



Researchers, Innovators Team Up To Fight Climate Change
 Researchers in industry and agriculture have come together to find solutions to the effects of climate change and declining food security. At least 40 partners are participating in a Research, Innovation and Digital Agri-Expo at MKU which aims to chart the way forward in minimizing the adversities of a changing environment.
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End Of An Era As Last KCPE Cohort Take A Bow

News>> Pastor Dorcas Commends First Lady Mama Rachel for 14 Years of Women Empowerment

P. 8. The spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi was among invited guests at the Kasarani Stadium during celebrations of 14 years of the Joyful Women Organisation (JoyWo) in the country.



Motivation>> Be A Better Parent

P. 12. During the process of separating and developing increasing autonomy from parents, teenagers occasionally revert to earlier coping patterns and require increased nurturance and support.

It was a historic moment for the country as education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu announced this year's KCPE examination results in what marked the end of an era for the exams after 38 years. 8,523 candidates representing 0.6% of the 1,406,557 who sat for this year's examinations attained 400 marks and above a drop from the 2022 performance which saw 9,443 candidates attain the same fate. Since 1985, a total of 26,067,181 candidates have been examined during the KCPE Examination.



Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu

STORY ON PAGE 9

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DP Gachagua To Attend C-10 Summit In Equatorial Guinea

The DP departed the country yesterday afternoon

By: Margaret Kalekye



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua at a past event.

Worth Noting:

- The meeting is reviewing the emerging international momentum on the reform of the UNSC to strategically position and prepare Africa for any outcome in the process, which began in 2005.
- The Heads of State and Government from the C-10 States will also discuss how to strategically utilise the Common African Position as a negotiating framework to agree on a realistic and pragmatic roadmap for the reform of the UNSC in the best interests of the continent.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua left the country yesterday afternoon for Equatorial Guinea, to attend the Committee of Ten (C-10) Committee of Ten (C-10) summit.

Mr Gachagua is representing President William Ruto at the ongoing November 22-24, 2023 Summit of the African Union Heads of State and Government on the reform of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

The DP is scheduled today, November 24 deliver a Statement on behalf of Kenya on among other issues, why the reforms of the UNSC need to be accelerated for equitable representation of Africa through expansion of the membership.

The meeting is reviewing the emerging

international momentum on the reform of the UNSC to strategically position and prepare Africa for any outcome in the process, which began in 2005.

The Heads of State and Government from the C-10 States will also discuss how to strategically utilise the Common African Position as a negotiating framework to agree on a realistic and pragmatic roadmap for the reform of the UNSC in the best interests of the continent.

The African Union Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government (C-10) was setup during the 4th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly on August 4, 2005, through Decision Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1 (IV), with the core mandate of presenting, advocating and canvassing

support for the Common African Position on the Reform of the UNSC as enshrined in the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration.

The United Nations General Assembly began the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) on the reforms of the UN Security Council during the 63rd Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 63) in 2009.

Currently, the UNSC Permanent Members Comprise the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, China and Russia.

There are also Non-permanent Member positions, which are held on a rotational basis.

Africa is represented by Mozambique,

Gabon and Ghana.

Kenya's two-year term of representing Africa at the UNSC ended in December 2022. Kenya is one of the countries in Africa, which have been pushing for the reforms of the UNSC – the highest decision-making organ of the UN- calling for a more inclusive body that considers and reflects regional balance and equal mandate in decisions.

The African Union chose Kenya and nine other members to champion these discussions. The other States include Equatorial Guinea, the Republic of the Congo, Namibia, Zambia, Libya, Algeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Uganda.

Editor's Desk

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2023 KCPE Results In Brief



Teachers and parents of St Peters Elite School - Gilgil celebrate at the school yesterday upon receiving KCPE results where the top pupil scored 423 marks, thereby becoming the best pupil in Nakuru County . Photo/Suleiman Mbatiah



Macharia Wesley Kamau of Othaya's C&J Mt Camel Academy celebrates with teachers and parents at the school after he scored 415 marks. Inset is Mugo Prudence Nyokabi from the same who scores 401 marks. Photos/ Francis Kabingu



A pupil from South Sudan Debra Aluel from Ndimani Kanini Academy in Mathira constituency topped the list of this year's KCPE high performers in Nyeri County. Aluel scored 425 marks, followed by Mercy Wakarima from the same institution, who scored 421 marks.

Thre school director Lincoln Njogu attributed the good performance to hard work by teachers and students as well as unmatched support by parents.

“We are glad to have ended 8-4-4 system of education in style. We thank God for that. As for parents, they should accept results by their children,” said elated Njogu who added that he was confident that the same would be replicated in CBC education system.



Karatina town's Kirigu Primary School patron Watson Weru Knight congratulating Celine Wamuyu during a past school event.

Wamuyu emerged the best candidate after scoring 419 mark. “It is hard to beat a person who never gives up. Self-belief and hard work will always earn you success.Congratulations, Celine Wamuyu,” Weru who is also MCA for Karatina Ward, retorted after the results were released



Michael Warutere from Riara Group of Schools in Nairobi emerged the best pupil in this year's KCPE results with 428 marks. During an interview yesterday, Warutere said he wanted to join Mang'u High School in Kiambu county and thereafter persue Software Engineering.



Kenya's permanent representative to UN-HABITAT Amb. Jean W. Kimani pays a courtesy call to Lands and Physical Planning Cabinet Secretary Hon. Alice Wahome. The UN-Habitat is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all.

NEWS IN BRIEF



The Ministry of Public Service in Kenya will begin naming and shaming public institutions that consistently fail taxpayers in service delivery starting next year. Public Service, Performance, and Delivery Management Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria said the Ministry, in collaboration with the Commission on Administrative Justice, will provide monthly updates on non-performing public institutions that consistently fail taxpayers. Kuria lamented inordinate delays in service delivery at government offices and urged public servants to transition to public service to safeguard taxpayer interests. He vowed to bring change in the work ethic in the Civil Service and asked Kenyans to raise the alarm whenever a public officer demands a bribe at the workplace. Kuria reassured Kenyans that the government is on track to turn around the economy and has full confidence in President Ruto's measures to resuscitate the economy. The Ombudsman awarded several individual categories for public service delivery, including Matsangoni Division, Kilifi North Sub-County, Kilifi County Assistant County Commissioner, Precious Dama Randu, Kenya Revenue Authority, Huduma Kenya, and the National Council for Law Reform.



The Kenyan government has urged the public to provide feedback on its services to assess performance and improve services. The State Department for Performance and Delivery Management Principal Secretary, Veronica Nduva, emphasised the importance of recognising complaints and compliments from citizens to help institutions improve their services. She urged public servants to serve with humility, grace, and recognition of their job. The State Department for Performance and Delivery Management also highlighted the importance of promoting compliance with administrative justice and access to information. The Huduma Ombudsman Awards 2023, organised by the Commission on Administrative Justice, celebrated outstanding public officers and institutions. The awards included individual, institutional, and Ombudsman valour award categories, recognising effective, accountable, and responsive public service. The CAJ Chairperson, Florence Kajuju, emphasised the need to sensitise Kenyans on using the public portal of the Complaints Management Information System (CMIS) to lodge complaints.



Rift Valley National Polytechnic (RVNP) has partnered with Data Annotation and Model Validation Solutions Company, Lish AI Labs, to train at least 1,500 youth and women in computer vision and data labelling services. The training will cover areas such as computer vision, machine learning, and data annotation, as well as soft skills training on communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. The first and second cohorts of over 300 beneficiaries, including current and former students, are now engaged by foreign firms to carry out data annotation or data labelling. Data annotation acts as a bridge between raw data and intelligent algorithms, aiding machines in computer vision and natural language processing. The trainings aim to ensure Kenyans are equipped with the skills and are open to global opportunities, enabling them to exploit online opportunities and earn a sustainable income. Lish AI Labs is also working to position Kenya as an ideal investment destination for players in the global AI value chain, aligning with the government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda.



The Kenya Ministry of Education will conduct a special examination in January for those who missed the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exams. The Ministry will map out the process and administer a special paper to those who did not sit for the exams. The first KCPE exam was conducted in 1995, marking the end of the 8-4-4 primary school system after nearly four decades. This year's cohort was the last to undertake the KCPE, paving the way for the full implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) in primary schools.



Residents in the upper Eastern region of Kenya are calling for the government to empower land registrars and administrators at Sub County levels to improve service delivery. They believe that the current lack of finance and workforce in these offices hinders the delivery of essential services to Kenyans. The land law (Amendment) bill 2023 aims to address these issues by providing more funding and staff to registrars and administrators, enabling them to reach more people in remote areas. The exercise, held at Imenti North National Government Constituency Fund (NGCDF) offices, attracted stakeholders from Marsabit, Isiolo, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, and Embu Counties. The bill also aims to eliminate quacks and fraudsters, streamline service delivery through the National Land Information Management System, and uphold the integrity of land ownership documents. The bill proposes amendments to several existing legislations, including the Survey Regulations (Amendment), The Survey (Electronic Cadastral Transactions), The Community Land Regulations, The Physical and Land Use Planning (Planning Fees), The Valuers (Forms and Fees) Rules, The Land Regulations (Amendment) 2023, and The Land Registration (General) Regulations (Amendment), 2023.

Jane Mwangi Take On Transition From 8-4-4 To CBC Curriculum



Jane Mwangi, head of secretariat, Kenya Association of International Schools

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

The 8-4-4 curriculum has come to an end and as the country ushers in the new dispensation of the Competence Based Curriculum CBC, Jane Mwangi, the Head of Secretariat at the Kenya Association of International Schools has this to share:
“As we close the curtains on 8-4-4 it is my hope that we can avoid doing to CBC, what we did to 8-4-4. That we will

not turn KPSEA into a high stakes exam like we did with KCPE and KCSE. It is also my hope that the Government will reconsider the reduction of learning areas at junior secondary school so that we do not begin to mutilate CBC like we did 8-4-4
Junior Secondary School is supposed to have a broad curriculum so that learners can try new things, and have wider choices when the time comes for subject choice
Just as an example, British National Curriculum (most common international curricu-

lum in Kenya) has 14 learning areas with no options except in choice between which second language, e.g German, French, etc. Kiswahili is mandatory.
Before this shrinking, CBC had 12 compulsory subjects and 2 optional or 1. A maximum total of 14 learning areas.
A curriculum should keep expanding and not shrink.
That we keep conflating an infrastructure problem with a curriculum issue is frustrating.

Riara Springs Academy Maintains Top Position



Michael Warutere top student nationally. He schooled at Riara Springs Academy.



By: John Kariuki

Riara Springs Academy is now the jewel that everyone is admiring. No other school performed better than Riara Springs Academy. That aside, Riara Springs Academy produced the best student countrywide Michael Warutere who achieved 428 marks

On the same breath at least 29 students managed to garner above 400 marks.
The mean mark was 373.9.
The Deputy School Head Mr. Aristaricus Andalo had this to say:
“Congratulations to all the 2023 Riara Springs Academy candidates for the exemplary performance. It reflects your

passion for learning and dedication to your studies. Continue to reach for the stars as you transit to High school.”

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**SCALING THE MOUNTAIN OFF THE DRUG ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM
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Pastor Dorcas Commends First Lady Mama Rachel for 14 Years of Women Empowerment

By: OSDP

The spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi was among invited guests at the Kasarani Stadium during celebrations of 14 years of the Joyful Women Organisation (JoyWo) in the country.

The organization, which was started in the year 1997, by First Lady Rachel Ruto has empowered more than 20,000 women spread across 44 counties in the country.

Mama Rachel narrated how in 1997, when the President, then was running for the seat of Member of Parliament in Eldoret North Constituency (now Turbo) met a woman without shoes, sitting on grass and with a smile on her face; marking the genesis of the organisation.

The JoyWo model incorporates table banking at its core.

“This organisation is a testament to resilience, patience and commitment. To start, and sustain an organization for 14 years, is truly a miraculous work, and it takes the grace of God,” said Pastor Dorcas in her speech.

Pastor Dorcas also wished the members of the organization more success in the coming years. Having been a banker for 14 years, Pastor Dorcas understands the importance of economic empowerment for the citizens of the country.

President William Ruto also commended the First Lady for the great work of economic empowerment.

Cabinet Secretary Aisha Jumwa said the women enterprise fund had disbursed KSh968 million to Kenyans.

Others present were, First Lady of Namibia and President of the Organisation of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD) Monica Geingos, First Lady of Uganda Janet

Museveni, First Lady of Ghana Rebecca Akufo-Addo, First Lady of Burundi Angeline Ndayishimiye, Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, Deputy Governor Njoroge Muchiri, Woman Rep Esther Passaris, Cabinet Secretaries Aisha Jumwa, Florence Bore, Nakumincha Wafula, and other government officials and leaders.

The event also marked the launch of the Organisation of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD) Unifying Campaign in Kenya.

President William Ruto shakes hands with the spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi upon his arrival at the Kasarani Stadium for the 14 years celebrations of JoyWo, and launch of the Organisation of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD) Unifying Campaign in Kenya. Photo/OSDP/Dan Mugo.



Embracing Saving Culture Will Strengthen The Economy - President Ruto

By: PSCU

The Government is committed to enhancing financial inclusivity in the country.

President William Ruto said the government will double the resources available to women and youth groups by matching their savings.

The goal, he explained, is not only to empower members but also to cultivate a saving culture.

The President said he is looking forward to the day when the government will borrow from the savings by Kenyans as opposed to foreign entities.

“Instead of us paying interest to other countries, we will be paying it to our people so that we can grow Kenya,” he said

He made the remarks yesterday during the 14th Anniversary of the Joyful Women Organisation at the Moi International Sports Centre in Nairobi.



President William Ruto addressing the gathering at Kasarani yesterday.

Present were First Lady Rachel Ruto, Deputy President’s spouse Pastor Dorcas Rigathi, African First Ladies Monica Geingos (Namibia), Rebecca Akufo-Addo (Ghana), Angeline Ndayishimiye (Burundi) and Janet Museveni (Uganda).

Others were Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, Cabinet Secretaries Aisha Jumwa, Aden Duale,

Susan Nakhumicha and Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, among others.

The Head of State lauded Mrs Ruto’s commitment to women empowerment in the country.

He said Joywo has enhanced financial inclusion making a significant impact on the Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda.

“The organization has done much



President William Ruto poses for a photo with First Ladies after attending the JoyWo event at Kasarani Stadium yesterday.

more, made greater strides and achieved significant impact throughout Kenya,” he said.

Mrs Ruto said table banking has helped women build enterprises that have transformed their lives.

“Joyful Women Organization contributes to the economic empowerment of our members through financial inclusion, capacity building, trade and market access and MSEs credit,” she said.

Ms Akufo-Addo lauded the Joyful Women organisation for championing financial inclusion that has turned around the fortune of women in the country.

The event also marked the launch of the Organisation of African First Ladies for Development’s; WE ARE EQUAL campaign in Kenya.

End Of An Era As Last KCPE Cohort Take A Bow

By: Nicholas Kigundu
 @themkenyatimes



President William Ruto at Kikuyu Township Primary School, Kiambu County to oversee the beginning of KCPE and KPSEA exams.

Worth Noting:

- “Currently, we are preparing a Sessional Paper, and necessary draft legislation, for submission to Parliament for consideration. Once passed, the documents will anchor most of the recommendations of the Presidential Working Party Report.” Said Machogu as he released the 2023 KCPE examination results.
- Under the competency based curriculum, which is now phasing out the 8-4-4 system, learners will transition through pathways and be assessed at Grade 3(Kenya Early Years Assessment), Grade 6(Kenya Primary School Education Assessment), Grade 9(Kenya Middle Years Assessment) and at Grade 12(Kenya Certificate of Basic Education) with the results acting as a monitoring tool for the achievements attained by learners under the CBC system.

It was a historic moment for the country as education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu announced this year’s KCPE examination results in what marked the end of an era for the exams after 38 years. 8,523 candidates representing 0.6% of the 1,406,557 who sat for this year’s examinations attained 400 marks and above a drop from the 2022 performance which saw 9,443 candidates attain the same fate. Since 1985, a total of 26,067,181 candidates have been examined during the KCPE Examination. This year’s candidates were among the worst hit by COVID-19 pandemic that forced them out of class for an extended period of time as the globe struggled with the adverse effects of the virus. The release of the results marked the end of summative learning in primary school, now replaced by the competency based model of learning which emphasizes on both formative and summative assessment focusing more on varied outcomes of a learning process including

knowledge, skills and attitudes applied over a learning period. As the about 1.4 million candidates transition to form one next year, the inaugural CBC class will be progressing to Grade 8 domiciled under the junior secondary schools. Implementation of the new curriculum was advised by the Presidential Working Party on Education reforms which was appointed by President William Ruto whose report provided a clear roadmap following hiccups during its introduction. “Currently, we are preparing a Sessional Paper, and necessary draft legislation, for submission to Parliament for consideration. Once passed, the documents will anchor most of the recommendations of the Presidential Working Party Report.” Said Machogu as he released the 2023 KCPE examination results. Under the competency based curriculum, which is now phasing out the 8-4-4 system, learners will transition through pathways and be assessed at Grade 3(Kenya Early Years Assessment), Grade 6(Kenya

Primary School Education Assessment), Grade 9(Kenya Middle Years Assessment) and at Grade 12(Kenya Certificate of Basic Education) with the results acting as a monitoring tool for the achievements attained by learners under the CBC system. The education system comprises a continuous assessment which is carried out during early years, middle school and at senior school and

the school-based assessment which starts from Grade 4 to Grade 12. “As per plan, the first cohort of the CBC learners will transition to Grade 8 in January. All education indicators show that the cohort is undergoing quality learning and teaching. I wish to assure the country that all curriculum materials are in place to support the learners.” Assured Machogu on the new education model. The about 1.2 million candidates who sat for their KPSEA examinations this year will however have to wait a little longer for their results with the Kenya National Examination Council set to release the results at a later date. They sat for 12 subjects that were consolidated into five areas which included Mathematics, English, Kiswahili, Integrated Science (I.S) which entails Home Science, Agriculture, Science and Tech, and Physical Health. They were also assessed in Creative and Social Sciences comprising Arts and Craft, Music, Social Studies, and Religious Education marking the end of the primary school cycle ahead of their transitioning to junior secondary. The examinations accounted for only 40 percent with classroom-based assessment across Grades 4, 5 and 6 accounting for the remaining 60 percent. The learners will again be subjected to formal assessment at Grade 9 where they will once again be formatively assessed with a summative assessment at the end of Junior Secondary School. Their scores and preferences will be used for placement in senior secondary school where they will follow one of their preferred career pathways that includes talent Pillar, Languages and the Social Sciences Pillar, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) pillar before proceeding to tertiary and university education.

2023 KCPE RESULTS SUMMARY

Mark Range	KCPE 2023	
	Number	Percentage
400 – 500	8,523	0.60%
300 – 399	352,782	24.92%
200 – 299	658,278	46.49%
100 – 199	383,025	27.05%
001 – 099	2,060	0.15%
Number Sat	1,406,557	99.34%

Government Enhances Cash For Fertilizer

By: PSCU

Food production could rise further following the Government's move to expand its budget for subsidised fertilisers.

In the Supplementary Appropriation (No.3) Bill that was assented to by President William Ruto at State House yesterday, KSh8.25 Billion has been added to the purchase of fertilisers.

To tame losses and ensure stability of maize prices in the country, KSh2.1 Billion has been apportioned to the post-harvest management.

This will entail the acquisition of dryers, bulk storage facilities and purchase of excess maize from farmers to cushion them against price fluctuations.

The government has said it will buy the produce from farmers at KSh4,000 per 90-kilogramme bag.

Further, an additional KSh1.7 billion has been set aside for the ongoing sugar reforms, including the payment

of farmers' arrears and the improvement of sucrose levels.

To enhance coffee production in the country, the government has allocated KSh4 billion for the sector's revitalisation.

Majority Leader Kimani Ichungw'ah said KSh400 million has also been made available to New KCC for mopping up excess milk during this rainy season.

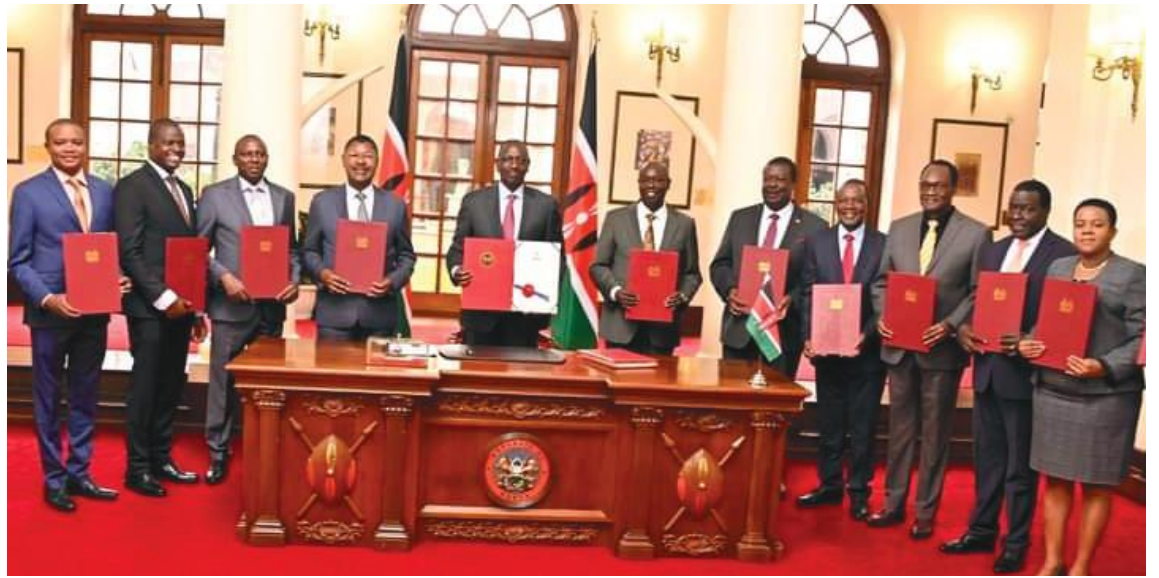
"This will ensure that our farmers do not suffer from losses occasioned by increased supplies of milk in the market," he said.

Moreover, KSh65 Billion has been added in the education sector.

Junior Secondary School has been allocated KSh5.4 Billion more for capitation while KSh3.4 Billion has been channeled in the improvement of infrastructure in the institutions.

So as to check the rising number of non-school going children in Nairobi, KSh1 Billion has been allocated to the City County.

"We want all children to go to school; Nairobi has a big number of school-going children who are not accessing education," said the Bud-



President William Ruto posing with a copy of the Supplementary budget with other senior government officials..

get and Appropriations Committee Chairperson Nindi Nyoro.

He said the resources will be used to build extra class rooms in all the 17 constituencies.

Mr Nyoro said KSh25 billion will cater for higher education scholarships and loans.

With the changing global economic

circumstances, KSh145 Billion will be used in the repayment of interests for domestic and foreign loans.

Present were Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, Speaker of the National Assembly Moses Wetang'ula and Treasury CS Njuguna Ndung'u Treasury Principal Sec-

retary Chris Kiptoo.

Also in the event were Solicitor General Shadrack Mose and the Chairman of the Finance and National Planning Committee in the National Assembly Kuria Kimani.

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Gachagua's Clarification On 10bn El Nino Kitty Did Not Amount To Changing The Tune



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Worth Noting:

- Gachagua added: I'm happy to note some of the governors in coast, North Eastern and Western regions have responded with speed to distress calls. They are spending the monies which they have withdrawn from respective emergency kitties to undertake the mitigation measures. The life lost cannot come back. So, Projects can wait.
- Since the El Nino started pounding country, Gachagua, who had been assigned the role of coordinating different arms of government involved in dealing with disasters and havocs caused by the phenomena, has been leaving nothing to chance.
- The evacuation efforts were mainly being carried out by Kenya Coast Guard, Kenya Police Service and Kenya Defence Forces.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Council of Governors chair Governor Anne Waiguru.

I read a statement released by Council of Governors (CoG) a few days ago which sought to portray the national government in bad light.

This came hot on the heels of Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua's remarks that the county bosses had no justification to blame the National Government (NG) for not giving enough financial resources to mitigate the devastating impact of the ongoing El Nino torrent rains.

The DP had stated that the NG has allocated more than Sh10 billion to the county governments. So we are asking the governors to spend the monies to help the people who elected them to overcome these challenges.

We in the national government are representing the whole country. We are playing our role of saving the lives of Kenyan people and their properties.

The governors had claimed that they had not received the monies.

But Gachagua clarified this by stating: In the shareable revenue allocated by National Treasury to each county in this financial year, there is a budget line for emergency cases.

This is the money we are asking them to withdraw from their respective bank accounts and use it to help the people.

The governors also have monies for the projects. We are asking them to re-allocate the funds if the situation gets worse.

As a government, our cardinal responsibility is to protect the lives of our people.

Gachagua added: I'm happy to note some of the governors in coast, North Eastern and Western regions have responded with speed to distress calls.

They are spending the monies which they have withdrawn from respective emergency kitties to undertake the mitigation measures. The life lost cannot come back. So, Projects can wait.

Since the El Nino started pounding country, Gachagua, who had been assigned the role of coordinating different arms of government involved in dealing with disasters and havocs caused by the phenomena, has been leaving nothing to chance.

The evacuation efforts were mainly being carried out by Kenya Coast Guard, Kenya Police Service and Kenya Defence Forces.

Besides, he had mobilized other state agencies and non-state actors. Some of them are now playing a similar role and other actors are involved in tackling the humanitarian crisis.

Apart from constructing temporary shelters, they were supplying drugs, food, sanitary towel, soaps, clothes and mosquito nets to the victims. They were also giving them mattresses and blankets. The DP convened a meeting a few days ago that brought together all actors to assess the situation.

His efforts are bearing the fruits because he took immediate steps after the Meteorological Department warned Kenyans to brace for El Nino downpours.

The development partners, donors and non-governmental organizations honored DP's invitations to attend one of the meetings. Their deliberations bore the fruits. They agreed to give their financial support and support Kenya in all other ways to overcome and mitigate the devastating effects of El Nino.

According to the Cabinet Secretary for

Arid and Semi Arid Peninah Malonza, the national government has released Sh2.6 billion by the end of last week.

In a meeting with county governors, Gachagua called on them to immediately embark on activities aimed at reducing the dangers associated with the downpours.

These activities include unclogging of drainage system and digging farrows to ensure there was no flooding. The rain waters would flow downstream without any obstructions.

The people living in areas prone to landslides and along the banks of the rivers and dams should be asked to leave.

As a government, our priority number is to protect the lives of the Kenyan people. We also have a duty to protect their properties.

The DP would also emphasize on the need to harvest and preserve the rain waters. The El Nino will come and go. We will need these waters for domestic and agriculture use.

It is worth noting the ongoing El Nino rains have mostly affected 33 counties.

According to the media reports, some 50 Kenyans have so far lost their lives after being swept away and getting involved in flood waters related accidents. Others succumbed after their houses were marooned and submerged in water.

The death toll is however low compared to the similar phenomena witnessed during the reigns of the previous governments.

As it has been the case before, the livestock have not been spared.

The Deputy President (DP) is the principal assistant to the President as pro-

vided in the constitution.

Since he assumed office, the DP has been walking the talk. This is in terms of articulating the vision and agenda of President Ruto and his administration.

The DP so far met most of the targets assigned to him.

Prior to El Neno, the DP minced no word in reminding the leaders about havocs these phenomena had caused in other countries. This should never happen in our country. As leaders, our cardinal responsibility is to protect the lives of the Kenyan people and their properties.

He had convened follow-up meetings to assess the level of preparedness.

Meteorological Department had stated El Nino rains will start to pound the country any time in the month of October.

Flash floodings, flash waters, rising and overflowing of the dams and lakes, landslides and mudslides were some of key negative phenomena.

This is not the first time that El Nino rains are expected to hit our country.

In 1997, we were in the same situation. Our level of preparedness at the time was low. As a result, dozens of the people lost their lives and properties worth millions of shillings.

President Daniel Arap Moi was then at the helm of power.

At the time, Ruto and Gachagua had learnt big lessons from the disaster.

President Ruto has been reiterating that his priority number one is to protect the lives of the people of Kenya.

We have been told that the El Nino rains are coming. As a government, we are ready and prepared to deal with the menace. No single Kenyan should die, Dr Ruto had repeatedly stated.

He is happy that he is governing the country with able and well-meaning deputy. Just like him, Gachagua's love for Kenyans is palpable.

In Nairobi, the Governor of the capital city had launched a red army. The army comprised more than 3,000 residents. Most of them were young people and were being paid by the county government.

Operating in clusters of about 10 people and armed with relevant tools, they criss crossed all the estates while unclogging the blocked water and sewer drainage systems.

They are also digging and creating new flood water-ways. The same work was being done in other counties across the country. This showed Gachagua's call was heeded.

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

Be A Better Parent



By: Wanjohi P. Mugambi
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Therefore, effective adolescent treatment is predicated upon anticipating some of the difficult situations and associated decisions that teenagers are likely to confront (e.g., smoking marijuana, drunk driving, gang provocation, criminal trespassing, vandalism, unsafe sex).
- Treatment exercises and role-playing are geared toward helping youth to imagine and proactively work through the process before it occurs, outside of the emotional exigency of the moment. As a rule of thumb, conversations Our exploration of the physical, emotional, cognitive, and moral unfolding of adolescence and a discussion of the general progression of a deviant identity, have set the stage to present several theoretical models for how derailment from healthy adjustment can occur.



Parenting

During the process of separating and developing increasing autonomy from parents, teenagers occasionally revert to earlier coping patterns and require increased nurturance and support. Even though they may appear aloof or unaffected by parental values, they are actually strongly influenced by the attitudes, values, and behaviors modeled by their adult caregivers.

Hence, "it is extremely important for adults to open lines of communication and be mindful of the values and behaviors they are demonstrating to youth" (Hazen et al., 2008, p. 166). Sometimes after long periods of rebellion and rejection, and after having romanticized relationships with surrogate parental figures (i.e., developing a "crush" on other adults), they become amenable to accepting the parental values and standards of conduct that they formerly rejected.

Healthy parenting accepts individuated teenage identity formation and incrementally safer degrees of physical and psychosocial separation from parents. Parents and other prestige or authority figures in a teenager's life can influence the development of a healthy self-concept by positive role-modeling (i.e., setting a good example through having responsible and gratifying experiences in their own lives) and by nonjudgmental acceptance of their children.

Parents should affirm the positive qualities that they identify in their teenager's personality and overtly demonstrate admiration and praise for these qualities. In most cases, the higher rates of conflict with parents during adolescence are not indicative of a serious rift in parent-teenager relationships.

Even when emotions run very high, both parents and adolescents report that the overall quality of their relationships remains strong, with a foundation of shared values and a considerable amount of mutual affection, respect, and family commitment.

The conflicts are usually seen by both parties as relatively insignificant arguments about issues like dating curfews and personal appearance, while there is overall agreement about principal values such as honesty and the importance of a good education

A healthy and stable self-image is of primary importance in healthy adolescent development. Problems in the formation of a positive sense of self show significant correlations with disturbed peer and family relationships; depression and mood instability; and risky sexual or other acting-out behaviors, including substance abuse, crime, and poor school performance.

Overt manifestations of physical illness (e.g., deformity) or less visible

symptoms (e.g., diabetes) can have a negative impact on an adolescent's confidence and self-esteem. During the peak of reliance on group acceptance, illness may crystallize underlying fears of being unwanted, alienated, and flawed. During these threat points, individual counseling, peer support groups, and increased parental nurturance and support can impact healthy teenage development (

Decisions that emanate from these "hot cognitions" are strongly influenced by a fully developed limbic brain region. As a function of the incompletemyelinations in cortical regions, these decisions do not enjoy comparable inputs from the executive brain regions (i.e., prefrontal cortex). It follows that efforts to help adolescents to make safer choices should eliminate some of the emotional energy (i.e., triggers for impulsive choices) that adolescents might feel when contemplating risky behavior.

Therefore, effective adolescent treatment is predicated upon anticipating some of the difficult situations and associated decisions that teenagers are likely to confront (e.g., smoking marijuana, drunk driving, gang provocation, criminal trespassing, vandalism, unsafe sex).

Treatment exercises and role-playing are geared toward helping youth to imagine and proactively work through the process before it occurs,

outside of the emotional exigency of the moment. As a rule of thumb, conversations

Our exploration of the physical, emotional, cognitive, and moral unfolding of adolescence and a discussion of the general progression of a deviant identity, have set the stage to present several theoretical models for how derailment from healthy adjustment can occur. Firstly, a number of common childhood risk factors predispose adolescents to delinquent behavior:

- Parental psychiatric illness.
- Learning disabilities.
- History of serious head trauma.
- Severe behavioral problems (e.g., fire setting or cruelty to animals).
- School problems.
- Family dysfunction.
- Alcohol or drug abuse.
- Delinquent peers.
- Emotional distress.
- Criminal activity. In general, to the degree that these factors are unmitigated by success in one or more of the above (e.g., well-functioning family, academic achievement, positive peer associations), the risk of problem behavior increases exponentially (i.e., head trauma plus family dysfunction coupled with academic failure dramatically increases the risk for mental health, substance abuse, and conduct disorder).

I have Superbly Performed, Waiguru Tells Kirinyaga Residents

The Governor Enumerated Key Achievements In State-of-the-County Address

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes



Governor Ann Waiguru while making her address.

Worth Noting:

- The governor said that the upcoming processing industries at Sagana Industrial Park will provide the much-needed market and bring in better earnings for farming community.

- “Our tomato production has continued to rise steadily from an annual production of 46,000 metric tons in 2017 to 116,000 metric tons in 2022 earning our farmers approx. Ksh 6.9 billion annually. This has been achieved through the well-thought-out plan to support farmers’ capacity in production areas such as seedlings propagation, switching high-yielding tomato seedlings which are also disease tolerant, and investing in modern technologies such as greenhouse production, and drip irrigation among other water-saving technologies,” said the governor.

Kirinyaga Governor, Anne Waiguru yesterday enumerated a wide range of achievements made by her administration in developing the county and uplifting lives of the people, key among them being signing of a deal with an investor to establish a tomato processing factory.

While delivering the State-of-the-county address at the Kirinyaga County Assembly, Waiguru said her “Mountain Cities Blueprint” dream was becoming a reality and that the county had grown in all spheres.

She cited the establishment of the Sagana Industrial Park, opening of the Kerugoya Level Five Hospital, construction and equipping of 20 dispensaries, laying of over 50 square meters of cabro in all major town, construction of a fire station, supplying residents with domestic and irrigation water through 70 water projects.

Others include; grading and murraming of 1000 kilometers of road, construction of 21 markets, ongoing tilting of land in 11 colonial villages to provide security of tenure to residents as some of her achievement in the last one year.

“Once fully operationalized, these factories at the Sagana Industrial Park have the potential of employing directly 4,000 youth with a ripple effect of up to 10,000 employment opportunities,” Waiguru said.

She said that the support that her administration has been giving to farmers through Wezesha Kirinyaga Program has seen steady increase in production of various value chains such as tomatoes, rice, coffee, avocado and dairy.

The governor said that the upcoming processing industries at Sagana Industrial Park will provide the

much-needed market and bring in better earnings for farming community.

“Our tomato production has continued to rise steadily from an annual production of 46,000 metric tons in 2017 to 116,000 metric tons in 2022 earning our farmers approx. Ksh 6.9 billion annually. This has been achieved through the well-thought-out plan to support farmers’ capacity in production areas such as seedlings propagation, switching high-yielding tomato seedlings which are also disease tolerant, and investing in modern technologies such as greenhouse production, and drip irrigation among other water-saving technologies,” said the governor.

Yesterday, the governor led the county in signing a deal with an investor who will put up a tomato factory at the upcoming Sagana Industrial Park.

The investor, who is coming under the Sustainable Urban Economic Development (SUED) program, will commence the process of setting up the factory immediately.

Waiguru said the factory will address the issue of post-harvest losses, the biggest challenge faced by tomato farmers who have been losing up to 40% of their harvest.

She said that since the factory will uptake 100% of their produce, farmers will now have better returns.

She added that construction of the county seedling propagation unit located within Kangai ward, is expected to be completed by the end of this financial year to support farmers in accessing affordable and quality seedlings in their backyard.

Waiguru said that through Wezesha Kirinyaga program, the county is strategically positioning the county

farmers as the number one suppliers of raw materials for upcoming processing industries in the Sagana Industrial City.

She said that more than 50,000 households have been supported by the program so far.

She said that Wezesha program is Kirinyaga’s version of the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

“Through the program, we are empowering small-scale farmers to produce more and increase their earnings from agriculture thus improving their standards of living. Through diversified agricultural activities, a farmer can at least earn up to Ksh. 1,000 per day,” said the governor, adding that the county government has so far disbursed KSh380.2 million to support farmers groups and farmers co-operatives.

Apart from the tomato factory, Waiguru said that the county is in the process of formalizing agreements with other investors who will put up multi-billion milk and meat processing factory as well as coffee warehousing, at the Industrial City.

She said that out of 34 investors who had expressed interest in various investment opportunities within the Industrial City 14 investors have been successfully evaluated in the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) out of whom seven are in assorted industries, one four-star hotel and spa and six in County Aggregation and Industrial City (CAIP). Three investors have been evaluated for Export Process Zone.

She confirmed that her county is one among the five that will benefit from Ksh. One billion from the National Government for the development of an Export Processing Zone.

Waiguru said that through agricultural extension workers, the county government has been training farmers on high standards of production, that will meet the requirements of the export markets.

She noted that once fully operationalized, the factories will create about 4,000 jobs with a ripple effect of up to 10,000 employment opportunities.

To further support Export Processing Zone and the County Aggregation and Industrial Parks the county has constructed 15 fresh produce aggregation centres for farmers with another three in the process of being constructed.

In Education sector, apart from constructing 28 and renovating 43 Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) classes, Waiguru said her administration is constructing an additional 10 classrooms and renovating five others in various wards.

The governor said a modern fire station at Kutus is also nearing completion, to further improve the county’s capacity in responding to fire emergencies and secure properties of the residents.

She said that so as to eliminate fraud and grabbing of public land the county has also established a Geographical Information System (GIS) lab for digitizing all the land records.

“This will help to streamline operations and improve service delivery in our lands department,” the governor said.

During the address, the governor was accompanied by several senior officials in her administration led by her deputy, David Githanda.



Kirinyaga County governor Ann Waiguru being escorted to the local County Assembly Chambers for the State-of-the-County address yesterday

My Mom

(To my incomparable jewel
Mother)

All I have found in the world is my
Mother,
My life, my death is my mother.
My faith, my faith, my mother.
I am happy, Mother

The one who disturbs my dark
night

I want to be healed when I'm sick
I am the only one, the only one, an
incomparable masterpiece
My love is mine, my father is my
mother.

Maxamadov Abduhoshim student
of Bukhara State Pedagogical
Institute



Career In Girls Life..



in some articles. Today, career plays an important role in the lives of women and girls. At the initiative of the head of our state, women and girls now have the right to study for master's degrees in foreign countries for free. To date, important changes have taken place in the lives of women and girls.

So what is a career and why do you need it?

There have been many objections to the careers of girls, but besides that, there are also women and girls who are achieving success by acquiring knowledge.

As an example, we can introduce you to our teacher Soburova Amina Rejamberdiyevna from Uzbekistan. They are one of our highly educated teachers who are achieving success in life and education. On October 2, 1989, he joined the school as a teacher, and later, by 2003, he was appointed to the position of manager. During this time, they will achieve many successes in work and life. For example, teachers give their daughters higher education. We can pay attention to the fact that educated women will never be against women and girls getting education and making a career. Therefore, a learned woman is a necessary person for the whole society. Our teacher, who was able to show activity both in education and in the family, has taught more than 100 students today, and through this, many students are admitted to higher educational institutions on the basis of a grant. We can emphasize that career plays an important role in the lives of educated women and girls.

For a person, the most necessary and necessary thing in this world is family and, of course, happiness and peace in personal life. A person has never achieved perfect happiness only by work, career and deeds, and he cannot achieve it!

For a long time, women have been actively participating in various aspects of social life, equally with men. They are acquiring professions that are sufficient for their abilities, knowledge and level. They have worked hard enough in their specialties, and therefore they have achieved success and are seen as worthy of respect. But none of them were forgetting the duties of women, mistresses and mothers in the family in the name of career. In our time, some people with a low spiritual level believe that a woman's place is in the household.

So, what is the role of a woman in the economy? Does a woman not deserve to study and have a career?

For a person, the most necessary and necessary thing in this world is family and, of course, happiness and peace in personal life. A person has never achieved perfect happiness only by work, career and deeds, and he will never achieve it!

But this does not mean that a woman is unworthy to study! A woman has every right to study, to lead society and, of course, to rise. This law is also mentioned

For the whole society. Our teacher, who was able to show activity both in education and in the family, has taught more than 100 students today, and through this, many students are admitted to higher educational institutions on the basis of a grant. We can emphasize that career plays an important role in the lives of educated women and girls.

Don't forget, by educating a young man, you will be able to educate a family, and by educating a woman, you will be able to educate an entire society.

Oghiloy Aminova -Young poet. She is the ambassador of the UK SPSC organization, Pakistan "Iqra" Foundation, International "University of Wisdom" organizations in Uzbekistan.

The author's book was published in the European city of Moldova and is sold in the American Amazon online store in 26 countries of the world.

Coordinator of the "Intilish" Free Volunteer Movement, "We Are on One Side" project, Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Ibragimova Sugdiyona Ikrom



Ibragimova Sugdiyona Ikrom qizi was born in 2000 in Sherabad district of Surkhandarya region of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Currently she is 23 years old.

In 2023, she graduated from the Faculty of Foreign Philology of the Termiz State University with excellent grades, and is currently studying at the Master's degree at the Termiz State Pedagogical Institute. As a young scientist, Sugdiyona's scientific articles were published in hundreds of international journals. Her scientific articles have been recognized in the journals of

Turkey, Azerbaijan, America, Belgium, and Spain. Scientific manuals and textbooks of Sugdiyona are available for sale on prestigious European sites.

Sugdiyona Ibragimova was awarded as the "Best participant" at the pedagogical conference organized by the Russian site pedwebinar.ru.

Today, Sugdiyona joins as a member of dozens of international organizations. In particular, she is a member of the Indian "National Human Rights and Humanitarian Federation", international "Global Friends", "International Society of Volunteers", "Upward Growth".

Sugdiyona is very interested in learning languages and can communicate in Turkish, English, Russian, German.

Today, she founded her own "Academy of Languages" in Sherabad district. English, Russian, German and Uzbek languages are taught to young people in depth at the academy. Especially, she is a favorite teacher of about 100 students. "

"Development and growth can only be achieved by perfect learning of foreign languages. My highest goal is to contribute to this process," says Sugdiyona.

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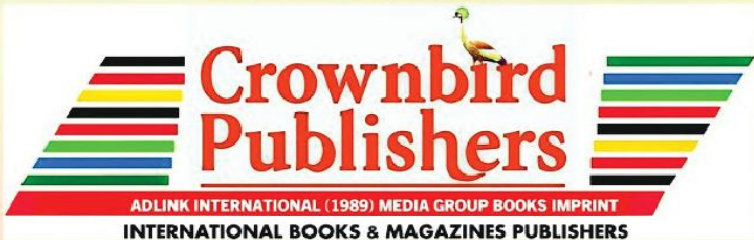
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BUSINESS

Unitholders to Vote on the Proposed Operational Restructuring of the ILAM Fahari I-REIT

Unitholders to Vote on the Proposed Operational Restructuring of the ILAM Fahari I-REIT

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Speaking ahead of the EGM, ICEA LION Asset Management (ILAM), Chief Executive Officer Mr. Einstein Kihanda, said the oversubscription of the redemption offer underscores the confidence in the proposed strategic direction and commitment to repositioning the REIT for growth and delivering value to the unitholders.
- “We are confident that the unitholders will support our proposed operational strategic direction. We have engaged with a cross-section of them and assured them that this is the right decision for the future of the REIT. The proposed conversion and delisting will enhance the long-term value of the REIT for our unitholders,” Mr. Kihanda said.



Image 2- (L-R) ILAM Fahari I-REIT CEO Raphael Mwito, Dyer and Blair Investment Bank Director Cynthia Mbaru, and ILAM CEO Einstein Kihanda during a preparatory meeting ahead of the forthcoming Extraordinary General Meeting set for November 24th. During the EGM, ILAM will seek unitholders' approval for the proposed conversion and delisting of the REIT from NSE.

The Nairobi Securities Exchange listed real estate investment trust ILAM Fahari Real Estate Investment Trust will hold an Extraordinary General Meeting to seek its unitholders' approval to convert to a restricted I-REIT this Friday.

A notice shared with shareholders earlier confirmed that the EGM will consider and, if thought fit, pass resolutions related to the proposed conversion of the ILAM Fahari I-REIT from an unrestricted to a restricted I-REIT and its subsequent delisting from the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE).

The EGM follows a successful redemption offer for ILAM Fahari I-REIT units, oversubscribed by 13.08% in October. The REIT also received applications from non-professional investors seeking to top up their portfolio with an additional 421,945 units.

Speaking ahead of the EGM, ICEA LION Asset Management (ILAM), Chief Executive Officer Mr. Einstein Kihanda, said the oversubscription of the redemption offer underscores the

confidence in the proposed strategic direction and commitment to repositioning the REIT for growth and delivering value to the unitholders.

“We are confident that the unitholders will support our proposed operational strategic direction. We have engaged with a cross-section of them and assured them that this is the right decision for the future of the REIT. The proposed conversion and delisting will enhance the long-term value of the REIT for our unitholders,” Mr. Kihanda said.

“The EGM is an essential step in our efforts to restructure the operational direction of the REIT in a way that will best serve the long-term interests of all unitholders.”

The proposed conversion to a restricted I-REIT will allow ILAM and the REIT Trustee to pursue a more focused investment strategy, aligning with the evolving needs of its unitholders. The delisting from the NSE will provide greater flexibility in managing the REIT's portfolio and will not affect the unitholders' ability to trade their units with Non-Profes-

sional investors bundled into a Nominee Account. The I-REIT will look at relisting on the NSE after 3 years upon successful implementation of the strategy.

ILAM Fahari I-REIT CEO Mr. Raphael Mwito said that the restructuring of the REIT will create several benefits for unitholders, including increased flexibility to pursue a broader range of investment opportunities, including direct real estate acquisitions and developments, improved ability to align the REIT's investment strategy with the long-term needs of its unitholders and reduced costs and administrative burdens associated with being a listed REIT.

“We remain steadfast in our pursuit of delivering value and innovation, driving forward a robust and adaptive investment environment. As the day gets close, we will continue providing unitholders with all the information they need to make an informed decision at the upcoming EGM,” Mr. Mwito said.

The unitholders will vote on the fol-

lowing special resolution:

The proposed Conversion of The ILAM Fahari I-REIT and delisting from the Nairobi Securities Exchange. These include:

- Approval be and is hereby given for the proposed conversion of the ILAM Fahari I-REIT from an unrestricted to a restricted I-REIT;
- Approval be and is hereby given for the delisting of the ILAM Fahari I-REIT from the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE);
- Approval be and is hereby given for the quotation of the ILAM Fahari I-REIT units on the Unquoted Securities Platform (USP) managed by NSE; and
- ICEA LION Asset Management Limited as the manager of the ILAM Fahari I-REIT, (the “Manager”) and The Co-operative Bank of Kenya Limited, in its capacity as the trustee of ILAM Fahari I-REIT (the “Trustee”) be and are hereby severally authorised to complete and do all such acts and things (including executing all such documents as may be required) as the Manager or, as the case may be, the Trustee may consider expedient or necessary or in the interests of the ILAM Fahari I-REIT to give effect to the conversion and delisting.

Unitholders are encouraged to attend the virtual EGM and vote for the proposed conversion and delisting and to vote on the resolutions. Those who are yet to receive the meeting link should contact the REIT Manager through ilamreit@icealion.com or the ilamreit@candrgroup.co.ke or 020 8690360

ILAM Fahari I-REIT received regulatory approval from the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) to convert its unrestricted ILAM Fahari Income Real Estate Investment Trust (IFIR) into a restricted IREIT. The approval follows a cautionary statement issued early last year (24th March 2022), indicating that the REIT was undergoing a strategic review that would involve an operational restructuring of IFIR.



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Researchers, Innovators Team Up To Fight Climate Change

By: James Wakahiu
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The occasion was graced by Director General, Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI), Dr. Calvin Onyango, Chief Executive Officer, Universities Funding Board Geoffrey Monari, partners and exhibitors.
- “The academia and industry is vital in enhancing innovations, commercialization of scientific or research outcomes for socio-economic growth, knowledge transfer and a mutual value-addition.” said MKU Vice-Chancellor Prof Deogratius Jaganyi on the first day of the two-day event.
- He said MKU has taken the initiative to grow medicinal plants in its botanical garden at the Green valley estate Campus in Thika and an initial research has yielded the production of bathing soap using aloe vera and bamboo extracts.



An exhibitor displays soap produced from medicinal plants by researchers from Mount Kenya University. This was during a two-day Research, Innovation and Digital Agri-Expo at the University's Thika main campus.



Mount Kenya University Vice-Chancellor Prof Deogratius Jaganyi (left) with KIRDI Director General Dr Calvin Onyango and University Funding Board CEO Geoffrey Monari (third right) listen to a student explaining the operations of a water dispenser operated through Mpesa payment.



An exhibitor shows some of the products at the Research Innovation and Digital Agri-Expo at Mount Kenya University.

in enhancing innovations, commercialization of scientific or research outcomes for socio-economic growth, knowledge transfer and a mutual value-addition.” said MKU Vice-Chancellor Prof Deogratius Jaganyi on the first day of the two-day event.

He said MKU has taken the initiative to grow medicinal plants in its botanical garden at the Green valley estate Campus in Thika and an initial research has yielded the production of bathing soap using aloe vera and bamboo extracts.

Noting that research and innovation are the drivers of economic development; the VC said there must be a strong synergy between academia and industry to foster the much needed socio-economic development.

“The banks, the schools, the hotels, the construction sites, small scale and large-scale farmers, hospitals, engineers, boda-boda transporters and the entire transport sector, the ICT sector, and so on are the industry players and partners in this endeavour,” said the VC.

At the same time, Prof Jaganyi made an appeal for more funding towards research and innovation from the government, noting that currently the kitty stands at 2 per cent.

“We know the government has many things to do including financing research and innovation, but when more funds become available it will go a long way towards realizing our goals,” said the scholar.

Dr Onyango said KIRDI has embarked on a program of partnering with universities to share information and create linkages between young innovators and the industrial market.

“We are offering incubation services where students come and use our facilities and gain the confidence to go out into the market for them to grow and create jobs,” said Onyango.

Monari said the Funding Board has partnered with donors to support innovators on issues of climate change, food security and health.

“Over the years the innovators have not been supported financially and that is what we are now focusing on. We also want universities to become more entrepreneurial,” the official added.

Researchers in industry and agriculture have come together to find solutions to the effects of climate change and declining food security.

At least 40 partners are participating in a Research, Innovation and Digital Agri-Expo at Mount Kenya University (MKU) which aims to chart the way forward in minimizing the adversities of a changing environment.

The occasion was graced by Director General, Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI), Dr. Calvin Onyango, Chief Executive Officer, Universities Funding Board Geoffrey Monari, partners and exhibitors.

“The academia and industry is vital



Single Motherhood



By: Virginia Mule
@themkenyatimes

A parent can become a sole parent for various reasons. Truth is, most single parents are mothers. You may become a single mother by divorce, by choice, or maybe if your spouse dies. Being a single mother, especially in Africa means you have to provide everything you can for your children to be happy. Beginning with emotional and financial backing that will help your children to grow in a healthy atmosphere. Without a spouse to share the burden with, life can be harder.

Many people view single-parent families as damaged homes. There is a

misconception such mothers are unfit to give their kids better lives because they cannot build a home. However, children brought up by one biological parent can be as good as those raised by both parents. When a mother comprehends they are alone in the journey, they will do everything possible to bring up their kids responsibly. Many times, children brought up by a single mother find peace and satisfaction in their abodes. This is due to reduced conflicts between their parents thus they feel safe. Although raising children alone can be stressful, single parents have the privilege of giving their children undivided attention and equipping them with life lessons like accountability and independence at an early age.

Not all single mothers are miserable. Some are living their dreams. Although they deal with stigma every day of their lives, a woman who understands what is best for her family overlooks and keeps cruising. This



is because society has made it taboo for a woman to leave her matrimonial home and live alone. To them, that indicates that the woman in question lacks morals. Working-class single mothers may be depicted as unreliable and promiscuous. They forget that many are raising their children independently by choice. It comes out of a desire to have their kids before they are too aged for it.

Again, there are myths about single mothers that need to be debunked. Not all single mothers are unemployed or

irresponsible. There is no parent in this world who would not want the best for their kids. Yes, life as a single mother can be full of wrangles particularly financially, sometimes they may stay up crying but that is precisely what makes life. Repeatedly, single mothers are tagged as easy or husband snatchers. This is a stigma that is felt by all sole parents, whether a man or a woman. Labeling does not assist anyone. No woman should feel guilty for raising her children alone. It takes a lot of commitment to dismiss all the myths and keep doing the best

for your household.

Many single mothers are go getters. They take pride in their ability to provide for their families. They cannot imagine things going wrong for their kids and this is what makes them special. They do not need pity from married mums. Actually, most of them enjoy the freedom of making decisions. They have more time and energy for their children. What they want for positive parenting is a non-judgmental community.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stop Female Genital Mutilation



Dear Editor,

As we approach the upcoming December holiday season, I would like to bring attention to a critical issue that affects the rights of girls and women worldwide: gender-based violence, particularly female genital mutilation (FGM). FGM is a harmful practice that involves the partial or total removal of the external female

genitalia, often performed on young girls without their consent.

FGM is a violation of the rights of the girl child, and it can have severe physical and emotional consequences, including chronic pain, infection, infertility, and complications during childbirth. Moreover, FGM can lead to long-term psychological trauma and can limit girls' and women's po-

tential in society.

I urge communities to take a stand against FGM and protect the rights of girls and women. This holiday season, let us work together to end this harmful practice and ensure that all individuals, regardless of their gender, are treated with dignity and respect.

Rebecca Nyakobo,



Regenerative Agriculture

By: Durvin Cheptoo

Regenerative agriculture focuses on farming with the implementation of specific sustainable farming methods. No-till farming, cover crops planting, crop rotation, organic farming or soil fertility for instance serve to increase soil fertility, deters pest and help maintain healthy ecosystems.

Regenerative Agriculture also focuses on managed grazing; raising livestock on farms done

sustainably with managed grazing stimulates improved plant growth and increased soil health and carbon farming.

The government should have legislative support for farmers to adopt legislative support for farmers who use sustainable Agricultural practices such as carbon farming and the implementation of cover crops during off-seasons are a reality however the level of support should be increased. For instance; tax breaks or direct payments and increasing financial incentives.

MGA Schools: An Unshaken Giant

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

MGA Schools Mwiki, has for yet another year running claimed it's undisputed crown of being an academic giant.

For an umpteenth time, MGA Schools in Mwiki has maintained unequalled, unparalleled, unmatched dominance in the academic and co-curricula space.

On Thursday shortly after the KCPE results were announced, MGA Schools burst into celebration, ululations and jubilation where more than 27 students garnered more than 400 marks.

The top student in the school had 418 marks, Vanessa Maina.

Another 24 students managed to score between 390 to 399 marks whilst yet another impressive 19 students achieved 350-389 marks.

MGA Schools Director Rose Maina attributed the victory to strong dedication by all the stakeholders and thumbed up the students for their exemplary performance.

From our desk at Mount Kenya Times E-paper, we wish MGA Schools under the wise leadership of Managing Director Rose Maina and her team, God's immeasurable blessings and prosperity beyond human understanding.



Maina Vanessa 418 marks (top performer).



Shekinah Glory 417.



Cynthia Wanjira 417 marks.

Kerugoya's Academic Triumph: KCPE Success Unveiled

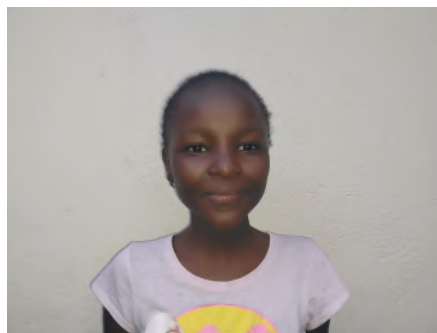
By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

In a remarkable achievement, Kerugoya Municipality Boarding Schools in Kirinyaga County once again proved their academic prowess in the latest KCPE results.

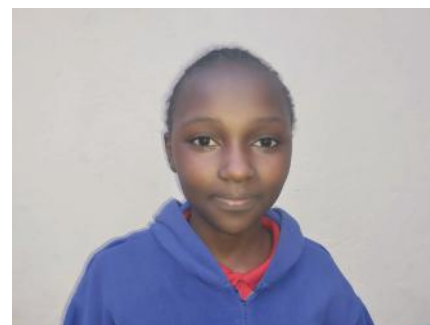
Under the effective leadership of School Manager Solomon Mũnene, the institution stood out with two exceptional students scoring above 400 marks. Tracy Karwitha led with an impressive 410, closely followed by Nyambura Shanelle Nyawira with a commendable 405. Other standout performers included Paul Gachoki with 397, Naima Eunice Wanyara with 395, and Mwai Angelshine Nyakio with 390 marks.

This success was not limited to a few; a significant number of students achieved 350 marks and above, showcasing the school's commitment to academic excellence.

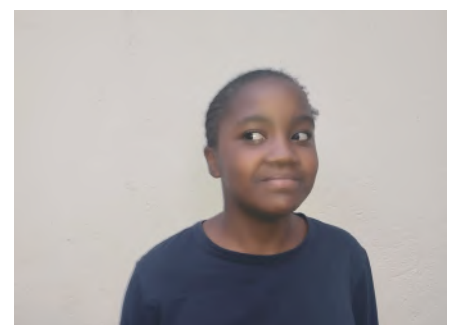
Under School Manager Solomon Mũnene's adept guidance, Kerugoya Municipality Boarding Schools continued to cultivate an environment that nurtured not only academic achievement but also the development of well-rounded individuals prepared for the challenges of the future.



GAKII TRACY KARWITHA INDEX:
09203422002 ENG 85A KIS 81A KSL = = MAT
88A SCI 75A- SSR 81A TOTAL 410 KNEC
HELPLINE 0800724900-Kerugoya Municipality
Boarding Schools.



NYAMBURA SHANELLE NYAWIRA INDEX:
09203422001 ENG 80A KIS KSL = =80A MAT
90A SCI 75A- SSR 80A TOTAL 405 KNEC
HELPLINE 0800724900-Kerugoya Municipality
Boarding Schools



GITHIEKI NAIMA EUNICE WANYARA INDEX:
09203422007 ENG 80A KIS 77A- KSL = = MAT
88A SCI 75A- SSR 75A- TOTAL 395 KNEC
HELPLINE 0800724900.



MWAI ANGELSHINE NYAKIO INDEX:
09203422006 ENG 80A KIS KSL = =76A- MAT
85A SCI 72B SSR 77A- TOTAL 390 KNEC
HELPLINE 0800724900-Kerugoya Municipality
Boarding Schools Schools

The Lion Park A Den For The Big Cats



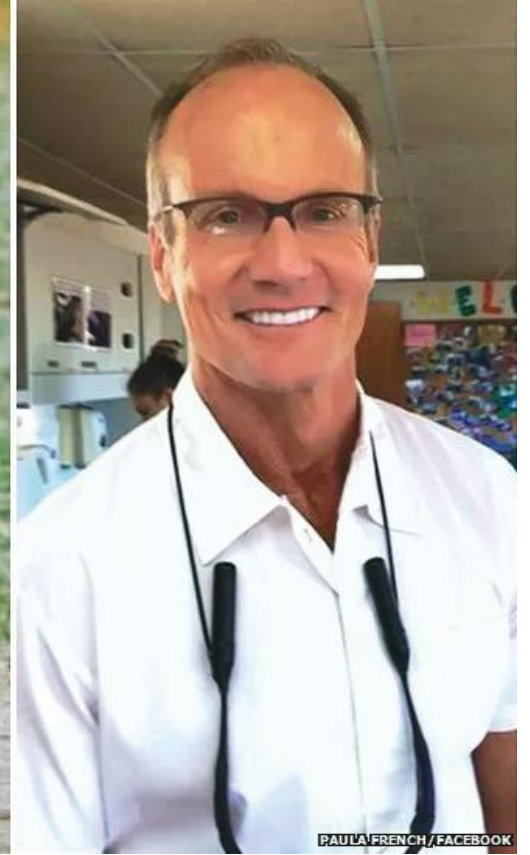
By: Memory Phiri
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- A pride of lions is meant to be cherished because they stand and represent the big five. As a tourism brand it promotes our local game reserves up to the various transfrontier parks within our borders. Truth is that, a lion's stature and prowess is a sight to behold probably making them the most sought after species ever on a game drive.

- Thus, the Lion Park should be applauded for observing all the conservation goals that work in favor of all our wildlife. Fortunately, we are proud to say that the park takes anti-poaching seriously so as to keep abreast with its untamed adventures.



Walter Palmer said he had no idea that the lion was a "local favourite".

The Lion Park is our national treasure when we look at the wildlife reserves that are situated around Harare. To spill the beans, most safari parks thrive in the boondocks deep in the forest but this one screams of accessibility.

Normally, tourists are not in a position to dispute the fact that the lion is the king of the jungle so why not come along and witness its reign and supremacy at this venerable park. As far as I'm concerned, ambiguity lies in the fact that there are other animals in the reserve but they found it appropriate to name it specifically after the lion.

This particular excursion will not cost you an arm and a leg because for only ten dollars tourists will also be able to see some monkeys, jackals, warthogs, elands, camels, wolves and Tommy the tortoise.

A pride of lions is meant to be cherished because they stand and represent the big five. As a tourism brand it promotes our local game reserves up to the various transfrontier parks within our borders. Truth is that, a lion's stature and prowess is a sight to behold probably making them the most sought after species ever on a game drive.

Thus, the Lion Park should be applauded for observing all the conservation goals that work in favor of all our wildlife. Fortunately, we are proud to say that the park takes anti-poaching seriously so as to keep abreast with its untamed adventures.

Our visitors cannot wrap their heads around the fact that the park has a cub experience package. The reason being that the cubs are so cute to a fault that is you will feel like taking them home



with you after the adventure.

With this young generation of lions multiplying every year extinction will be a thing of the past. Jonah's majestic rule as the current patriarch of the cat family compels tourists to frog march to Harare in a bid to get a glimpse of this potent lion's den. Getting down to the nitty-gritties of biodiversity, tourists have the right to know that the park also boast of these white lion which is a very

rare breed indeed.

Interestingly, the lion fever got the better of filmmakers for they came up with The Lion King, a popular movie that focuses on the survival of the fittest.

Without doubt, the animation has been re-enacted and is dedicated solely to these indomitable big cats. Having a lion as your totem symbolises prestige and it entails that you are definitely royalty.

Ladies and gentleman, take time and google about Cecil the most famous lion who has a documentary on the National Geographic Channel so that you will embrace the importance of safari tourism. A happy belated World Tourism Day to you all (27 September 2023).

SPORTS
NEWSPHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Kenya has a golden opportunity to pick the exceptional Junior Stars players who could be progressively integrated in the senior team Harambee Stars during this year's edition of the CECAFA U-18, FKF president Nick Mwendwa has said.

Mwendwa, Ababu Underline Significance Of Cecafta Tourney In Talent Development



Sports CS Ababu Namwamba (second left), Cecafta Executive Director Auka Gecheo (extreme left), FKF President Nick Mwendwa (extreme right) and Sports Principal Secretary Eng. Peter Tum consult during a press briefing at Talanta Hela Plaza, Nairobi on November 23rd, 2023. Photo courtesy of FKF Media..

By Citizen Sports

Kenya has a golden opportunity to pick the exceptional Junior Stars players who could be progressively integrated in the senior team Harambee Stars during this year's edition of the CECAFA U-18, FKF president Nick Mwendwa has said.

The championship kicks off on Saturday November 25 at the Jomo Kenyatta Sports Grounds in Kisumu and the Bukhundu Stadium in Kakamega, and Mwendwa is hopeful there will be names to be remembered years later in the senior team.

Speaking during a briefing at the Talanta Plaza, Nairobi, the Football Kenya Federation boss revealed their plan to groom the young players for African Cup of Nations 2027 edition, set to be hosted by Kenya alongside Tanzania and Uganda.

"Our U-18 has been in camp at

Kasarani, we had about 45 players that came and a final squad that was released. We want to encourage our people to come and support the boys. These young boys might make it to AFCON 2027 and that is what our aim is.

"We have worked very hard to bring in players who were out there (outside Kenya), a few of them had left this year. We have also gone to our clubs and our schools to make sure that we have the best team possible," assured Mwendwa.

Addressing journalists at the same forum, Sports Cabinet Secretary Ababu Namwamba echoed Mwendwa's sentiments, saying the tournament reflects the vision of Talant Hela.

"We want to see the boys we brought to Kasarani for one week for the camp and the boys we have supported to go to foreign academies, we want to see whether the identification and

the nurturing we have invested in them can be seen in a competitive environment.

"And we do that because we believe, to build competitive Harambee Stars and Starlets we must give our best talents and the youngest age possible to show us what they are made of," said Ababu.

He also announced that there are no gate charges for the tournament, appealing to Kenyans to "fill the stadiums to the rafters" once the matches get underway.

CECAFA Executive Director Auka Gecheo observed that the championship lays foundation for strong teams of U-20, U-23 and seniors sides of the CECAFA members.

"The CECAFA U18 Championships will run from November 25 to December 9 and it is serving as preparations for AFCON U20 qualifiers in 2024," said Auka, thanking the Ministry of Sports

and the FKF for their concerted efforts to ensure the tournament is put together – as the hosts.

In what could turn out to be a bumper sporty season for Kenya, the country is poised to host the 2024 Africa Nations Championships (CHAN) in addition to the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations with the latter being a joint venture between Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Kenya will also host the AFCON Under-15 Pan-African Schools Football, and Ababu notes the tournaments are strategically selected.

The CECAFA U-18 Championship will feature Kenya alongside Uganda, Somalia, Sudan, Rwanda, Zanzibar, Tanzania and South Sudan as the host nation take on Sudan in their opening fixture.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *The government of Venezuela lambasted Peru on Wednesday following a controversial football match, at one point accusing Lima of kidnapping its national team by refusing to allow the aircraft bringing the players home to refuel.

Venezuela In Diplomatic Row With Peru After Controversial Football Match



Peru's midfielder Yoshimar Yotun (Top) fights for the ball with Venezuela's midfielder Yangel Herrera during the 2026 FIFA World Cup South American qualification football match between Peru and Venezuela at the National Stadium in Lima on November 21, 2023. (Photo by ERNESTO BENAVIDES / AFP)..

By AFP

The government of Venezuela lambasted Peru on Wednesday following a controversial football match, at one point accusing Lima of kidnapping its national team by refusing to allow the aircraft bringing the players home to refuel.

The diplomatic spat began following a 1-1 draw between the two countries' teams in a 2026 World Cup qualifier, after which Venezuelan players accused Peruvian police of beating them as they went to greet fans Tuesday night.

Following a delay in the plane's departure on Wednesday, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yvan Gil said Peru had carried out "another arbitrary act against the Venezuelans by preventing the plane bringing the team back from refueling."

"This is kidnapping as vengeance against our team which played an extraordinary match" in Lima, he added.

Almost four hours after the scheduled takeoff, however, the Rutaca airline plane finally began its journey at 2:53 pm (1953 GMT).

The delay "occurred for purely administrative reasons related to fuel supply" the company that operates Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima said.

Gil confirmed that the team was "undertaking its return to Caracas safely" after the Peruvian government ordered fuel supplies.

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said that the "xenophobia of that racist oligarchy of Peru has been unleashed against our noble team. Venezuela has raised its voice to protest against xenophobia, violence and aggression."

Tuesday's game marked a tumultuous night for the South American qualifiers, following a match between Brazil and Argentina in Rio de Janeiro which saw ugly clashes between fans.

They hit me twice Venezuelan footballer Nahuel Ferraresi earlier showed bandages on his right hand, saying Peruvian police "beat me."

"These are things which should not happen. The match was over and we went to thank our Venezuelan supporters," he said.

Ferraresi said another player had handed his jersey over to fans, and he was about to throw his to the crowd when the police blocked him.

"Then others got angry, I don't know what happened, and (the police) took out their batons to hit us. They hit me twice... but it's not a serious injury."

Videos of the incident, which show Peruvian police officers brandishing their batons against the players, have gone viral on social media.

Venezuela's football federation condemned "acts of discrimination and xenophobia" against the team and their fans.

After the draw, Peru is in last place in the qualifiers, while Venezuela - which has never qualified for a World Cup - is in an unprecedented fourth place.

Before the match, Peruvian police carried out an unusual identity check among fans, and were accused of targeting Venezuelans.

This move comes a week after a controversial decree came into force authorizing the government to expel foreigners.

Peru is home to some 1.5 million Venezuelan immigrants, many of whom have fled a crippling economic crisis at home.

SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
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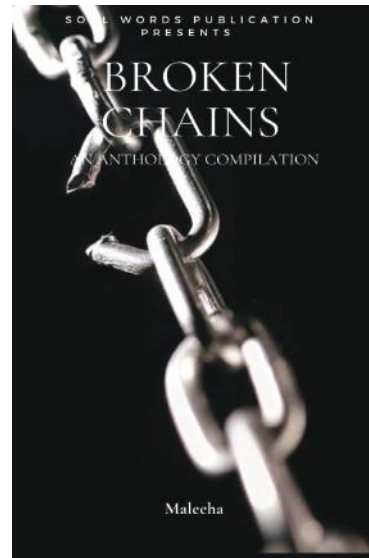
Maleeha Alam The Unstoppable Force In The Writing Sphere



By: Abigirl Phiri
@themkenyatimes



Maleeha Alam.



pers of Pakistan where my articles were published. The whole day, I was reading my article on the laptop screen. It was a memorable day for me. So, never give up. Give your best.

Share with us one of your best poetry pieces

Quest for divinity
O' The Supreme power of Cosmos!
A restless soul's quest for divinity,
Discovering the unknown mysteries,
It keeps the soul in the plight,
And smoldering the embers in the soul,

And bringing restlessness,
Every day and night,
The fear of intimacy still exists,
In the dark state of mind,
Recurring the shadow self and,
Shattering the fragments of Truth,
Coming from the fear of the unknown Truths,
And thus seeking the feeling of intimacy,
With the divinity,

Kindly share your social media handles

My social media handles are:
Maleeha Alam on LinkedIn
https://www.linkedin.com/in/maleeha-alam-89b805271?utm_source=share&utm_campaign=share_via&utm_content=profile&utm_medium=android_app

Maleeha Writes on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064183985214&mibextid=9R9pXO>

Any word of advice to others who would want to venture into poetry

Being a writer and poet I believe that poetry is subjective. No one is perfect and you know what beauty lies in imperfection. For sure my advice for young poets and writers is:

- Accept your imperfections.
- Believe in intuition and mediation.
- Embrace constructive criticism and feedback.
- Review the pieces by your mentor.
- Read it aloud.
- Be consistent.

Worth Noting:

- My name is Maleeha Alam. I am a young female English poet and writer from Pakistan. My journey in poetry started in 2020. It was a time when I was deemed to connect with divinity and there I thought that it was a true call for me to start a journey with the spiritual realm.

- Nature inspires poets. So, my inspiration in the field of poetry is the divine love that nature embraced me. It may be in varicolored realms of spirituality or the personal experiences that I have had in my life

- Challenges, rejection, failure, and problems come in everyone's life and they teach a lot. It gives us valuable lessons. It was 2022 when I wrote articles and poems on "Maleeha Writes" (a personal blog on Facebook).

In poetry you must have something that drives you to continue pushing on. This same drive won't give you peace up until you give in to its request. In this instance, that is penning your thoughts down. Only then can you feel relief. In Maleeha's case she is inspired by the divine love of nature. True, each poet or writer has his/her muse. If you are well aware of what yours even if it's not in human form then you are guaranteed to soar high. Additionally you will never face a writer's block because you will retrace your roots back to it in times of low inspiration. The crux of the matter is that, as a writer seek to inspire before you expire. The world awaits for life changing writings and readings that will improve their lives. Indeed, this is what Maleeha is doing as she lucidly elaborated below.

Please tell us your name and how your journey started in poetry

My name is Maleeha Alam. I am a young female English poet and writer from Pakistan. My journey in poetry started in 2020. It was a time when I was deemed to connect with divinity and there I thought that it was a true call for me to start a journey with the spiritual realm. Throughout my poetry, I made a clear distinction between divine and metaphorical love. I often correlate my poetry with divine love. Up till now, I have gone through myriad changes such as self-discovery, patience, and self-compliance.

Have you won any major accolades for yourself in poetry and are you a published poet?

Yes, I won some major accolades in poetry.

Secured third position in the Poetry writing competition (English) at Youth Digital Festival 2023.

Secured second position internationally in a poetry writing contest-Hope and Faith under KG publisher's supervision.

Yes, I am a published poet. I have co-authored my poems "Her Fight" and "I am All Fine" in "Life A Journey" under Soul Words Publication.

Similarly, I have also co-authored my poem "Cycles of Weariness" in the "Beyond Limit" anthology under the supervision of JEC Publication and the SHK team.

In addition, I have compiled many anthologies such as Life a Journey, Broken Chains and Spiritual Death.

Furthermore, I am also a published writer. My articles were published in the Daily Balochistan Express Quetta newspaper.

Articles:

- Book review: Pakistan beyond the crisis state.
- Book review: Why nations fail.
- Addressing Pakistan's provincial disparities: A path to inclusive growth and economic stability.

Who is your inspiration?

Nature inspires poets. So, my inspiration in the field of poetry is the divine love that nature embraced me. It may be in varicolored realms of spirituality or the personal experiences

that I have had in my life. And yes, my other inspiration is my teacher Sir Shaukat Ali. I am thankful to him because he has always been a constructive critique. His feedback has always been phenomenal.

Where do you see yourself in the near future?

Though writing articles and doing poetry is my passion because my soul dwells in it. I am not sure whether I will pursue it as my career or not. As I have some other goals in my life. To be honest, it was a dream to get recognition in a Pakistani newspaper. And then my dream came true my articles were published in the newspaper. It is said that a dream is a wish, your heart makes. Yes, it is true in my case. Apart from that, my poetry was also published in different anthologies. Gratitude to the ones who support me.

What problems have you faced as a poet?

Challenges, rejection, failure, and problems come in everyone's life and they teach a lot. It gives us valuable lessons. It was 2022 when I wrote articles and poems on "Maleeha Writes" (a personal blog on Facebook). Maleeha Writes was the only medium where I openly expressed my views and opinions. Then I thought when my articles will be published in the newspaper? I searched a lot, and I mailed different newspapers across Pakistan but came up with nothing. I have done it roughly for two years. But then in 2023, I reached one of the newspa-