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More Than 1 Million People Abuse Alcohol And Drugs In Rift Valley, 400,000 Need Rehabilitation

By: OSDP



Pastor Dorcas Rigathi leads other leaders and government officials in serving lunch to rehabilitated drugs and alcoholism addicts yesterday.

Worth Noting:

- Pastor Dorcas while opening the Centre noted that a 22 per cent prevalence of drugs and substance abuse in Bomet County is worrying.
- “I understand there is a 22 per cent prevalence of drugs in this county. That is very bad, and if we don’t do something Governor (Barchok) this county will have a big problem,” she said.
- The Office of the Spouse of the Deputy President in collaboration with other stakeholders has been conducting a screening exercise to identify those in need of rehabilitation services.
- From the screening exercise 37 men from Konoin expressed desire to be rehabilitated while 56 from Sotik area volunteered.

More than one million people are addicted to alcohol, drugs and substances in the Rift Valley region.

Out of those over 400,000 are in need of rehabilitation services.

This is according to the National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA) Chairman Rev. Stephen Mairori who spoke during the launch of a Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre at the Koiwa Hospital in Bomet County a facility that was opened by the Spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi.

“In Rift Valley alone, over 1 million use alcohol and other forms of drugs. Out of these numbers about 400,000 need rehabilitation. That’s a very large number,” he said.

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In Chepalungu 72 were identified while 41 were identified in Bomet East and Central each.

100 men have joined the facility as the first cohort that will be at the facility for three months receiving treatment and rehabilitation.

Pastor Dorcas has also called on all counties to open their doors for such facilities as a way of safeguarding the future of the country.

She has been engaging county first ladies in such initiatives that she wants to

spread across the country. So far, she has launched a health village in Rumuruti Laikipia County, signed an MoU with the County Government of Nyeri to set up a facility in Ngorano area in Mathira constituency while a facility dubbed Dorcas Rigathi Foundation Centre was opened this week in OIKalou, Nyandarua County hosting the second cohort of the rehabilitation program under her office. They have also been involved in the ongoing tree-planting exercise in the efforts to hit the 15 Billion trees target set by President William Ruto while at the same time getting the market for the seedlings.

The youth are set to be trained on technical courses while at the facilities.

Pastor Dorcas further cautioned those involved in the business of selling killer brews in the country saying their days are numbered.

“Those selling poison to our children must close those businesses and get something else to do,” she said.

Bomet Governor Dr. Hillary Barchok

said his government will support the program which he says is not just for the benefit of Bomet but the entire country.

“This facility that we have opened, will not only help the people of Bomet but it is a facility that is meant for all of us,” he said

The governor while commending the initiative by Pastor Dorcas lauded her for not condemning those in alcoholism, drugs and substance abuse but she has shown them love.

Bomet County Speaker Cosmas Korir said the county assembly of Bomet is ready to support the initiative.

The County First Lady Saline Barchok also lauded the initiative saying it is the right direction in saving the lives of the girl-child as well.

Pastor Dorcas also spoke harshly on the LGBTQ debate saying that Africa is not ready for such.

Editor's Desk




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NEWS IN BRIEF



Arthur Foundation jointly with local community planted hundreds of tree seedlings in Kiamwangi AIPCK Church in Mathira constituency. The team also did bush clearing around Kiamwangi shopping center and surrounding Ragati river banks. The Foundation led by the Chief Executive Officer Arthur Thointhi further established a tree nursery at the AICPK Church. The foundation is an active grassroots mobilization tool that focuses on Climate Change mitigation and youth empowerment at the village level. Photo/PAUL WANJIRU



Kiama Kia Ma Patron Kung'u Muigai left and the association's Nyeri County chairman Kamotho Muturi (2nd Right) handover a certificate to Joseph Muchiri who was among 104 boys who underwent the rite of passage at St. Teresa Kanyange Academy in Othaya town, Nyeri County. The Patron made it clear that there is no competition between Churches and their organization as far as rite of passage exercises is concerned. Photo/PAUL WANJIRU



The Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) and the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) Foundation have presented research findings from the MSME Digital Economy Survey, offering policy recommendations and comparing progress with the government's digital economy manifesto commitments and ICT masterplan. Cybersecurity, competition, and business costs are the primary challenges faced by MSMEs in digitizing operations. Key stakeholders must strategically outline a roadmap to address these challenges, as a lack of focus could leave businesses essential to economic growth behind. The digital economy is projected to contribute 9.24% of Kenya's GDP by 2025, with the ICT sector growing by 10.8% annually since 2016.



The Department of Gender, Amref Health Africa, World Vision, and other partners have launched 16-days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Children Service Month in Elangata Enterit, Narok South sub county. The initiative aims to eliminate all forms of GBV against children and women. Narok law court Chief Magistrate Hezron Nyamberi highlighted the importance of awareness creation and 16-days of activism against GBV in society. The majority of cases pending in court are defilement cases, female genital mutilation (FGM), and child neglect. County Director Gender Agnes Ngeno highlighted the prevalence of GBV vices, FGM, and teenage pregnancies in the county. The 16-days of activism will continue until 10th December 2023. The Maasai community needs to be educated on the negative effects of retrogressive practices.



Tenri Primary School in Embu celebrated its good performance in the KCPE results, with Christine Wanjiku Mwaniki achieving the top mark with 405 marks. Although the top score was lower than last year's 413 marks, the school is satisfied with the outcome due to a nationwide drop. The delay in remittance and access to results was the lowest moment for the exams. Other schools with good results included Bonanza School with Abraham Baraza Wekesa and Lions School with Grace Njoki Mungai.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Unclaimed financial assets in Kenya are being surrendered to the Unclaimed Financial Assets Authority (UFAA) to avoid penalties and sanctions. UFAA Chief Executive Officer John Mwangi has called on banks with dormant bank accounts, Saccos with unclaimed dividends, and organisations with overstayed salaries to surrender the monies before the stipulated period. The authority currently holds over Sh. 56 billion, with 29 billion in cash and 28 billion worth units of shares surrendered by various Saccos. The authority has paid back more than Sh 2 billion and reunited over Sh 50 billion worth units of shares to the rightful owners. UFAA is also conducting campaigns in counties to raise awareness about unclaimed assets and how to claim them. The authority aims to increase the rate of reuniting owners of unclaimed financial assets to more than 80 percent. The judiciary is partnering with UFAA to facilitate administration letters and other documents needed to give unclaimed assets of deceased owners to rightful beneficiaries.



Journalists and media houses in Kenya are being urged to use their influence to bring about change, particularly on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR). The Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE) urged journalists to open the boxes of critical topics for public discussion, as they are trusted sources of information and play a critical role in bringing these matters to the attention of people who can influence public health policies. FAWE believes that journalists should provide accurate and timely information on SRHR, offer solutions, and hold government officials accountable. FAWE also supports the introduction of sex education in schools, arguing that it is better to do something than nothing as the situation worsens. The Kenya Demographic and Health Survey report 2023 shows that teenage pregnancies in the country are at 14.8%, with the government aiming to reduce them to zero by 2030.



Murang'a County is establishing a back-to-school programme to enable teenage mothers to return to school. The county's governor, Dr. Irungu Kangata, stated that the programme will be established once the county assembly passes the supplementary budget. The country has a high teenage pregnancy burden, as the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022 key indicators show that the main drivers of teenage pregnancy include lack of education, poverty, early sexual initiation, harmful cultural practices, and barriers to accessing sexual and reproductive health services. The Forum for Africa Educationalists Kenya (Fawek) is implementing a programme in 20 counties, including Murang'a County, to reduce teenage pregnancies and support girls in acquiring education for development. The county will also adopt a recommendation from the Committee of Trade, Industrialization, Cooperatives, Tourism, and Wildlife to introduce a Gikuyu music festival, which will be held annually in December 2023.



A Naivasha Court has ratified an application by the parties in the Solai dam tragedy in Nakuru seeking to settle the case outside the court. Naivasha Chief Magistrate Nathan Lutta Shiundu allowed the prosecution to officially withdraw the case against the nine accused persons, including the owner of the Solai Farm, Perry Mansukhlal. The out-of-court settlement agreed upon by the parties will result in compensation of Sh47.2 million for victims, Sh1.2 million for families who lost adults, and Sh800,000 for minors. The court directed that the Sh47 million agreed upon as compensation funds be channeled directly and immediately to the victims of the tragedy. The prosecution and victims' families have reached an agreement that will see families who lost adults each pocketing Sh1.2 million and minors Sh800,000 from the farm owner.



The Kenyan Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry is urging public and private groups to adopt and conserve degraded wetlands to improve environmental conservation. Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya emphasized the importance of civil societies, government agencies, and the community in restoring wetlands. The ministry launched the 'Adopt-a-wetland initiative' to encourage participation from various stakeholders in enhancing wetland conservation. The initiative aims to plant 15 billion trees by 2032 and restore and conserve wetlands and their catchments. Wetlands are among the most threatened ecosystems in Kenya due to their potential for conversion to agriculture and settlement. The Wairuri wetland was gazetted as a wetland conservation area in 2021. The National Environmental Complaints Committee (NECC) was commended for adopting the Wairuri wetland and collaborating with other stakeholders to ensure successful conservation efforts. Murang'a County is aiming to attain 30% tree cover and 10% forest cover within a year.

The Lamu County Public Health Department has closed all hotels and eateries following a cholera outbreak, with 22 individuals hospitalised at King Fahd Hospital. County Public Health Officer Mohammed Abubakar assured the public that necessary measures have been implemented to contain the outbreak. Dr. Mbarak Bahjaj, the County Executive Committee Member for Health, echoed Abubakar's sentiments, emphasising the county's successful mitigation of the situation.



The outbreak has affected many hotels and eateries, with the upcoming Lamu Cultural Festival adding to the economic strain on the county's tourism and hospitality industries. The Public Health Department is urging residents to remain vigilant and seek medical treatment if they experience cholera-like symptoms. Dr. Bahjaj also emphasised the importance of personal hygiene in preventing the spread of cholera, urging residents to observe good hygiene practices, including drinking clean, boiled water and washing hands after visiting toilets. Mkomani War MCA Abbas Shehuna called on the department to continue its efforts to contain the outbreak and ensure a successful Lamu Cultural Festival.

Five County HQ's Remain Incomplete Six Years Later

By: PSCU

Worth Noting:

- The committee held a meeting with the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development which was mandated to implement the five County projects.

- The Ministry was tasked to undertake appraisal of the existing projects in the five beneficiary counties (Nyandarua, Tharaka Nithi, Isiolo, Lamu and Isiolo) to ascertain the status of completion; prepare a report on the status of completion of the projects, providing recommendations for each county project; prepare Bill of Quantities (BQ) for the remaining phase(s) of the projects; prepare formal handover documents to each of the beneficiary counties for official handover of management and implementation of the projects to the respective county governments; and submit the abovementioned documents to the Committee on or before 15th September, 2023.



Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Budget.

The Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Budget led by Sen. Dr. Boni Khalwale was scheduled to meet with Senators from Lamu, Tana River, Isiolo, Nyandarua and Tharaka Nithi Counties yesterday, to apprise them on the progress made on construction of County Headquarters.

The five counties received conditional allocation on Supplement Budget for construction of County headquarters as they did not inherit adequate offices to set up County Executive Headquarters.

Sen. Danson Mungatana of Tana River County and Sen. Shakila Abdallah from Lamu County attended the meeting.

The National government was to provide 70 per cent as the additional allocation from the National governments share of revenue while the beneficiary counties would provide a counter-funding approximately 30 per cent

of the total fund for a period of three financial years, that is FY 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20.

It is notable that since FY 2017/18 every Financial Year allocations are made to these projects but the implementation of the projects are far below expectation.

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documents to each of the beneficiary counties for official handover of management and implementation of the projects to the respective county governments; and submit the abovementioned documents to the Committee on or before 15th September, 2023.

The required documents were submitted and availed to the Committee by the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing, and Urban Development which indicates that 44 per cent of the Lamu County project in Mokoe has been done; In Tana River County, the project is at 60 per cent; Nyandarua County is at 58 per cent; Tharaka Nithi County is at 82 per cent; and Isiolo County project is 45 per cent done.

Relevant stakeholders that is, the Governors and Senators of the five Counties, IGTRC, and the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development have been invit-

ed to appear before the Committee to deliberate on the matter and chart a way forward on completion of these projects.

The committee will thereafter conduct fact finding visits to the said counties before preparing a report that will be tabled to the Senate.

The committee also held an engagement with the Cabinet Secretary National Treasury Njuguna Ndung'u to deliberate on the PFM (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (Senate Bills No. 40).

The CS noted that there is no specific provision either in the IGRA and Public Finance Management Act, 2012 to provide for: framework for the financial management of transferred functions between the two levels of governments; framework for financial management of cooperation between national and a county government or among county governments; guiding policies and procedures for cooperation between the two levels and among county governments; administrative structures and roles in a cooperation; legal instrument for use in effecting a cooperation; planning, budgeting, budget execution, accounting & reporting; and oversight for transferred functions and cooperation envisaged in Article 187 and 189 of the Constitution, respectively.

The committee agreed to work in sync with the Ministry to ensure that the amendments will comprehensively address public finance management in case of a transfer of function or cooperation between the two levels of government and amongst the county governments.

Sen. Tabitha Mutinda the committee Vice chairperson, Sen. Shakila Abdallah, Sen. Eddy Oketch and Sen. Richard Onyonka were present in the meeting.

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**SCALING THE MOUNTAIN OFF THE DRUG ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM
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Compliance With Standards In Electrical And Electronics Sector, Critical For Global Trade

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- From February 2022, Kenya started participating in the IEC System of Conformity Assessment Schemes for Electrotechnical Equipment and Components, popularly known as the IECEE, Certification Body Scheme for Destination Inspection of electrical and electronic products.

- The scheme requires that national standards are fully harmonized with the IEC standards.

- “This is in line with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), the economic blueprint for Kenya. While the IEC and BETA operate at different levels and with distinct objectives, their work converges in the pursuit of economic development and progress,” noted Mrs. Kahiro.



Kenya Bureau of Standards Director for Legal Services, Miriam Kahiro (left) presents an artefact to International Electrotechnical Commission Secretary General & CEO Philippe Metzger during the electricals and electronics sector stakeholders forum in Nairobi.

Stakeholders in the electricals, electronics, and related technologies field have been urged to embrace the use of established International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standards to gain a competitive edge in the global market, thus driving economic growth and innovation.

Speaking during a stakeholders' luncheon hosted by the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), the Kenya National Committee of the IEC (KNCIEC), and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the KEBS Director, Legal and Corporation Secretary, Miriam Kahiro emphasized the need for experts' participation in the standards development process at IEC to make it easier for adoption at the National level.

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Kenya. While the IEC and BETA operate at different levels and with distinct objectives, their work converges in the pursuit of economic development and progress,” noted Mrs. Kahiro.

The Director reiterated KEBS' commitment to supporting the IEC Regional Centre (IEC-AFRC) in Kenya to execute its mandate and make IEC the home of electrotechnical standards and conformity assessment for electrical and electronic products and systems in Africa. The call of the IEC-AFRC to enhance the adoption and harmonization of IEC standards and IEC Conformity Assessment Systems in the continent will greatly benefit the Africa Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) which connects more than 1.3 trillion people across 55 countries with a combined Gross Domestic Product valued at not less than KShs500 Trillion.

She also thanked the IEC Secretary General for choosing Kenya as one of the beneficiaries of the 350,000 Swiss Francs IEC Global Impact Fund (IEC-GIF). The fund is geared towards e-waste management with an initial focus on recycling and waste management of batteries. The solutions offered through the global impact fund will be implemented by

among others, Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Through the IEC national contact, the MSME can also garner broad support among national stakeholders.

“We look forward to working with Aceleron, the implementing agency of the fund, to ensure maximum benefits are realized from the 350,000.00 Swiss Francs funds towards “turning battery e-waste into e-resources,” she added.

The IEC Secretary General and CEO Philippe Metzger was on a two-day visit to Kenya to strengthen collaboration between KEBS and IEC, fostering advancements in standardization, conformity assessment, and the promotion of innovation within the electrical and electronic sectors. “It is a privilege to visit Kenya and engage in fruitful discussions with KEBS. The collaboration between IEC and KEBS plays a pivotal role in facilitating trade, fostering innovation, and ensuring the safety and quality of electrical and electronic products,” Metzger said.

During the visit, the IEC executive engaged with various stakeholders including the Ministry of Investment, Trade, and Industry, the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Ken-

ya National Committee of the International Electrotechnical Commission (KNCIEC) and other industry stakeholders. The discussions focused on the importance of international standards and conformity assessment in driving innovation, ensuring product quality, and facilitating international trade in the field of electrical and electronic technology.

The conversations also included initiatives for capacity building in Kenya, emphasizing the importance of training and education to enhance the skills of professionals involved in the standardization processes.

“In our deliberations, we have urged for collaboration by all stakeholders to heighten surveillance on electrical and electronic goods for a safe and more efficient use of electrical technology”, Metzger told the forum while he shared insights into the IEC's global initiatives, including efforts to address emerging challenges in the electrical and electronic industries.

Both organizations reaffirmed their commitment to bilateral cooperation in the development and harmonization of standards, saying such collaboration is instrumental in enhancing the competitiveness of Kenyan industries on the global stage.

Somalia Formally Admitted Into EAC

By: PCS

Somalia has formally been admitted to the East African Community (EAC).

It joins Kenya, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania in the bloc.

This follows the Friday decision by the 23rd Ordinary Summit of the EAC Heads of State in Arusha.

The meeting that succeeded the EAC High-Level Forum on Climate Change and Food Security also saw President Salva Kiir elevated to the Chairperson of the Summit of EAC Heads of State.

He takes over from his Burundi counterpart Évariste Ndayishimiye whose tenure has come to a close.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Republic of the Congo has been named as the EAC's rapporteur.

Somalia's entry into the Community is a product of negotiations as directed by the 22nd Extraordinary Summit.

It presents an opportunity to the region to further integrate, expanding opportunities to the people.

The move will boost connectivity, enhance trade and accelerate Somalia's transformation plan.

The Somalia coastline — among the longest in Africa — presents massive blue economy resources such as fish to EAC.

Besides the admission of Somalia into the bloc, the Summit also deliberated on the progress of the EAC-Led Nairobi Process on Restoration of Peace and Stability in Eastern DRC.

The Summit also asked Tanzania, Rwanda, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to expedite the conclusion of the EAC Political Confederation public consultation by mid next year.



COTU Elects Rev Joel Kandie Chebii As Chairman General

By: Prudence Wanja

The Central Organization of Trade Unions (COTU)-Kenya Executive Board has elected Rev. Joel Kandie Chebii as the Chairman General.

In a statement on Friday, COTU Secretary General Francis Atwoli said Chebii has served in COTU (K) for more than four decades and currently holds the position of General Secretary of the Tiles and Textile Workers Union.

Chebii was elected during the 111th Executive Board of COTU (K) where Wycliffe Nyamwatta was also elected as the 2nd Vice Chairman General of COTU (K).

Nyamwatta has been a member of the Executive Board of COTU (K) for two decades and continues serving as the General Secretary of Kenya Engineering Worker's Union.

Atwoli urged the elected leaders to continue agitating for the enhancement of rights and welfare of Kenyan workers.

“Stability is key to any organization

and, as COTU (K), we shall continue ensuring that the Union is united and stable so as to serve Kenyan workers,” said Atwoli.

Atwoli further informed the meeting of the preparations that have been underway towards ensuring the success of the 5th Congress of International Confederation of Trade Unions (Africa), ITUC -Africa which is headquartered in Lome, Togo, is a Pan-African trade union organization that was established in November 2007 following the merger of two former African trade union organizations (ICTU-Afro and DOAWTU).

“COTU (K), which is affiliated with the ITUC-Africa, is privileged to host the 5th Congress of the ITUC this year whereby more than 500 Delegates (from across Africa and outside Africa), including Trade Unionists and leaders in the Labour Movement,” said Atwoli.

“The participants of the will come together to, foremost, discuss the future of Labour in Africa and the role of trade unions in shaping and facilitating the attainment of a better Africa.”



Kikuyu Mens Conference Want Indigenous Languages Included In The Education Curriculum

The Association Has Also Sought To Be Allowed To Be Using Public Places To Teach Gikùyù Language

By: Cultural Reporter
@themkenyatimes

A non-political association affiliated to Kikuyu community wants the government to include Indigenous languages in the education Curriculum. Kikuyu Mens Conference has written to Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu seeking incorporation of local dialects. "We, the Kikuyu Mens Conference, being a non-political association, are interested in the growth of Kikuyu Language and the mentorship of the young. The very essence of language carries with it the culture which in turn dictates the values, norms and systems of the people. In the absence of this medium, the community is left bare and struggles to figure out how to communicate deep and valuable message to the next generation," partly states the letter signed by the Conference Patron Dr Thuo Mathenge and Secretary General

Sammy W. Njayakio. It continues, "Language barrier between the custodian of the culture and the intended recipients presents a huge challenge and ultimately a loss of a people and their values. The purpose of this letter is to request the ministry of Education to immediately introduce in the school curriculum the learning of Gikuyu language in particular, amongst the members of the community in schools. Whereas this may not be a compulsory language and lesson to all, the very presence of it in the curriculum is enough motivation to learn,". At the same time, the Conference through the two officials have also written to Cabinet Secretary Prof. Kindiki Kithure of Interior and Co-ordination of National Government seeking to be allowed to be using various public meeting spaces for Kikuyu language lessons. "We are seeking the ministry to facilitate public spaces available in the villages to allow distinguished men



Dr Thuo Mathenge.

in the community to share words of wisdom and teach our young people the Indigenous Kikuyu language on Sunday afternoons," reads part of the letter. Further, the letter which was received at the ministry on Tuesday states, "We are seeking support for the sake of future prosperity and in support of our Kenyan constitution as envisaged in the Preamble and

states, ; we are proud of our ethnic, cultural and religious diversity and determined to live in peace and unity as one indivisible sovereign nation,". Yesterday, Dr Mathenge confirmed having written the two letters saying their action was a culmination of the first Conference that his team held at Kimorori area in Kenol town, Mu-

rang'a County on October 7. Thousands of men from the most populous community in the country turned up for the men only meeting. Dr Mathenge said his desire alongside other Kikuyu leaders was to have a focused society.

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Ruto's Launch Of MEDS Was Yet Another Key Milestone



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com

Worth Noting:

- The commissioning of MEDS factories re-enforced Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua's testimony that President William Ruto's foreign travels were bearing huge benefits for Kenyans.
- It is during some of these visits that Dr Ruto would strike a deal with chief executives of some of the drugs manufacturing companies.
- It however worth noting most of the MEDS drugs will be produced by the local companies owned by Kenyans.
- Putting this aside, I followed President Ruto's working visit to Germany. With his host, he signed the final agreement that cleared the way for Kenyans to work in Germany.



President William Ruto presiding over the launch of Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies .

A few days ago, President William Ruto presided over the launch of Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies (MEDS).

The President, who had just arrived from Germany, would not miss out this function.

This once again demonstrated his commitment to win the war against diseases. This was one of his key pre-election pledges and he always reiterated: A health nation stood out as the main pillar of socio-economic and political growth and development.

It is worth to recall that during the struggle for independence, the freedom fighters had identified diseases as one of three enemies of Kenya alongside illiteracy and hunger.

We are yet to win this battle more than 60 years down the line.

If you elect me as your President, I will undertake my duties differently.

The launch of MEDS was a key milestone towards the war against diseases. MEDS will manufacture the drugs, co-

ordinate and oversee the supplies. This will be done in a fair manner. No region of Kenya will be left out.

It is worth noting these drugs were not locally available. As a result, the Government of Kenya and the public would spend a huge chunk of monies to access them.

For now, this will be a thing of the past.

During the launch, the President noted. I'm sure we shall have enough of these essential drugs for local needs and sell the surplus to other countries mostly in the region.

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It however worth noting most of the MEDS drugs will be produced by the local companies owned by Kenyans.

Putting this aside, I followed President Ruto's working visit to Germany. With his host, he signed the final agreement that cleared the way for Kenyans to work in Germany.

The President of Germany had made a state visit to Kenya a few days earlier. The problem of unemployment was one of the issues they discussed during the bilateral talks.

Dr Ruto minced no word in bringing this matter to the attention of his counterpart.

In response, the Germany leader stated his administration will offer 200,000 job opportunities for Kenyans.

Your Excellency the President of Kenya, we will invite you to come and append your signature to the final agreements.

This is the first batch and going forward we will offer more jobs, he further stated.

During an earlier visit to Saudi Arabia, Dr Ruto secured 350,000 more job opportunities for Kenyans to work in that

country.

Ahead of this visit, there were isolated cases of complaints that some Kenyans working there were being mistreated and tortured.

Most of these complaints had been lodged during the reigns of President Mwai Kibaki and his successor Uhuru Kenyatta.

Ruto's host agreed to look into this matters after he brought them to his attention.

As we know, President Ruto had signed a government-to-government oil deal with the king of Saudi Arabia. He took this opportunity to iron out the issues that had rose up.

Dr Ruto had opted to sign this deal because it was meant to ease the burden for Kenyans. This by ensuring the prices of petroleum products came down.

It is however worth to note that the prices of these products are controlled by international markets, the President reiterated this recently. This is as he promised that the government was reviewing the pump prices with a view to bringing down the cost.

In Germany, President Ruto got an opportunity to address the European Union (EU) parliament.

He articulated concept of Pan-Africanism. As Africa, we have a vision and mission and it is clear on where we want to go.

On the sidelines, the President signed an agreement with the President of EU. The latter offered Kenya a grant of Sh3.3 billion to improve the electricity system.

Back to government-to-government oils deals with Saudi and United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kenya is reaping big.

As the President stated a few days ago, we are using Kenya shilling to pay the debt. This is helping us to rid of the burden of US dollar.

So far so good for the President. I'm happy to note that the leader of the opposition Raila Odinga and his brigade are appreciating the good work that the President is doing.

As a result, they have climbed down and toned hardline stances.

President Ruto needs the support of everyone of us in order to succeed.

Let us support him.

I hope no one would misconstrue my position. I know the role of the opposition leaders is well defined in law. They are supposed to support the government of the day when it do the right thing. They are equally supposed to correct the President, his deputy and other state officials if they disagree with their decisions.

The law required them to engage the officials in a structured and constructive manner.

When they fault the state policies, they must be prepared to offer tangible and practical solutions and alternatives.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a Writer and Political Analyst Based In Nairobi



Ruto: EAC To Champion Sustainable Climate Action

By: Beth Nyaga

President William Ruto has said innovative and sustainable measures must be devised to mitigate the effects of climate change.

These measures, he noted, will be assumed by the East African Community as it heads to Dubai for COP28 later this month.

Speaking at the EAC High Level Forum on Climate Change and Food Security in Arusha, President Ruto said Africa will showcase its assets, including a hardworking and skilled human capital, immense renewable energy reserves and the largest swathes of uncultivated arable land.

He pointed out that these resources offer the globe the best opportunity for global green industrialisation and thus the ability to decarbonise manufacturing.

“If there is one thing we should achieve at COP28 is climate financing through climate investment,” President Ruto told his colleagues Samia

Suluhu Hassan (Tanzania), Evariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi) and Salva Kiir (South Sudan).

Also at the meeting, that came ahead of the EAC Heads of State Summit, were Rwanda Prime Minister Edouardo Ngirente and Ms Rebecca Kadaga, the First Deputy Prime Minister of Uganda.

The keynote address was given by former Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn.

President Ruto said Africa will, therefore, be calling for the signing of a new charter on financing that will reform the current international financial system, which is not suited to the climate change era.

“The new charter should be on new ways of financing that is climate sensitive and supports positive growth,” he said.

Kenya, the EAC and Africa, he explained, are building a global coalition that will help give the world the necessary new dawn that will aid in mitigating the effects of climate change.



President William Ruto and President Samia Suluhu Hassan (Tanzania).

El-nino: Arati faults DP Gachagua

By: Elizabeth Angira
@themkenyatimes

Kisii County governor, Simba Arati has faulted Deputy President, Rigathi Gachagua of saying counties have money to mitigate the impacts of Elnino pounding the country.

He said the county has not received the money for Elnino and told the Deputy President to tell Kenyans the truth.

The governor said residents of some parts of South Mugirango constituency have been displaced due to landslides and are putting up at schools suffering.

“I urge the area Member of Parliament elected through the ruling party to look for funds from the government to assist the victims” Arati said after he signed 2023/24 Finance Bill at the Gusii stadium.

His remarks comes barely a day after the DP told Kenyans the national

government had channeled funds to counties for the Elnino and challenged them to utilize it.

And, the governor, accompanied by Deputy, Dr Robert Monda, Assembly Speaker, Dr Philp Nyanumba said the Assembly had removed a controversial clause in the Bill which required church leaders conducting night vigil to be taxed.

“I urge the church leaders to regulate themselves so that they not disturb residents with noise in their neighborhood” Arati said.

Earlier the governor launched Shofco civil society in the county, saying, the organization would sponsor 300 youths acquire technical and vocational skills to boost their lives.

County pastors and clergy forum chairman, Lawrence Nyanuga lauded the government for scrapping the clause.

He urged church leaders to avoid worshipping loudly at night, saying those who will flout it will carry their cross.



Kisii County governor Simba Arati (left).

DP Gachagua Join AUC 10 In Equatorial Guinea

By: DPCS

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua yesterday joined other Heads of State and Government for the African Union Committee of the Ten on Reforms of the United Nations Security Council in Ciudad de la Paz, Equatorial Guinea.

The DP represented President William Ruto in the summit that centered on solidifying the Common Position of Africa on reforms of the UNSC.

The summit provided an avenue for the leaders to give the C-10 Heads of State and Government the opportunity to take stock of the current state of play and provide the necessary guidance to the C-10 Ambassadors in New York, on their mode of engagement before the commencement of the session.

The three-day Summit was held in public and in private session focusing on 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 discussed 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 to fit the interests of the continent.

Members of the C-10 include Kenya, Equatorial Guinea, the Republic of the Congo, Namibia, Zambia, Libya, Algeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Uganda.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua poses for a group photo with other leaders who were attending the AUC 10 summit..

Mudavadi Urges Collaborative Efforts To Enhance Access Justice

By: KBC Digital

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has urged Judiciary to work together with other institutions within the legal and justice system in building a society where justice is not a privilege but a fundamental right for all Kenyans.

Mudavadi called upon the institutions to ensure a holistic approach to justice.

“Let me reiterate that the Executive will not relent on its commitment to support the Judiciary in carrying out its constitutional mandate of upholding the rule of law and protecting the rights of the people. Together, we can shape a future where justice is not merely a concept but a living reality for all,” he said.

Mudavadi said Kenya’s Constitution 2010 provides a comprehensive list of values and principles that obligate all state organs, state officers, public officials and individuals to adhere to.

He stated that Kenya has earned its place among democratic states regionally and internationally for its progressive and transformative constitution.

“It is now 13 years and we should be proud that we have done it. It has



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi with CJ Martha Koome

taken us that short period of time to inculcate and begin living the Constitution whereas in many other jurisdictions, such an enterprise has taken many years but failed, stuttered or is convoluted in contestations and conflict,” said Mudavadi.

“Despite a few hiccups, we must celebrate the single-minded execution of the Constitutional framework by the Executive, Legislative and Judiciary organs of Government. Each has kept to their lane, respecting the mandate, powers and functions of the other for the stability we now enjoy,” he added.

Mudavadi during the the launch of the Social Transformation Through Access to Justice (STAJ) Blueprint (2023-2033) at the Supreme Court grounds where the presentation of the annual State of the Judiciary and Administration of Justice Report (SO-JAR) for the 2022/23 financial year also took place.

While commending the Judiciary for adhering to the letter and spirit of the Constitution, Mudavadi pointed out that the Bill of Rights has extensive social, economic and political rights, and is a welcome shift from years of yore when rights and freedoms of

wananchi were taken as a government privilege; never to be seen or heard.

Mudavadi further lauded the Judiciary for its readiness and commitment to scale up its services to Kenyans challenging the Judiciary to ensure thorough implementation of the Social Transformation Through Access to Justice (STAJ) Blueprint and underline its promise as an institution to be accountable in fulfilling its mandate.

“I have keenly scanned The Social Transformation Through Access to Justice (STAJ) Blueprint (2023-2033) vision of the Judiciary and I have noted the embedded five guiding principles of accessibility, efficiency, transparency, accountability, inclusiveness and shared leadership cooperative dialogue and social justice,” he stated.

“Interestingly, each principle has an outcome that positions the Judiciary in focusing on transforming society by ensuring that all citizens, irrespective of status or geographical location, have access to judicial services. This is how it should be, seen and heard because, as the adage goes; justice must not only be done, it must be seen to have been done,” he added.

Mudavadi noted that the Judiciary is now focusing on transforming our society and ensuring that all citizens, irrespective of status or geographical

location, have access to judicial services.

“From the Executive, one is jealous of the Judiciary that is miles away in its decisions that have encouraged more people to seek justice whenever their rights have been trampled upon. We in Executive are equally ambitious and are in competition in creating a fervently productive Kenyan,” he pointed out.

He lauded the milestone achieved by the judiciary in the recent past including establishment of High Courts in at least 45 counties, the utilization of technology in case filing thus granting ease of access to justice to many Kenyans and the establishment of specialized courts such as the Sexual and Gender Based Violence Court and the Small Claims Courts.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary said rapid integration of technology in processes to improve court operations as seen through the e-filing and virtual hearing and training plus capacity building for all judicial officers should remain a priority.

Mudavadi affirmed that a transformative and progressive Judiciary will support the Government’s Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and enhance the governments’ commitment to empower ordinary citizens.

Towards Leadership



The project "Towards Leadership" has been organized by Shokhijakhon Urunov, a third-year student of the Faculty of Pedagogy and Social Sciences at Bukhara State Pedagogical Institute. The aim of this project is considered to be the identification of talented students. Currently, four students studying in the history direction have been accepted into the project. The project has been successful step by step with these students. Three active members of the "Towards Leadership" project are

currently participating in the "Student of the Year 2023" Republic competition. In addition to this, the project participants have already achieved success in the initial stages.

Abduhoshim Maxamadov, a third-year student in the History Education Department at Bukhara State Pedagogical Institute, and Murodjon Rahmatov, a second-year student, along with project leader Shokhijakhon Urunov, are actively participating in an online competition dedicated to the 154th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's birth, organized by the Shanxi Cooperation Organization on People's Diplomacy in Uzbekistan. They have been awarded a CERTIFICATE in recognition of their high achievements. The project participants have been recognized for their initial success as part of the competition.

To achieve the goals, it is necessary to remain consistently active. Always stay in motion to reach your objectives!

Student of Bukhara State Pedagogical Institute
Shokhijakhon Urunov

ASY AND EFFECTIVE MEMORY OF FOREIGN WORDS



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. In this article provides a solution to this problem and covers the topic in full.

KEY WORDS:

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

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the need of learning 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. 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. You write the translation of the words which 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.

Method 4. Memorizing words with synonyms or antonyms:

It 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 - qand

Candle - qandil

The wall - devor

A voice - ovoz

Asphalt - asfalt

Pistachio - pista

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 life, we believe it will help.

Abdurashidova Mukhtasar was born in Torakorgan District, Namangan Region. She is a 9th grade student of the creative school named after Is'hoqxon Ibrat. Her poems published in many magazines. She knows 5 languages. She is participant of many international Olympiads. For example: Hippo, Spelling bee, Writing word cup and others.

I Will Be Happy



Maybe it's enough, don't complain too much
Stop it! I say that I am unhappy.

I'll be happy, you'll see
These are my dreams
I will be happy in time
Sweet love greets me.

I will be happy, you will see
I will scatter flowers on your heart like a
stone
If you can love me, let me be yours
I open my heart with a loving hug.

I'll be happy, you'll see
A dream does not follow me like a shadow
I will try with my soul
Unhappiness is still with me.

I'll be happy, you'll see
I will throw flowers at those who throw
stones at me
Back away from an unfaithful person
I am waiting for someone to love me.

I'll be happy, you'll see
My friend, I don't tell a stranger my secrets

I'll be happy, you'll see
A smile on my lips, a smile on my face
I believe it more than myself
This unfortunate little girl will be happy.!

I am the daughter of Noibakhan Turgunboyeva Dilyorbek. I was born on January 3, 2004 in Andijan region. I am currently a 3rd year student. In 2021, I was admitted to the ranks of students on the basis of a state grant. I am the author of several articles and poetry collections

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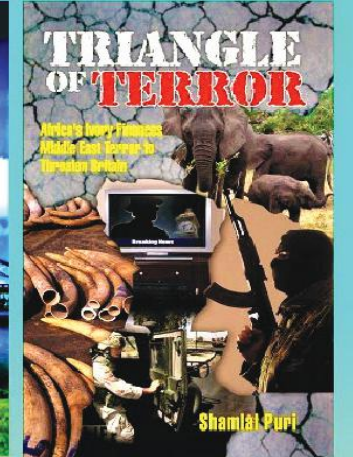
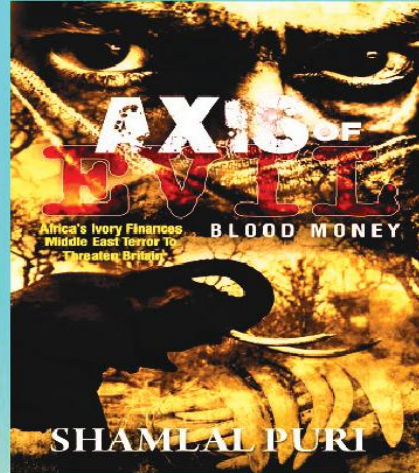
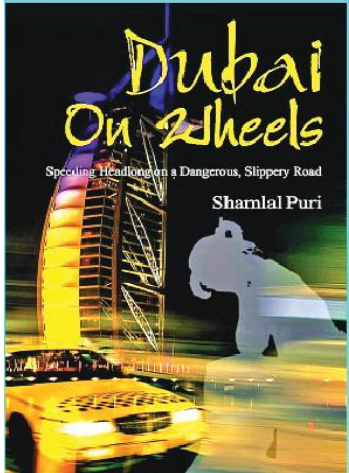
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CFAO Motors Kenya Implores PSV Operators To Avoid Compromising Road Safety

... As The Firm Delivers A KSh132 Million Fleet Of 30 Brand New Toyota Hiace Vans To The Guardian Coaches Ltd To Boost Festive Season Travel

By: Business Reporter
@themkenyatimes

CFAO Motors Kenya, the local Toyota authorised dealer, has implored upon public transport operators to prioritize road safety standards by shunning the purchase of converted cargo vans into passenger vehicles.

Speaking during a handover ceremony for a fleet of 30 new Toyota Hiace Passenger Vans valued at KSh132 million to The Guardian Coaches Ltd., CFAO Motors Kenya Managing Director Mr Arvinder Reel said that safety, comfort and security of passengers is at the forefront of the Toyota Hiace model that is the leading mode of public transport on Kenyan roads

Mr Reel said that CFAO Motors is committed to ensuring the highest technical and mechanical standards are met through their local assembly value proposition, which includes the Toyota Hiace model, which has been locally assembled since 2021 at KD level 2, with enhanced safety standards.

The firm, he said, will continue to collaborate and partner with local road safety agencies, including the National Safety and Transport Authority (NTSA), to raise awareness of road safety standards through the use of purpose-built vehicles.

“As we celebrate the investment of



CFAO Motors Kenya Deputy Managing Director Joshua Anya, KCB Head of Asset Finance Robert Mburu (Centre) hands over 30 Toyota Hiace Vans valued at KSh132 million to Guardian Bus Company Managing Director Julius Mukaya.

these vans by The Guardian Coaches Ltd., we are also keen to reiterate the value of such tropicalized units. These units are built for local conditions and provide unrivalled driver and passenger comfort and safety,” Reel said.

He added, “At CFAO Motors Kenya, we are actively collaborating with SMEs and investors such as Guardian Coach Bus Company to

renew their fleets using zero mileage quality assured vehicles as we seek to raise public service operating efficiencies and safety.”

Available for cargo or with up to 16 passenger seating capacity, the Toyota Hiace is a truly versatile model, equipped with a Euro 4, 3.0L diesel engine that provides the power needed to carry cargo or passengers in and around the city or rural areas.

Van or minibus versions are specially designed to provide a fatigue-free driving experience on long journeys thanks to the ergonomic design of its seats. It also meets the safety requirements, particularly with driver and passenger airbags and ABS.

A one-of-a-kind model in the market, the Toyota Hiace comes with fuel efficiency capabilities of up to 12km per litre with ample leg and

headroom to facilitate long-distance travel. Incorporating a roll cage for advanced safety, reclining seats, standard speed governors, and high-mount lights offer vehicle operators, drivers and passengers a comfortable ride without worrying about safety issues.

On his part, Guardian Coach Company Managing Director, Mr Julius Mokaya, extended his appreciation to CFAO Motors Kenya for the excellent quality, noting that with the new fleet, the transport company will be able to expand to new routes, thus positioning it to emerge as one of the most preferred transport companies.

“As we head into the festive season, we are excited to introduce to our customers a newer fleet that will guarantee them safety and comfort as they move from one part of the country to another. The collaboration between CFAO Motors and Guardian Coach reflects a shared vision for the future of public transport services hinged on meeting and exceeding customer expectations,” Mr Mokaya said.

The move is part of CFAO Motors’ long-term ambition to support Kenya’s economy through its vision and investment towards local assembly, allowing Kenyans to benefit through technical knowledge transfer and training and create employment opportunities across its various lines of operations.

Taveta Farmers Embracing Organic Banana Production

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyatimes

Micro Enterprise Support Programme Trust through DMDP banana project in partnership with ORANA A/S, a commercial partner and County Government of Taita Taveta are supporting implementation of organic banana production within Taveta sub-county. In this post we share some photos of how it’s going vs how it started.

The Project team is working with Lesuyai Organic Farmers Cooperative Society which is formed by 28 farmers who have established 9 acres of organic banana under dense banana spacing technique (1000 banana plants per acre). The organic



How it started.



How it is going.

cluster farm is in Ngaa area in Mata ward. Other 4 organic cluster large scale satellite farms have also adopted organic banana production and embraced the dense spacing technique. The satellite farmers are in

Kasokoni in Challa ward (10 acres), Kamuleza in Mboghoni ward (4 acres), and Rekeke in Challa ward (4 acres). The target is to have 500 smallholder farmers doing organic banana and linked to Orana Fresh

Fruit. Orana will provide the export market for all the organic bananas.

The DMDP banana project also has a local commercial partner Wanda Agriculture Group Limited who is aggregating bananas from the farm-

ers for the local market. The project is funded by Danida Green Business Partnerships / Danida Market Development Partnerships



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Four In Ten Women In Kenya Have Faced Physical Or Sexual Violence From An Intimate Partner

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes



Sexual Violence

Worth Noting:

- “Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are essential to eradicate poverty and build a global society based on sustainable development, social justice, and human rights.” said Anne Wang’ombe, Deputy Minister of the Department for Gender and Affirmative Action.
- Statistics by The Centre for Rights Education and Awareness (CREAW-Kenya) reveals that over 3,762 cases of Gender-Based Violence were reported in 2022. Out of those cases, 2,985 cases of GBV were by women while 777 cases were by men.
- Ambassador Natali emphasized, “it is imperative to sensitize, to talk, to inform, to educate our children: educate about respect, about equality, educate about the idea that force can never be an instrument of dialogue. And if we can do it together, we will be more effective and we will build more sustainable solutions.”

According to the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS) over 40 percent of women have experienced physical or sexual violence from an intimate partner during their lives. Additionally, around 1 in 4 girls get married early, and about 1 in 5 undergo female genital mutilation (FGM) in the country.

To mark the start of the global sixteen days of activism against gender activism, a campaign dubbed “Activate Nairobi” was launched at an event at the University of Nairobi with a terse message around the need to fight gender-based violence. This campaign is a collaborative effort between Kenya’s Department of Gender Affairs, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Aics), the Italian Cultural Institute (IIC), and the Offices of the Embassy of Italy in Kenya.

The event, inaugurated by Ambassador Roberto Natali and Deputy Minister Anne Wang’ombe of the Department for Gender and Affirmative Action in Kenya, featured a round table discussion. Four inspirational women leaders, including Charlene Ruto, Elizabeth Wathuti, Francesca Di Matteo and Professor Mary Lucia Mbithi, shared their strategies to combat climate change. The round table culminated in the opening of the ‘I Want You to Know’ photographic exhibition by Gaia Squarci, a National Geographic scholar.

“Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are essential to eradicate poverty and build a global society based on sustainable development, social justice, and hu-

man rights.” said Anne Wang’ombe, Deputy Minister of the Department for Gender and Affirmative Action. Statistics by The Centre for Rights Education and Awareness (CREAW-Kenya) reveals that over 3,762 cases of Gender-Based Violence were reported in 2022. Out of those cases, 2,985 cases of GBV were by women while 777 cases were by men.

Ambassador Natali emphasized, “it is imperative to sensitize, to talk, to inform, to educate our children: educate about respect, about equality, educate about the idea that force can never be an instrument of dialogue. And if we can do it together, we will be more effective and we will build more sustainable solutions.”

Speaking at the launch, Charlene Ruto, Youth Champion was keen to

note” When young women, especially those living with disability are actively involved in policy formulation and implementation, the resulting strategies are more comprehensive, resilient, and sustainable. Moving forward, let us continue to champion inclusivity, amplify diverse voices, and create opportunities that empower women to lead the change against global warming. Together, we can forge a path toward a more equitable and resilient future for all”.

The event, held at the University of Nairobi and attended by over 500 students, focused on the relationship between climate change and female empowerment through the testimonies and experiences of four women activists.

In addition, a photographic exhibition themed ‘I Want You To Know’,

inaugurated at the end of the panel discussion. The exhibition was created by the Mwelu Foundation and Italian photographer Gaia Squarci who in October 2023 was in an artistic residency in Nairobi in October 2023. During her stay, Gaia met, interviewed, and photographed women activists, and held a workshop for disadvantaged young people in Mathare, an informal neighbourhood in Nairobi, in collaboration with the Mwelu Foundation, active in promoting photography and videography as tools for emancipation from poverty.

Giovanni Grandi, Head of Aics Regional Office of Nairobi, highlighted the pivotal role of cooperation initiatives in empowering women across all sectors of society. Grandi stated, “We recognize the challenges faced by women, particularly in arid and semi-arid lands, and through our initiatives, we aim not just to confront these challenges, but to empower women to empower the society.”

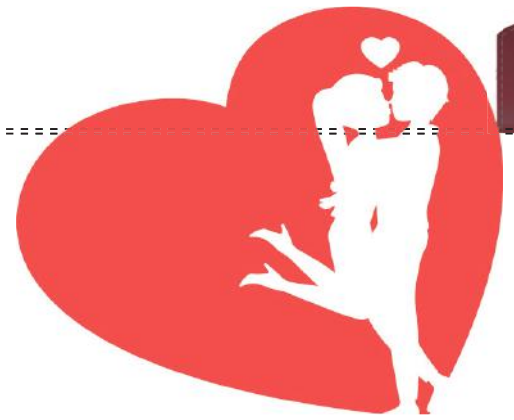
Elena Gallenca, Director of the IIC, declared, “Culture is a bridge between nations, and unfortunately, women’s voices are historically underrepresented. The activities of the Activate campaign aim to bring Italian culture to the forefront in the global fight against gender violence.”

The ‘Activate Nairobi’ campaign will run until 10 December, with several impactful events to highlight the magnitude of violence against women in Nairobi lined up. The campaign events will be engaging and will include a theatre performance, two evenings of stand-up comedy by a leading comedy group in Nairobi, film screenings, and two forums dedicated to survivors of gender violence cases in Kenya, authorities, and stakeholders.





LOVE CORNER



Who Should Pay For The First Date



By: Virginia Mule
@themtkenyatimes



You can write Relationship matters to the Love Editor on any subject through:

virginia@mountkenyatimes.co.ke



Worth Noting:

- A lot of people tend to assume that a man must pay for the date. Although society is endorsing gender equity, it is indistinct why it does not involve first dates. When a man insists on paying, it reveals that he is the type that takes their role as a provider seriously.
- Many women consider it to be very attractive since it shows that the man can be counted on making instinctive decisions. Covering the bill does not mean the man will be doing that constantly, but it at least shows that he adores you and the least he can do is be generous.

Traditionally, society established gender roles and anticipations that a man should pay for the first date. This is because women were not as empowered as they are today, and they did not have a source of earnings. However, with today's refinement, the question of who should pay has been a subject of discussion. While some men love being old-fashioned and alpha, other women want to be substantial and modern.

First dates are the genuine chances to comprehend the type of person you are about to be involved with. It is a very fascinating quality when a man offers to cover the bill. This indicates that he treasures you for showing up for the date. Alpha males will tell you that they must make a woman delighted without raising a question. They take this as an opportunity to show the woman how impressive she is for just taking her time to prepare for the date. Women spend a lot of hidden expenses when readying for a date.

Broadly, they spend a lot of money on outfits and make-up just to look outstanding and it is attractive when a man appreciates her.

A lot of people tend to assume that a man must pay for the date. Although society is endorsing gender equity, it is indistinct why it does not involve first dates. When a man insists on paying, it reveals that he is the type that takes their role as a provider seriously. Many women consider it to be very attractive since it shows that the man can be counted on making instinctive decisions. Covering the bill does not mean the man will be doing that constantly, but it at least shows that he adores you and the least he can do is be generous.

Even though some women feel entitled to free meals, others will not allow a man to flex his masculinity by paying for the first date. They will want to halve it to feel equal. Some think that if a man offers to pay he wants to be in control and might well want something in return. It is very

confusing when a man wants to be the provider but his generosity gets mistaken for being biased. Generally speaking, some women may feel offended when a man is being nice. They think that he wants to buy them off or wants to feel entitled to intimacy. To some women, the only time they pay for a date is when the man is low on cash.

As a woman, it is risky to assume that a man will automatically pay. Your assumption may cost you especially if he did not like you. Although a guy should not be expected to pay for everything, it is good courteousness for him to make a woman relaxed on the first date whether there is a second date or not. Paying for a date, whether a man or a woman is an act of affection and delight in someone's company and it also suggests a lot about your raw spirit. It does not matter who offers to pay. What matters is relishing the company without letting your date feel less or disregarded.



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 Introduction - 150 to 300 words
 Methodology/Review of Literature - 150 to 300 words
 TITLE of TEXT
 TEXT - 1500 to 3000 words
 Results - 150 to 300 words
 Discussion - 150 to 300 words
 Conclusion - 150 to 300 words
 References - Numbered List
 LANGUAGE OF PAPER - ENGLISH
 FONT & SIZE - Times New Roman; Size - 12

SUB-THEMES

- ✓ Law
- ✓ Fisheries
- ✓ Ornithology
- ✓ Marketing
- ✓ Literature
- ✓ Positive Thinking
- ✓ Strategic Management

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Academic presenter
- Professional presenter
- Student presenter
- Student participant

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Must be Original Research
 Must be Plagiarism Free
 Submit in Word Document
 Decision of Editorial Board - Final and Binding

IMPORTANT DATES

10TH JAN, 2024	15TH FEB, 2024	20 MAR, 2024	25 APR, 2024	15TH MAY, 2024
Paper submission deadline	Acceptance Notification	Edited by the Editorial Board & Green Signal for Publication	Paper added to the Manuscript	Publication Date

Invitation for collaboration:



African Media Partner:
 Mt. Kenya Times Newspaper, Kenya
 Inviting African scholars to participate with their Research Papers



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The Rainforest Of Victoria Falls



By: **Memory Phiri**
 @themtkenyatimes

According to David Livingstone, tourists should visit the Victoria Falls not once but twice so as to witness the high and low water experience. When it comes to turning the other cheek, the constant supply of sprays from the waterfall supports and nourishes the rainforest.

Ecology denotes that this particular rainforest in question is only an extension of the natural river bank or the riverine fringe. Suffice to say, this has intrigued a considerable number of tourists to get even by visiting the attraction so as to figuratively beat about the bush.

Believe you me, everything in your vicinity will be aesthetically green and the atmosphere is just sublime. My personal experience in the rainforest can only be termed as surreal for I had to walk in the midst of the lush white fig, the palm and

mahogany.

Like Alice in Wonderland, I spent the better part of my afternoon in the rainforest exploring and admiring the flora and fauna of biodiversity. Notably, it's not everyday that we get to lay our eyes on the climbing acacia, the Zambezi bride's bush and the famous flame lily. Indeed, all these marvels were enough to satisfy my curiosity.

As part and parcel of the Victoria Falls National Park, the rainforest has resident wildlife in the form of baboons, the water mongoose, the clawless otter and some bushbucks. The cat is already out of the bag and it's best to reiterate that the rainforest is thriving because of that curtain of water that incessantly cascades into the Batoka Gorge.

Bringing helicopter rides into focus, the rainforest will be an open book because we are talking about sightseeing at a different angle or point of view. Mosia-tunya, the smoke that thunders is one of the Seven Wonders of the World that has managed to capitalise on rainforest tours which are currently keeping tourists on their toes.

Dear readers, if you care enough to read in-between the lines the whole point of a rainforest experience is to get drenched in the name of recreation.



Thus, an umbrella or a raincoat will never shield you from the sprays that will eventually trickle down your face breathing positivity into your veins. Like the two sides of a coin, crossing the border straight into Zambia did not change my excursion in any way.

Instead the water sprays felt like a seamless blanket that ties our two countries together the whole time. Guess what, the roaring of the falls was actually music to my ears. Niche wise, this package allows one to get the best of both worlds.

To cut a long story short, for one to attest that they experienced the Victoria Falls they would have practically trampled through the rainforest.

Chief Superintendent Dr. Sarah Aba Afari Bags Two More Doctorate Degrees

Chief Superintendent Dr. Sarah Aba Afari, the first female PhD holder in Ghana and Africa, was honored with two honorary doctorates on Saturday, October 14th, at a grand ceremony.

The Madina Divisional Crime Officer received this prestigious recognition in light of her outstanding leadership achievements and the exceptional quality she has consistently demonstrated in her role as Chief of Police.

The honorary degrees conferred upon her are an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Ministry (DMin Honoris Causa) and a Doctorate Degree in Christian Education (DCEd Honoris Causa), both from Holy Spirit Bible University in the USA. With these additions, she now boasts three Doctorate degrees to her name.

The Hohoe/Botoku and Krachi native continues to make Ghana and the Police Service proud with her excellent and exceptional service to her country.

Dr. Aba Afari's remarkable career has also included collaborations with

the UN and significant contributions to major investigations involving the US Embassy and more.

She is a married mother of two, with a deep passion for women's empowerment.

During a media interview at the conferment ceremony, Chief Supt. Dr. Aba Afari expressed her delight at being recognized for her passion.

She emphasized the importance of building women's capacity, stating, "When we empower women, we can change the dynamics of our nation. I encourage the Gender Ministry to develop policies supporting working women, allowing them to balance their careers and family life."

Dr. Aba Afari also shared her unique approach to crime prevention, saying, "As part of our crime prevention strategy, I engage with women in my jurisdiction to understand their challenges and educate them on how to care for their children. Women and mothers play an equally vital role in crime prevention."

Source: Dumenu Charles Selorm



Chief Superintendent Dr. Sarah Aba Afari

SPORTS NEWS

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BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> *Formula One is set to change its sprint format for 2024 after support from teams and stakeholders to make race weekends easier to follow.

Formula One Set To Change Sprint Format For 2024



By Reuters

Formula One is set to change its sprint format for 2024 after support from teams and stakeholders to make race weekends easier to follow.

The governing FIA said on Friday its Sporting Advisory Committee would present a final proposal to the F1 Commission in January.

“The Commission gave overall support for an update to the sprint format for 2024 to further rationalise the weekend by separating Sprint activities from those for the Grand Prix,” the FIA said in a statement.

“The final calendar for the 2024

sprint events will be published in the coming weeks.”

Six of this year’s 22 rounds were sprint weekends, including the Qatar Grand Prix in which Red Bull’s Max Verstappen clinched his third world title on a Saturday.

Teams have been discussing moving the qualifying “shootout” to Friday, with the 100km race then held on Saturday morning before qualifying for the main Sunday grand prix.

The current format has qualifying for the grand prix on Friday with sprint qualifying and stand-alone race filling Saturday’s schedule.

“I think it’s clear that the sprints

need to evolve a bit,” Red Bull boss Christian Horner told reporters.

“The sprints in some cases have been slightly underwhelming. There’s no pitstop, it tends to stay in grid order and its a little bit like getting a medal for a long run.

“I think it needs a bit more work doing on it within the sporting forum and then no doubt we’ll sit down at the next commission meeting early in the New Year and hopefully finalise a format.”

Points could be awarded more widely for the sprint race, with a possible reverse grid element also under consideration.

The F1 Commission agreed to

keep tyre blankets through the 2025 season and approved updates to the technical regulations allowing increased driver cooling to be fitted to the car after the heat and humidity in Qatar caused driver safety concerns.

It also agreed that teams would not be allowed to carry out development work on 2026 cars before the start of the 2025 season.

Formula One is introducing a new engine in 2026.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Manchester City are innocent until proven guilty of over 100 charges of breaking the Premier League's financial rules, manager Pep Guardiola said on Friday.

Man City Innocent Until Proven Guilty, Says Guardiola



TOPSHOT - Manchester City's Spanish manager Pep Guardiola celebrates at the end of the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Newcastle United at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, north west England, on August 19, 2023. (Photo by Paul ELLIS / AFP)

By AFP

Manchester City are innocent until proven guilty of over 100 charges of breaking the Premier League's financial rules, manager Pep Guardiola said on Friday. Everton were last week handed an unprecedented 10-point deduction for breaching profitability and sustainability rules (PSR). Champions City lead the standings by one point from Liverpool,

who they host on Saturday, and Arsenal. "Why should I not believe (we are innocent)?" a prickly Guardiola told reporters on Friday. "It's the lawyers to make the defence in front of the judge. We wait and after we accept the resolutions." Everton's punishment prompted an outcry from supporters of teams around the league who want City to face a similar penalty. "I'm not going to say one word

about Everton because I don't know the reality of what happened. They are two completely different cases," Guardiola said. "I know people are saying, 'Why don't City go to the Conference' (the National League and lowest division on the English football pyramid). But let's wait. It's two different cases, it's not the same. One of them is longer, it's more complicated." Guardiola, who led City to their

first Champions League title last season to become the second English side after Manchester United to win the treble, was asked if he would quit if they were demoted. "You're questioning me like we have been punished. At the moment, we're innocent," the Spaniard said. "There is more chance I will stay if we are in League One than if we win the Champions League."

SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS



SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



The Royal Prince Of Poetry Mohamed Fuad Kamara



By: Abigail Phiri
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- I am an admirer of Shakespeare and a fan of poetry during high school. It has been my staunch desire to emulate or pursue whatever fully captures my heart. Thus, in 2018 I ventured into carving words into poetry.
- Yes, I am a published poet in three anthologies: Best New African Poets Anthology 2021 and 2022 editions, published in Zimbabwe; and Eco Africa Anthology 2023, published in Kenya. I am also awaiting the publication of my full manuscript — a collection of poems which I submitted earlier this year for publication.
- Finding a mentor was first among the problems I encountered. After I found a few, getting their attention became a big obstacle.



Mohamed Fuad Kamara.

Having worked before with Prince Hamlet I am well aware of what he is capable of. His way of writing is top-notch. It sets him apart from the sea of poets in the world. It needs deep thinking to come to terms with the reality he paints with his poetic brush. As he rightfully noted, for one to reach that level you need to have read widely. Particularly, noting how the gurus in the field do it before you find your own true voice. Poetry is not forced it comes naturally from your soul with the intent to be heard. Given you have the gift and a way with words do pen away your masterpieces and share with the world. We need to read life-changing poetry pieces that will give assurance that there is everlasting beauty in words perfectly strung together as if a symphony.

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

I am Mohamed Fuad Kamara, proudly known as Prince Hamlet. I am an admirer of Shakespeare and a fan of poetry during high school. It has been my staunch desire to emulate or pursue whatever fully captures my heart. Thus, in 2018 I ventured into carving words into poetry. I did not meet or know a Sierra Leonean writer until the famish desire for writing in me became unbearable, knowing my earlier poetry could be substandard for publication and needed mentorship. With my dire effort to meet a mentor, the push produced the anticipated result in

2019. I burst into the scene at last, meeting the right minds that would hone my tender thoughts. This was how it all started for me.

Have you won any major accolades? Are you a published poet?

In the two attempts, I have entered poetry contests; I have not felt the taste of winning.

Yes, I am a published poet in three anthologies: Best New African Poets Anthology 2021 and 2022 editions, published in Zimbabwe; and Eco Africa Anthology 2023, published in Kenya. I am also awaiting the publication of my full manuscript — a collection of poems which I submitted earlier this year for publication.

A dialectic article I wrote in January 2022 was also published in the Nationalist Newspaper in Sierra Leone.

Who is your inspiration?

The Great William Shakespeare generally as a writer; Oumar Farouk Sesay in poetry.

Where do you see yourself in a couple of years from now?

Global reckoning as one of Africa's finest. I already have review comments on some of my pieces backing the claim. I want my poems read in schools analysed and discussed in meaningful literary meetings around the world.

What problems have you been facing?

Finding a mentor was first among

the problems I encountered. After I found a few, getting their attention became a big obstacle. When I thought I could now write poetry, finding an editor or a reviewer was another challenge. Above all, is the difficulty in debut publication. There is serious delay in a free-of-cost publication house; and where one should pay, financial obligation stifles proceedings since I am an unemployed student.

Share with us one of your best writing pieces and what makes it stand out for you.

TO THE BEAUTY OF A TV PRESENTER

Every time the cameras capture her she captures us in the camera of her eyes.

Today she captures our sobbing hearts

from the vast vaulted valley of grief and breaks the cold news with an exquisite voice

to cheat our foolish conscience

The sound of words spilling from her smooth lips

consoles us as they empty into the microphone

justly analysing the unjust deeds done against men

for protesting in the dark August of our history.

Today our meandering minds stop tentatively

not at the site of the streaming raw human blood

but at the junction of her black gleaming gum

where the dentition of peace sits and spreads

like the Vector Art monument of Welcome to Japan

Her horrible wits crawl through her mirror teeth

and out to hit our numb ears with the gloomy news

of the king calling his people terrorists

for protesting his passivity to fix the land.

Then, our minds ride on with the rhythm

of the soft flow of words, like a glimpse of hope

peeping through the dark sharps of the forest

As always, we stare at the full broadcast

as she displays the bloody protest scenes on the screen.

But her image is a burning beam

It heats the captions on the desk and shapes her as the caption

So, our minds dig into her double-dealing image

to extract the caption from the news she reads.

Today this morning, on our breakfast view

she clears her throat as if to lay a Celine Dion vocal

to break the broken news of a vengeful missile

The rumbling hooks of her words hold

a buoyant queen hanging a sash of PhD in coups

on the king's segmented neck in the aftermath of the horror

to celebrate his landmark achievement

And the words more poetic than a woven tapestry

And the blast wedging more fragments in unshielded flesh

yet we are not injured by the blast.

We watch on as she divides the screen

to deceive our nothingness:

one side is burdened with bloody videotapes

another, with graphics, spicing the sad screen

with her figment face and melodic tone

to eclipse the blurred grief in our hearts.

The above poem is one of the finest I have written. It stands out because of the thoughts conceived into my cervical head to birth such a piece.

Imagine sporting and honouring beauty through the thick forest of horror and instability. It's insane right?

Kindly share all your social media handles

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Twitter: @fuad_kamara

TikTok: @princehamlet08

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Any words of advice to other individuals who would want to venture into poetry

Yes, particularly the young ones. First, let them engage in intensive reading of various published poets and top English Novels (for those in Anglophone countries) to properly prepare their minds for the writing journey they wish to undertake.

They should equally engage in writing unabated. This will help them select their own unique voice earlier and also become better creative writers.

Second, aspiring poets should not be afraid to enter into contests and send in submissions for publication in anthologies. This could boost their confidence if their entrants and submissions are accepted.

Third, strive hard to operate under a mentor who is willing to aid your growth and be very patient with your development and all the writing challenges thrown at you if you wish to thrive in your career. If the potential is there, humbly chase editors to shape your pieces into masterpieces.

What can be done to effectively promote poetry in Africa?

African poetry needs the attachment of an aura of pedigree to it. It needs economic value like you have in other arts like music, particularly now that it is digitalised in full glare.

Organise written and spoken word poetry contests at all levels with honest judges in charge. Let there be opportunities for budding poets to thrive and succeed the passing generation so that quality poetry is sustained.

Thank you for having me.