even more.

Let's take the following word as an example:

- Candy - sugar
- Candle - candle
- The wall
- A voice
- Asphalt - asphalt
- Overcoat
- Pistachio - pistachio



Abdurashidova Mukhtasar .

life, we believe it will help.

Summary

In conclusion, we can say that. We need to learn words in different interesting ways. As the wise say, "Learning another language is not only learning other words, but also learning to think about things differently." We hope that memorizing in the ways presented in this article will help you stay in your memory for a long time. Of course there is a way to learn everything. These methods will affect everyone differently. If we apply these methods in our daily

Abdurashidova Mukhtasar was born on June 27, 2008 in Torakorgan District, Namangan Region. Is'haqkhan is a 9th grade student of the creative school named after Ibrat. His poems were published in magazines, especially Tamaddum magazine. Can communicate in 5 languages. Currently, he is engaged in translation. Participant of many competitions.