

Government Urged To Change Its Strategy In The War Against Terror

There is a need for the government security agencies to change their strategy on the war against terror, North Eastern regional commissioner John Otieno has said. Otieno said that the terrorist groupings have taken advantage of a dynamic world, and emerging technology to change their tact and are now involved in targeted attacks that are intelligence-led.

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News>> Sustainable Food Systems: Why We Need To Do More To Secure Our National Food Safety Standards

P. 8. Food safety for animal and human nutrition is a Public Health concern in any jurisdiction worldwide.



News>> Booster For Tourism As International Hospitality Group Inks A Management Deal With Nairobi Safari Club

P. 12. On the eve of its 40th anniversary, the Nairobi Safari Club has signed a management partnership deal with global hotel operator Swiss-Belhotel International to manage the iconic all-suite hotel in the heart of Nairobi, Kenya.

We Shall Not Default On Debt Obligations - CS Njuguna Ndung'u

⚡ Hon. Chair, what we are facing are external shocks characterized by short-term liquidity constraints and a volatile exchange rate, which are not extraordinary to Kenya. The world is facing a shortage of dollars due to high interest rate structure especially in the United States. We however remain solvent and committed to meeting our debt obligations", CS Ndung'u submitted.



Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u explaining a point during yesterday's meeting

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The 7th AgriFin Learning Event Highlights Resilient, Inclusive, and Sustainable Food Systems



By: Cynthia Masibo
@themtkenyatimes

In a landmark collaborative effort, Mercy Corps, in partnership with esteemed organizations including CGAP, FinEquity, FSD Kenya, IDH, SPARC, SPROUT, and the World Bank, today played host to the 7th AgriFin Learning Event (ALE). This significant gathering, which took place today, was themed “Resilient, Inclusive, and Sustainable Food Systems: Enhancing Collaboration to Scale Digital Solutions.”

The primary objective of this event was to tackle the pressing issues pertaining to global food systems, with a particular focus on resilience, inclusivity, and sustainability. A diverse array of experts spanning various sectors converged to deliberate on innovative digital solutions and strategies aimed at amplifying their impact on agriculture and food systems.

Key topics addressed during the event revolved around the utilization of technology to bolster the resilience of food systems in the face of formidable challenges such as climate change and economic instability. Participants further delved into ways to ensure that these digital solutions are accessible to all, fostering inclusivity and empowering marginalized communities.

Furthermore, the event illuminated the paramount importance of sustainability in food systems, underscoring the necessity of practices that minimize environmental impact and promote long-term viability.

The collaborative essence of the event, featuring the participation of multiple distinguished organizations, exemplified a united front in the pursuit of enhancing food systems on a global scale. The insights and solutions that emerged from the 7th AgriFin Learning Event are anticipated to wield a substantial influence on ongoing endeavors to address the worldwide food crisis and augment food security through digital innovation.

The event’s focus on resilience, inclusivity, and sustainability in food systems reflects the growing recognition of the need for innovative solutions to tackle complex global challenges. It underlines the importance of collaboration and the potential of digital technologies in shaping the future of food production and distribution. The outcomes of the event have the potential to contribute significantly to global efforts to address food security and sustainability.



Worth Noting:

- Key topics addressed during the event revolved around the utilization of technology to bolster the resilience of food systems in the face of formidable challenges such as climate change and economic instability. Participants further delved into ways to ensure that these digital solutions are accessible to all, fostering inclusivity and empowering marginalized communities.
- Furthermore, the event illuminated the paramount importance of sustainability in food systems, underscoring the necessity of practices that minimize environmental impact and promote long-term viability.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Kenya's KNCCI Economic diplomacy chairman, Ronald Meru, urges the government to leverage special economic zones to attract investors, boost manufacturing, and reduce imports. He emphasizes tax-free status, advanced infrastructure, and a conducive tax policy.



Heavy rains continue to cause widespread damage in the country, with a landslide in Nyeri County, Kagongo Village, Kamakwa, Mukaro Ward, Nyeri Central Sub County causing no injuries or deaths. Chief Officer for Gender, Youth, Sports and Social Services Joe Ngethi advised residents to build higher-ground houses and plant trees to prevent landslides. Engineer Solomon Ngatia encouraged constructing terraces to mitigate landslides and warned against staying in landslide-prone areas.



The International Maize and Wheat Institute (CIMMYT) held a three-day meeting in Nairobi to discuss seed systems and improve seed delivery. The forum aimed to develop business cases for seed companies and farmers, emphasizing the importance of on-farm trials and farmers' input on preferred varieties. Dr. Chris Ojiewo emphasized the need for high-quality, genetically-proven seeds.



Tech industry players are concerned about female students avoiding ICT courses, limiting their job marketability. Zetech University has launched a 'Women in Tech competition' and a linkage program with tech giants for internships. The university's Ajira Programme trains students in Transcription, Digital Marketing, and Online Writing.



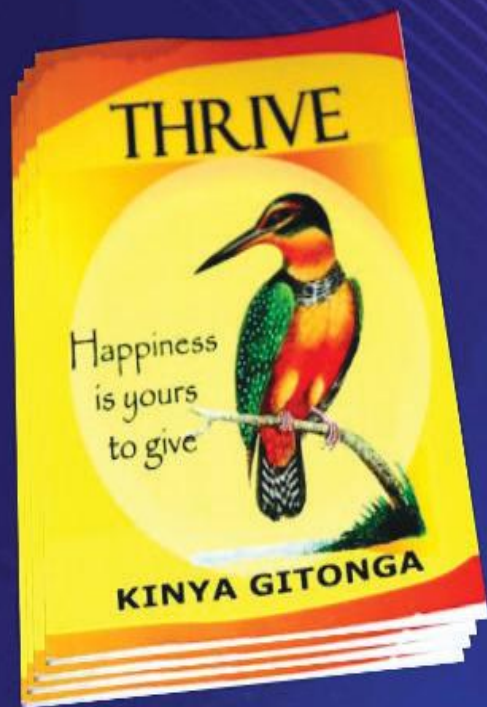
The Nakuru County government is prioritizing improved sanitation in markets to enhance cleanliness, well-being, and health for traders and customers. Trade Chief Officer Samwel Ndegwa emphasizes hygiene, safety, and health risks. MCA Paul Waweru highlights economic benefits and employment opportunities.



Nakuru City Management is implementing the Neighborhood Engagement Initiative by visiting Barut Ward residents to address concerns. The initiative promotes open communication, empowers residents in decision-making, and enhances disaster preparedness. Participation in these initiatives can reduce stress and improve mental health.

Kingya N. Gitonga

PSYCHOLOGIST, AUTHOR, MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE
& FOUNDER SOUND MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION
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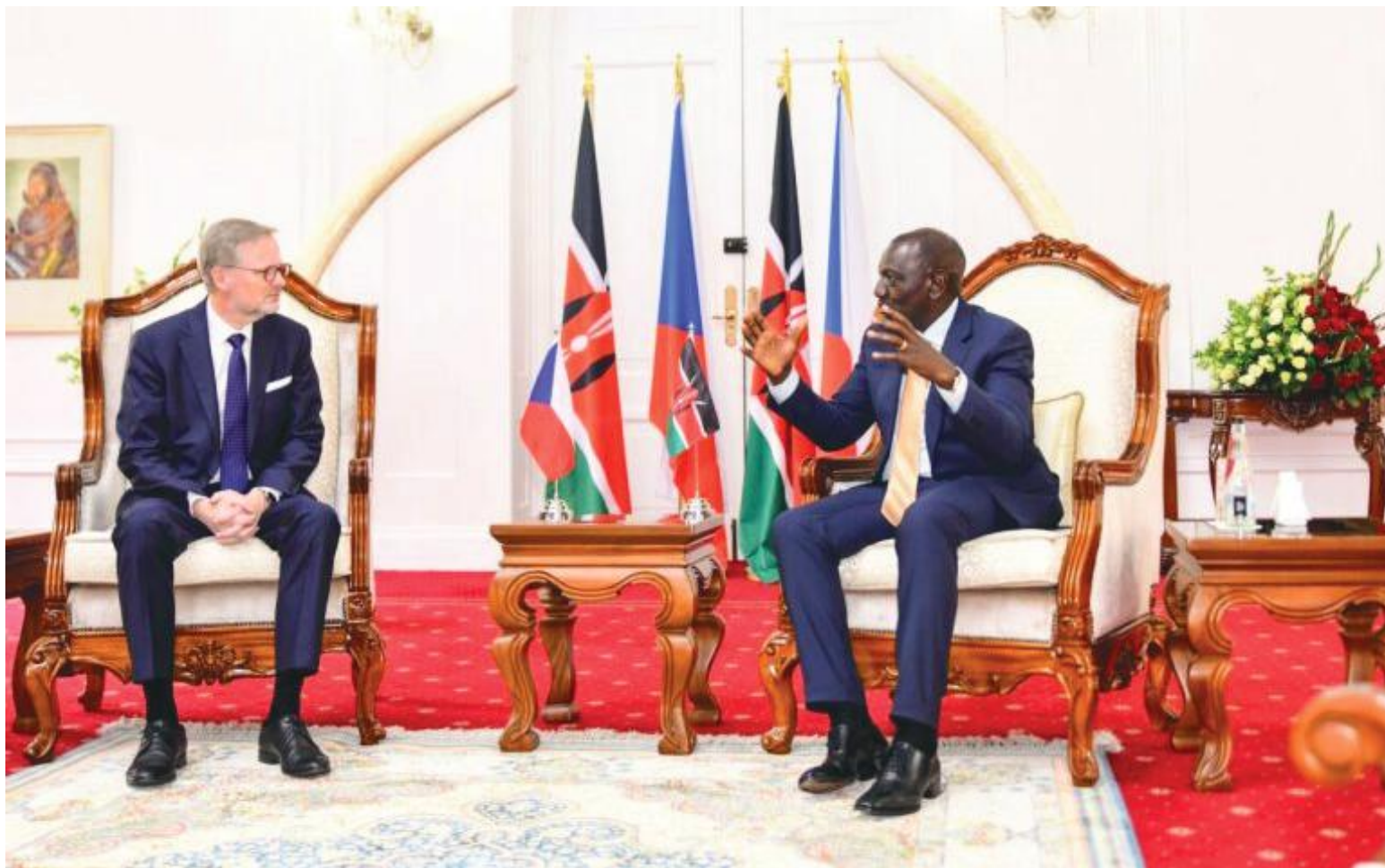
Kingya N. Gitonga

Enhanced Relations With Czech To Attract Investment In Kenya

By:KBC Digital

Worth Noting:

- “Establishing a commercial hub in Kenya will offer access to the demands of the greater market in the region and Africa.”
- Prof Fiala was accompanied by Czech investors who are keen on exploring investment opportunities in Kenya.
- The Head of State said Kenya will work with the Czech Republic to facilitate organised labour mobility between the two countries.
- “Kenya has a young and skilled labour force in the health, business, educational and industrial sectors that can offer skilled labour if needed in your country,” he said.



President William Ruto and Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Petr Fiala

President William Ruto has said Kenya is committed to strengthening its ties with the Czech Republic through enhanced trade and investment.

Speaking during a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Petr Fiala, President Ruto welcomed Czechia firms to invest in Kenya.

He cited pharmaceuticals, textile, agro-processing, hospitality and fintech as the most ideal investment op-

portunities for Czech investors.

Other sectors, he mentioned, are green energy, ICT, health and manufacturing of industrial parts and machinery.

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“Kenya has a young and skilled labour force in the health, business, educational and industrial sectors that can offer skilled labour if needed in your country,” he said.

Other key areas of cooperation include knowledge and skill transfer in healthcare, education in science and

technology, climate action, wildlife conservation and peace and security.

On his part, Prof Fiala pointed out that his country was keen on deepening and broadening ties with Kenya for the two countries’ success.

“We share a long and rich history with Kenya that we must exploit to increase trade and investment volumes,” he explained.

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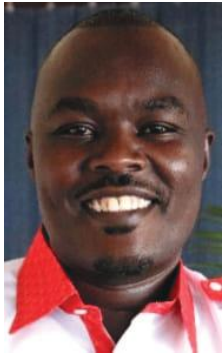


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Sustainable Food Systems: Why We Need To Do More To Secure Our National Food Safety Standards



By: Symon Bargurei
@themtkenyatimes



Sustainable Food Systems.

Worth Noting:

- In our country, there have been several incidents in the recent past, especially in schools, where contaminated food harmed learners. It is concerning that conversations about food safety are only incident-based and hardly capture national attention regularly.
- We must sustain conversations about food safety beyond the regulatory environment and bring it out in the mainstream.
- I am delighted that the Food and Feed Safety Control Coordination Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 21 of 2023) is making good progress in Parliament, and we may soon have a solid law to sustain food safety.
- The quality of food we consume has socio-economic ramifications in the case of productivity, as food safety is a crucial pillar for food security.

Food safety for animal and human nutrition is a Public Health concern in any jurisdiction worldwide. In all its shades and forms, food safety is sensitive to a country's social stability and development and needs to be prioritized as an area of concern for all. See, the level of food safety has direct and indirect effects on national security, the economy and social development and must be maintained through strict adherence to strict food standards. The food the public or our animals consume should inspire confidence that they are not in danger of contamination. The prevalence of unsafe foods that aid in spreading foodborne illnesses continues to negatively impact economic development by eroding human health standards. In our country, there have been several incidents in the recent past, especially in schools, where contaminated food harmed learners. It is concerning that conversations about food safety are only incident-based and hardly capture national attention regularly.

We must sustain conversations about food safety beyond the regulatory environment and bring it out in the mainstream. I am delighted that the Food and Feed Safety Control Coordination Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 21 of 2023) is making good progress in Parliament, and we may soon have a solid law to sustain food safety. The quality of food we consume has socio-economic ramifications in the case of productivity, as food safety is a crucial pillar for food security. According to the World Health Organisation, unsafe food causes 600 million cases of foodborne diseases each year worldwide and 420,000 deaths. 30% of foodborne deaths occur among children under five years of age. WHO estimated that 33 million years of healthy lives are lost annually due to eating unsafe food globally, which is likely an underestimation. A healthy country means a productive population contributing to national development without suffering foodborne diseases. Having the appropriate checks on food safety can

boost international trade and reputation and boost businesses for domestic producers who export food. First, we can boost food safety by investing in food safety training at various levels. At the institutional level, as food companies, let us constantly train our staff to identify hazards while handling our products; we must also ensure adherence to food safety standards. If it entails packaging food safely, which materials and preservatives can be used? If we are partnering with food delivery services, what standards do we set to avoid food contamination? As we engage farmers, let us train them on how to handle food from their farms. Recently, a report revealed that farmers are using toxic pesticides, which, among other effects, impact food safety because of the chemicals they contain. We can educate farmers on suitable pesticides to avoid contaminating their crops, which find their way to our plates. We can guide them on the safe ways to store their produce after harvest to prevent contamination and

ensure that what they sell in the market is safe for consumption. We can monitor the kind of water they use to irrigate their farms, as contaminated water can increase the risk of foodborne diseases. Secondly, we need stronger legislation and policies to curb cases of food contamination. The National Food Safety Policy of 2021 is meant to protect and promote consumer health while also seeking to harmonize food safety standards and regulations. The lack of sufficient resources by oversight and regulatory bodies restricts their mandate to function. This also makes them prone to corruption, which puts public health at risk. Strong laws will safeguard against food adulteration for quick economic gains. We can make our laws better and stronger by lobbying lawmakers on how best we can promote food safety as stakeholders. Thirdly, let us be aware of contemporary threats to food safety through research. The debate about genetically modified foods is also a topical issue that should be actively faced with enhanced information sharing. At Unga Group, we have invested in robust quality assurance systems from the talent, software and hardware, including one of the most advanced and certified food safety laboratories in sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, we work closely with regulators from all concerned agencies, and we have a firm policy on checking the standards of our products and all safety measures for our consumers' benefit. Admittedly, technology is one of the main drivers of food production and distribution. Adopting food tech systems will come in handy in ensuring food safety through Smart Packaging, Food Authentication technologies, high-pressure sterile processing and Artificial Intelligence quality control. As the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations continues to posit in its advocacy efforts, we must focus on adopting a sustainable food system (SFS), which is a food system that delivers food security and nutrition for all in such a way that the economic, social and environmental bases to generate food security and nutrition for future generations is not compromised. Mr Symon Bargurei is the Unga Group Strategy and Innovations Director. Email: SBargurei@unga.com

We Shall Not Default On Debt Obligations - CS Njuguna Ndung'u

By: PSCU and Our Reporter
 @themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- “Hon. Chair, what we are facing are external shocks characterized by short-term liquidity constraints and a volatile exchange rate, which are not extraordinary to Kenya. The world is facing a shortage of dollars due to high interest rate structure especially in the United States. We however remain solvent and committed to meeting our debt obligations”, CS Ndung'u submitted.
- Asked by members led by the committee chairman Kuria Kimani to explain the strategies they had put in place to ensure that Kenya does not default on both her internal and external debts, the CS presented a three-pronged approach that the government has adopted.

The Cabinet Secretary for National Treasury and Economic Planning has assured a Parliamentary committee that the government will not default on her debt obligations including the repayment of the Euro-bond which is due mid next year.

Speaking when he led officials from the Ministry to Parliament for deliberations on the Supplementary 1 Budget Estimates for the 2023/2024 Financial Year, CS Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u told the lawmakers that while Kenya was facing external headwinds, and liquidity constraints, these remain short-term handicaps, and the country is firmly solvent.

“Hon. Chair, what we are facing are external shocks characterized by short-term liquidity constraints and a volatile exchange rate, which are not extraordinary to Kenya. The world is facing a shortage of dollars due to high interest rate structure especially in the United States. We however remain solvent and committed to meeting our debt obligations”, CS Ndung'u submitted.

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He told the lawmakers that the



Some of the committee members and Treasury officials during yesterday's session.

Ministry had secured a lifeline from her multilateral partners; the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund; Concessional loans from her Bilateral partners as well as from the regional development finance institutions which had helped Kenya syndicate her loans.

Noting that the globe was facing a financial challenge akin to the Dutch

Disease, the Cabinet Secretary also underscored the need to eliminate market jitters on Kenya's solvency, which he noted could affect foreign direct investments.

“As part of our liability management strategy, we are substituting expensive debt with concessional debts and we have a solid strategy to ensure that we maintain the con-

fidence of our creditors while we effect a turnaround on the economy”, he told the MPs.

Faced with a volatile exchange rate, Kenya's budget deficit has grown from 4.3% to 5.5% forcing the government to reduce expenditure by 0.9%; an equivalent of KSh145bn.

But members led by the Vice Chairperson Benjamin Langat sought to know why the Supplementary 1 which normally is presented to Parliament after the second quarter was now being presented after the first quarter just when government spending was commencing.

The CS however explained that given that budget is a result of a long process, the Ministry had envisaged the current currency volatility.

He further informed the lawmakers that the budget had been revised based on current situational constraints in the country, to protect fiscal consolidation and to accommodate additional requests within approved budget ceilings, with reallocation possibilities.

On his part, the Principal Secretary for the State Department of National Treasury Dr Chris Kiptoo told the committee that Treasury is committed to support the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda and has aligned government budget to the same.

Other issues that the committee raised with the Ministry include the need to ensure seamless payouts of pension, the status of one government account and the status of pending bills.



Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u explaining a point during yesterday's meeting.

Grace Of Giving Pt 1

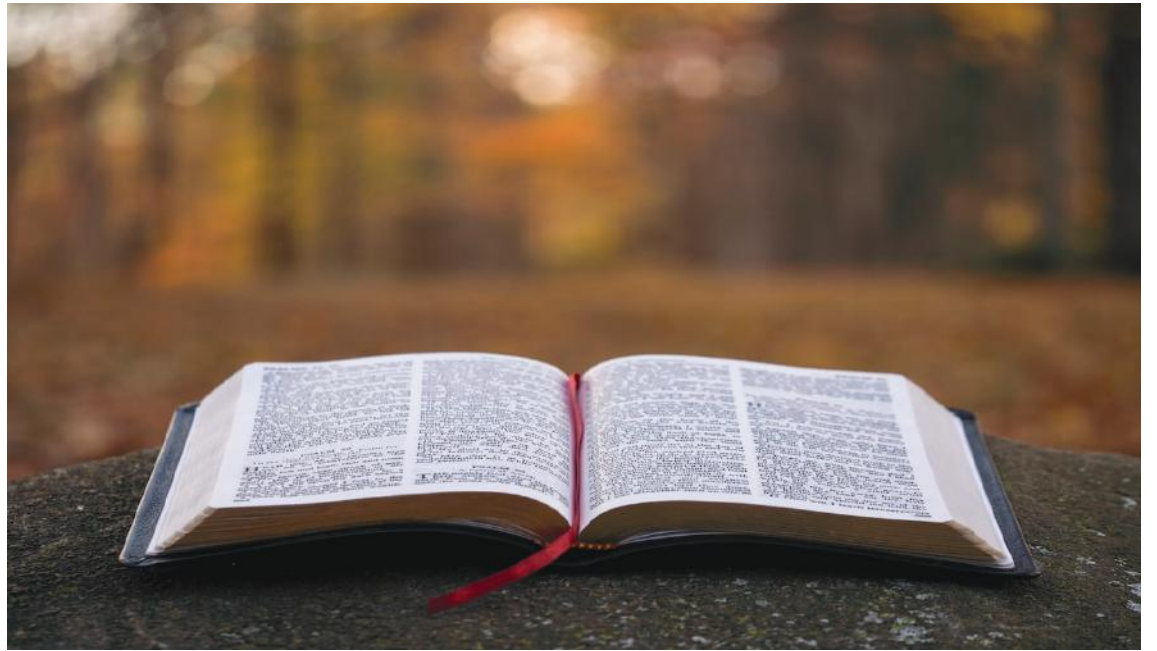


By: Eric Musa
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In addition to this initial 10 percent, there was a second tithe, commonly called the festival tithe. According to Deuteronomy 12:10, 11, 17, 18, this tithe took effect when Israel conquered the Promised Land because another 10 percent had to be given for an annual celebration — feasting with one’s family, friends, and servants. Whereas the purpose of the Lord’s tithe was to perpetuate ministry, the festival tithe was to build religious celebration and mutual community in God’s people. The two tithes together comprised a substantial economic bite — a mandatory 20 percent.

The Poor Tithe : But there was still more, for Deuteronomy 14:28, 29

commands a third tithe, a poor tithe: At the end of every three years, bring all the tithes of that year’s produce and store it in your towns, so that the Levites (who have no allotment or inheritance of their own) and the aliens, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns may come and eat and be satisfied, and so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. This provided for the social welfare of those who could not provide for themselves. Since the tithe was 10 percent every three years, it comes to 3.3 percent per annum, thus bringing the total to over 23 percent per year. These three mandatory tithes funded the priesthood, a national feast, and aided the poor. Enough! we might think. But Leviticus 19:9, 10 commanded even more, for the people were also charged to refrain from harvesting the corners of their fields or picking all the grapes from their vineyards, so as to leave gleanings for the poor. In addition to this, there were other taxes from time to time, such as a tax of a third of a shekel they later had to



pay for the materials used in Temple offerings (Nehemiah 10:32, 33). The bottom line was this: God’s people were required to give a minimum of 25 percent a year.

References:
 The Living Bible
 Discipline of a Godly Man(Book by

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

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

Firearm, Ammos Recovered In Thika As Police Hold Suspect Of Robbery

By: The DCI

Detectives have recovered a Ceska pistol which was robbed from a civilian firearm holder in Kahawa Sukari on January 2023, following a search at a wounded man’s house in Makongeni, Thika.

The search and subsequent recovery of the weapon followed an alarm raised by members of the public that an unknown man had been sprayed with bullets near the Thika Level V hospital yesterday, by an occupant riding in a Toyota Probox which then sped off.

Swinging into action, police rushed to the scene where they found the badly injured man whom they helped to hospital, just in time to have doctors manage his profuse bleeding.

Efforts by medical officers and the police to identify the patient proved futile when no identifying document was found on him and, though he could speak, expressed unwillingness to give his name.

These prompted the officers to initiate a forensic ID process that provided his name, and later traced his place of residence at Gireki Plaza Hse no. 10 located

within Kiganjo area of Makongeni.

A search therein saw the recovery of the Ceska pistol loaded with 15 rounds of ammunition which was hidden under the carpet alongside a roll of bhang.

Initial investigations have so far identified the firearm as the one robbed from a civilian firearm holder in Kahawa Sukari in January, when two armed men riding on an unmarked motorcycle accosted him at a construction site. His mobile phone and cash was also stolen.

On the same day (Jan 28), the two suspects who were on a robbery spree also confronted three citizens at Landless Section 2 where the trio was visiting the site of a parcel of land they had purchased. Their mobile phones and money was also robbed at gunpoint.

The ongoing investigations signal that the shot suspect may be familiar with his attackers, as they had allegedly engaged in an altercation over a previous engagement before the shots were fired.

Now being treated as a suspect of violent robberies, the patient remains under police guard pending his recuperation, formal arrest and arraignment. Pursuit for his shooters is also ongoing.

FichuakwaDCI. Call 0800 722 203 to report anonymously.



Is Gachagua Isolated, Lonely Man?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandong@gmail.com



Worth Noting:

- During the burial of freedom fighter Muthoni Kirima, Gachagua told him. Maina, I have heard you. You recognize me as DP and senior-most leader in Mount Kenya and want me to play a leading role in reconciling and uniting the Mountain. I want to tell you that I'm already doing this.
- However, a meeting between me and you is not granted for now. I want you to first denounce the violence.
- So whose interests is Kuria serving? As we know, Gachagua was being seen as posing a real threat to the leaders from other communities who were positioning themselves to succeed President William Ruto in 2032.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

When I recently read the story titled 'Gachagua: Isolated, Lonely Man' published by The Weekly Citizen newspaper, the question that came to my mind is. Can we believe this story? I was persuaded to believe that it didn't hold any water

Gachagua's political detractors were behind these false stories and the ultimate goal was to portray him as a weak leader and in so doing, tries to get him out of the political equation of 2027 and 2032 polls respectively.

It is unfortunate to note that this card was being fronted by a section of the Kikuyu leaders.

I would not expect them to succeed. They had tried to play a similar card in the countdown to 2022 polls but Gachagua outmaneuvered them.

Kenya Kwanza Presidential candidate William Ruto finally settled on him as his running mate. Dr Ruto had made the right choice. Gachagua helped him to garner 87 percent of votes in Mount Kenya region. His detractors would not want this credit to go to him. This is borne out of sheer envy and malice.

Today, if you ask majority of Kikuyu, this is what they will tell you. Gachagua is the senior-most leader in our region and hence he is our kingpin. So, fellow Kikuyu leaders who were trying to create a wedge between him and President were wasting their time and were out for a rude shock.

Well, I recently heard Gachagua distancing himself from the tag of a king-

pin. He averred, I have heard some people talking about kingpin. Where is this kingpin? Does this position exist in our constitution? Does the holder earn a salary? The answer is a big No.

So, I have no time for this baseless talk. My job is well defined in the constitution. I'm the Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya, not Mount Kenya region.

This was a wise move and many believed his eyes were trained on Public Service Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria.

In a post two days earlier, Kuria had stated in apparent reference to Britain's King Charles 111 four-day state visit. Now that the King himself has left the country, the fake King will emerge.

Many believed Kuria was targeting Gachagua. A day later, Kuria was seen with the former Mungiki leader Maina Njenga. This again would be interpreted as continuation of Kuria's onslaught against the DP.

As we know, Gachagua's relationship with Njenga remains frosty.

During the burial of freedom fighter Muthoni Kirima, Gachagua told him. Maina, I have heard you. You recognize me as DP and senior-most leader in Mount Kenya and want me to play a leading role in reconciling and uniting the Mountain. I want to tell you that I'm already doing this.

However, a meeting between me and you is not granted for now. I want you to first denounce the violence.

So whose interests is Kuria serving? As

we know, Gachagua was being seen as posing a real threat to the leaders from other communities who were positioning themselves to succeed President William Ruto in 2032.

Of course, the Luhya community is in fore front of this game plan. It was the time for their son to take over the mantle of leadership of this country.

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi was the most favored candidate followed by the Speaker of National Assembly Moses Wetangula.

So, the leaders of this region were working very hard in trying to convince President Ruto to agree to pass the baton to one of them when the time comes. But the President had always steered clear of this issue.

Whenever he visited this region, he would tell the leaders to focus on development matters.

Kenyans gave us a job. Each one of us will be judged by the work that we have done.

Mostly, Kuria had been using social media to fire salvos at Gachagua. At a time, the mainstream media would also publish his bare knuckled attacks.

This is what comes to my mind. Kuria is a man on a mission and Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua was his main target.

He was out to derail and sabotage Gachagua's plan and ambitions to inherit the mantle of Mount Kenya kingship from former President Uhuru Kenyatta.

In the course of my interactions with

a cross section of Kenyans, this is what majority of them would tell me.

Kuria have adopted a two-pronged strategy.

One of them is that he is eyeing the seat of Mountain kingpin and eventually become Ruto's running mate in 2027. He knows that he is a lightweight and cannot make it. So, this card is designed to deceive the Kikuyu community.

Gachagua is a wise man. He has always avoided responding to him; it was too early to do so.

This is not the first time that a section of Kikuyu leaders were being used to bring down their leaders who stood a high chance of ascending to power and governing the nation of Kenya. I doubt this time the card will work. Majority of the elected leaders in the Mountain are behind Gachagua.

One of the card Kuria has been using is that of seeking public sympathies.

Listen to this. DP Gachagua was not championing the course of region. He would give example of himself by citing the recent cabinet shake-up that saw him moved from the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Industry to that of Public Service Delivery Management. He would also cite the woes facing Meru governor Kawira Mwangaza.

Referring to his matter, Kuria believed he had been demoted.

So, one can also interpret this to mean he also had a bone to pick with his boss, President William Ruto.

Kuria should bear this in mind. Gachagua had nothing to do with his demotion. The prerogative of shaking the cabinet lied squarely with the President.

The President had given Kuria a job. If he realizes that your performance is wanting. You are yet to fit in that shoe one year down the line, he has a right to give you lighter duties. This is by moving you to another docket. He can even sack you.

For now, many believe Kuria's influence was only being felt in his home county of Kiambu and it has been waning.

Kikuyus had previously learnt big lessons. The importance of staying together and being united is central. With this, the government of the day will not shortchange them. It will listen to them and fulfill the pre-election promises.

So, this is my unsolicited advice to Kuria. You should tread carefully on this matter.

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

Booster For Tourism As International Hospitality Group Inks A Management Deal With Nairobi Safari Club

By: Our Reporter

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Speaking when they jointly confirmed the partnership, directors of Mukawa (Hotels) Holdings Ltd, Ms Clare Njeri Githunguri and Ms Lilian Joy Nyagaki Githunguri, said plans are underway to re-vamp the facilities and service offering of the Nairobi Safari Club by Swiss-Belhotel.
- While paying tribute to their father's legacy, the two directors said the partnership with Swiss-Belhotel has been undertaken in keeping with the late Githunguri's vision that Nairobi Safari Club be a premier hotel in Nairobi, Kenya.
- "We are pleased to announce the management partnership with Swiss-Belhotel International, one of the global hotel operators who share in our dream and passion for delivering a world-class city hotel," the duo said.



Mukawa (Hotels) Holdings Ltd Directors Ms Clare Njeri Githunguri (left) and Ms Lilian Joy Nyagaki Githunguri (right) exchange the hotel management agreements with Swiss-Belhotel International's Senior Vice President Laurent Voivenel (centre) at the signing of a deal for the management of Nairobi Safari Club by the International hospitality group...

On the eve of its 40th anniversary, the Nairobi Safari Club has signed a management partnership deal with global hotel operator Swiss-Belhotel International to manage the iconic all-suite hotel in the heart of Nairobi, Kenya.

The management partnership with Nairobi Safari Club is part of Swiss-Belhotel International's Africa portfolio expansion strategy for the Hong Kong-based global hotel management group that focuses on the unique fusion of Swiss hospitality professionalism with Asian passion for service.

Located at the 16-storey Lilian Towers, Nairobi Safari Club by Swiss-Belhotel owned by local hospitality investment firm Mukawa (Hotels) Holdings Ltd, is Nairobi's only all-suite hotel and stands out as a landmark in the Central Business District (CBD) area, thanks to its award-winning architectural design.

As part of the strategic partnership, the four-star hotel established in 1984 by the late businessman and Member of Parliament, Stanley Munga Githunguri, will be rebranded as Nairobi Safari Club by Swiss-Belhotel.

Speaking when they jointly confirmed the partnership, directors of Mukawa (Hotels) Holdings Ltd, Ms Clare Njeri Githunguri and Ms Lilian

Joy Nyagaki Githunguri, said plans are underway to revamp the facilities and service offering of the Nairobi Safari Club by Swiss-Belhotel.

While paying tribute to their father's legacy, the two directors said the partnership with Swiss-Belhotel has been undertaken in keeping with the late Githunguri's vision that Nairobi Safari Club be a premier hotel in Nairobi, Kenya.

"We are pleased to announce the management partnership with Swiss-Belhotel International, one of the global hotel operators who share in our dream and passion for delivering a world-class city hotel," the duo said.

They added, "The overall revamp and uplift of the product and services at Nairobi Safari Club by Swiss-Belhotel will be executed in line with Swiss-Belhotel International's 36-year-old expertise and its philosophy of "Passion and Professionalism™."

The partnership, including international marketing business management and talent development, comes hot on the heels of the recent naming of Nairobi as the best city destination globally in the just released Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2024.

Nairobi Safari Club by Swiss-Belhotel boasts 146 rooms, ranging from



studio and panorama rooms to executive and presidential suites. It offers extensive conferencing facilities, including a 300-guest capacity grand ballroom.

The hotel also features a unique outdoor pool, a spa (with sauna and massage therapy), a modern and fully equipped gym.

Other amenities include a well-stocked bar, two restaurants, round-the-clock room service, complimentary Wi-Fi access throughout the hotel, and secure private car parking facilities for guests.

On his part, Swiss-Belhotel International's chairman and President, Mr. Gavin M. Faull, stated, "As the tourism industry continues to grow in Africa, we are seeing an increased appetite for our world-class brands

from hotel owners in the continent. Our accelerated growth trajectory in Nairobi reflects our confidence in the Kenyan market."

Laurent A. Voivenel, Senior Vice President of Operations and Development, EMEA & India, and Senior Vice President of Group Human Resources and Talent Development at Swiss-Belhotel International, added: "This is a significant milestone for us. With an eye on the changing market dynamics, we are strategically building our portfolio to inspire more guests to experience our brands and hotels. Nairobi Safari Club's iconic status and Swiss-Belhotel International's operational excellence will undoubtedly create a unique hospitality offering in the heart of Nairobi".

AKUH Donates Three Mobile Vaccination Clinics To Boost Immunization Program

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyetimes

Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) has donated three mobile vaccination clinics, four medical fridges and six transport freezers valued at KES 64 million to the Government of Kenya to support the implementation of the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) program.

The medical equipment was received by First Lady H.E Rachael Ruto on behalf of the counties. Samburu, Marsabit and Baringo counties each received a mobile clinic, while Turkana, Mandera, Isiolo and West Pokot received the fridges and freezers.

The donation financed by the German government through a grant offered by the German Development Bank (KfW), will in the short term facilitate the completion of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

While receiving the donation at State House, H.E Mama Racheal Ruto, First Lady of the Republic of Kenya said: "These critical medical resources



First Lady Mama Racheal Ruto flagging off the Mobile Vaccination Clinics.

will bridge the healthcare gap in the seven counties. They will ensure that vaccines and medicines remain effective, especially in the challenging climates in these regions."

AKUH Chief Executive Officer Rashid Khalani who handed over the donation noted that the implementation of UHC will change the way Kenyans access healthcare services by ensuring that the care they need is availed to them timely and nearer to

where they live.

"I assure you of our commitment to support this agenda both in aligning the delivery of our services and by extending a helping hand to the public healthcare system," he said."

"The mobile clinics will significantly increase the reach and accessibility of healthcare services, bringing them closer to the doorstep of Kenyans. They will facilitate regular health screening through which we can

identify diseases early, for early intervention which improves the quality of life for Kenyans. The government will also have the capacity to extend the reach of immunization to the underserved far-flung areas."

Mr. Oskar von Maltzan, Country Director, KfW Development Bank, noted: "The clinics and medical fridges will greatly enhance operational access to remote areas. They will also contribute to completing the

COVID-19 vaccination campaign in the short term; to further the delivery of MoH's Expanded Program of Immunization (EPIs), and to strengthen routine immunization programs and response capacities to avert future outbreaks and/or pandemics."

AKUH and KfW have supported the COVID-19 national response to the pandemic across Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania through donation of equipment, and supplies as well as supported the government-sponsored Covid-19 vaccination since 2020.

About Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi

For 65 years, Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi has set the standard for comprehensive healthcare and modern medical education in East Africa. Due to its dedicated staff, advanced facilities and state-of-the-art technologies the hospital has a great reputation as a leading medical institution and teaching hospital in the region, and beyond. In achieving its mission, the hospital is guided by the following core values: Impact, Quality, Relevance and Access.

Land State Department And NLC Seeks MPs Support For Exchequer Releases Amidst Budget Cuts And Delayed Projects

By: PSCU

The National Assembly Committee of Lands held a meeting with the Principal Secretary State Department on Land and Physical Planning, Nixon Korir, and the National Land Commission (NLC) Commissioner, Kazungu Kambi, to review the Supplementary Estimates No. I.

The Ministry of Lands and the NLC are seeking support from the Committee of Lands to receive exchequer releases. Despite the allocation budgetary allocation, the National Treasury has not released funds, leading to delays in the completion of several land offices.

"Land offices in Kitui, Mbeere, Bomet, Ol Kalou, Nandi are over 90% complete. Despite the State Department's budget not being reduced in this year's Supplementary Estimates, the National Treasury has

not released funds to complete and hand over these lands offices," added PS Korir.

In a session chaired by Dr. Gideon Ochanda, Committee Members expressed concern with the delayed release in funds from the National Treasury lawmakers' calling on the National Treasury to expedite the release of budgetary allocations.

The Supplementary Estimates No. I for FY 2023/24 also proposed to reduce the recurrent expenditure for the National Land Commission by Ksh. 112.7 million. "We urge the Committee on Lands to intervene and support the reinstatement of the Kshs 112.7 million. Without these funds, NLC will be unable to function," said NLC Commissioner Kazungu Kambi.

Regarding pending bills, Legislators noted that the Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning had pending bills amounting to Ksh. 625 million, while the National Land Commission had pending bills totaling Ksh. 654 million.



Notably, Members of the Committee on Lands acknowledged that the State Department collected revenue from land rent, stamp duty, and stand premier on town plots amounting to Kshs. 3.47 Billion surpassing

previous targets.

The Committee noted that the State Department of Lands and the National Land Commission have the potential to generate significant revenue for the country if sufficiently

facilitated to fast-track the implementation of geo-mapping of land across the country and opening land offices.

The Penetration Of Modern Technology Into Education



As everyone knows, the 21st century is the age of technology. This is because new technologies have rapidly penetrated into all sphere. As well as, medicine and other extremely important fields. To take as an example, Artificial intelligence is widely used in medical procedures to define the patient's illness and improve his or her health and other processes. At the same time, modern technologies can also be found in the field of education. It's true that new electronic devices and programs are very beneficial in science. The reason why they can be used to improve students' knowledge. Indeed, technology can give a significant number of opportunities. For instance, improving digital literacy, gaining a global perspectives, flexibility in the way people study and such kind of chances. In general, the use of technology in education results in better collaboration among students and teachers. It allows students from different locations to collaborate on the same project.

Similarly, it allows the teachers to interact with them and support the students. It was the introduction of technology into education that made it possible for people with limited access, including those with health or financial problems, to study. But just as there is a bad side to everything, it is appropriate to see the negative side of technology. Prolonged use of electrical devices can be impact to people's health and may be dangerous to human life. In addition in the field of education, students can come up with various tricks through technology to get high score or pass the exam successfully. This can contribute to decrease of knowledge. So this list could go on and on, but the bottom line is that technology is very useful in education and other sphere when we can use it properly.

Zarnigor Narimonova was born in 2007 in Beruniy district, in an intellectual family. From 2014 to 2021, she studied at the 61st secondary school, and since this year she has been studying at the Beruniy district specialized school. As achievements, it can be said that she currently has a Cefr certificate, is an official volunteer of the "Oltin qanot" organisation, a winner of the Essay competition and the SAT course. She has been teaching English and mathematics to younger students

Love Is Irrelevant



I dream about you again.
It's a dream that's impossible to achieve
If love is looking towards you.
Like fallen leaves,
Being helpless is worse than death!
Sagdullaeva Durdona Bahadir
2022 Teacher of mother tongue and literature at the 35th general secondary school of Kattakorgan district, Samarkand region
2023 "Collection of Writers" poems I wrote were accepted. I was awarded the best creative work and the Laurent statuette. In 2023, I took part in the "Scientific-practical research competition" organized by the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and was awarded the "Best Scientific Work" and "The title of Devotee of my Profession" with my scientific article.
2023 "The human mind is fickle" My scientific article was published in the British magazine "Just-fiction Education".
Sagdullaeva is the daughter of Durdona Bahadir
They know our secret,
Endless sky, stormy sea.
The birds that flew to the sky,
The surrounding grass and roots.
That night, I remember - I remember me
Long conversations.
Blue eyes that seduced me
I will never forget those people.
I'm thinking again, I'm thinking again,
Because these thoughts do not give me peace.
I say forget it, I can't forget it
As if I was fascinated by that place.
I slowly turned back, looked again,
I took a look at the past.
Deep in the darkness of the night,

Importance Of Smile

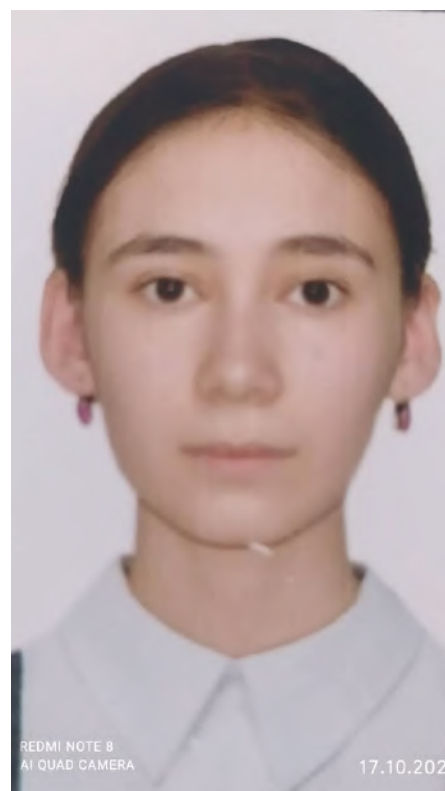


By: Mahfuza - UrSU
A smile is a gift that changes a person's life fundamentally, turns malicious people away, warms hearts, is pleasant, humble and the cheapest. A smile is a factor that solves all kinds of situations and difficult problems in life. With it, you can make someone's heart happy, and you can cause someone's sparks of hope for life to catch fire. As soon as you approach the angry person with an open face and a soft smile, he will turn away from all his bad thoughts and change his mind. This small thing has a big impact on many people.
Your appearance, your situation and your mood are very important to every face, familiar or unfamiliar. With your smile, you

can give anyone an extraordinary energy that will bring positive results throughout the day. You are the cause of how your mood affects those around you and how they behave throughout the day or how they treat you.
The functioning of the human immune system is also dependent on mood. Depending on the mood, a person takes in the daily nutrients they need, and this affects the brain system as well. Refreshes during physical and mental activity. It produces sudden life hormones and helps to prolong life.
Our Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, was always smiling. Abdullah bin Hariy said: "I have never met a person who smiled like our Prophet Muhammad. He used to give his smile to his brother as charity". smile clearly shows that you are friendly, how close and reliable you can be for people. A smile is a free gift, but the best. It is not possible for everyone to share this with people.

Madaminova Mahfuza - UrSU is a 1st year student of the Faculty of Philology

The Secret Of Success



Always ways the secret of success. I am you are to offer.
I am think "Money - to solve everything"
But, I am to understand money do not solve everything. When I was child, I want to be a doctor, but I not doctor at present.
And I am not to regret. You are always to smile. Makes life beautiful to smile.
The secret of success =
Incorruptibility, study, smile,
Incorruptibility - this very vital.
Student of Samarkand State Medical University first course Atajanova Ogultuvak

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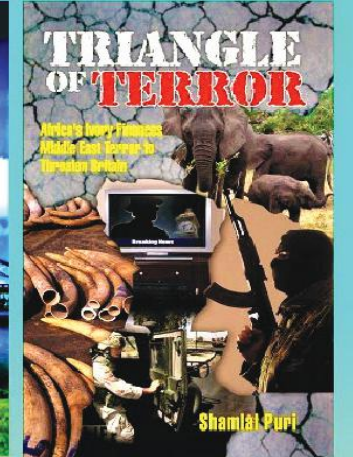
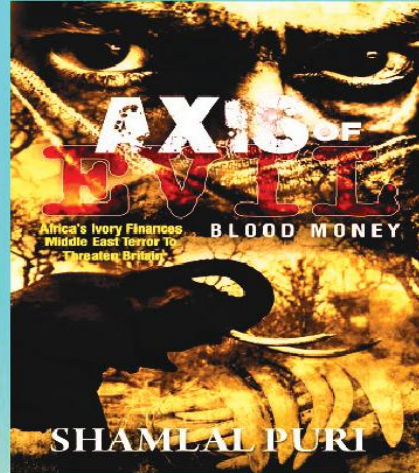
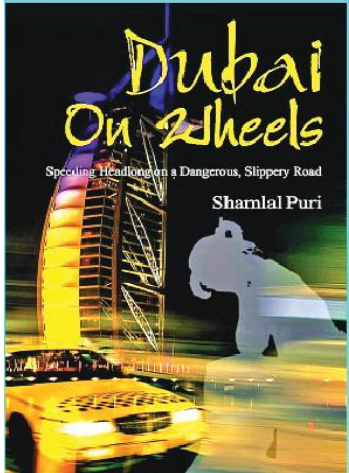
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BUSINESS

Bank Of Africa's Angaza Kifafa Initiative Scoops Global Award

By: Business Reporter
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- In 2021, he won the Goldenlight Award by the International Bureau for Epilepsy-IBE for his long term contribution in raising awareness about epilepsy through innovative sports expeditions. For instance, in 2018, he walked from Nairobi to Mombasa to raise awareness. In 2020, he cycled from Nairobi to Arusha Tanzania, rested for 2 days then I climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro for 7 days.
- Bank of Africa Kenya has been supporting epilepsy awareness in Kenya through the Angaza Kifafa Caravan initiative in partnership with The National Epilepsy Committee Council (NECC).
- The aim of the caravan is to create awareness on epilepsy with the message that the disorder is manageable. So far, it has managed to reach over 10 million people in 18 counties in the past eight years.

A Kenyan will lead the world to mark Epilepsy Awareness in November after scooping the Global Epilepsy Ambassador Award in Dublin, Ireland. Fredrick Beuchi Mboya an advocate of Epilepsy awareness through the Angaza Kifafa campaign supported by Bank of Africa Kenya trounced his global peers to become the 68th recipient of the biannual award.

This year's International Epilepsy Congress attracted over 3,000 healthcare and scientific professionals from across the global epilepsy community. The Ambassador for Epilepsy Award is intended as a recognition of outstanding international contributions to activities advancing the cause of epilepsy, either internationally or with international impact.

The award opens up opportunities to network and mobilize support from key players in the epilepsy awareness sector to end stigma and support people living with the neurological disorder. This is not the first time he is being recognised for his over decade

long commitment to create awareness for the disorder that now affects at least 70 million globally and 1.2 million in Kenya.

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The aim of the caravan is to create awareness on epilepsy with the message that the disorder is manageable. So far, it has managed to reach over 10 million people in 18 counties in the past eight years.

The bank's data shows the awareness has since reached slightly over 10 million people across 18 counties since 2015. Furthermore, at least 5000 patients have been referred to health facilities for proper treatment and over 6000 medics and community health volunteers trained through Angaza Kifafa caravan.

Epilepsy is a neurological condition, which is characterized by acute seizures, including adverse seizures which cause involuntary movements, shaking, confusion and anxiety. The high burden of epilepsy is attributed to the high case load associated with the increased prevalence of risk factors. Such as preventable brain injuries and to poor access to health-care services due to multiple barriers, including financial cost.

A person is diagnosed with epilepsy when they have had two or more seizures in their lifetime. 4 to 10 out of 1,000 people on earth live with active seizures at any one time. Globally, it is estimated that 1 in 100 people

have epilepsy. In Kenya, an estimated 1.2 million people live with epilepsy and only 30 per cent seek treatment. Despite epilepsy being estimated to affect around two per cent of Kenya's 45 million population, there are misconceptions about the conditions that makes it difficult to manage.

The Bank of Africa Kenya has conducted a number of activities since 2015, aiming to lower the number of people affected by the disorder to a single percentage from the current two per cent. Apart from roadshow caravans, medical seminars and use of community health promoters, the lender has funded a myth debunking documentary dubbed 'Dare to be'. It gives a highlight of patients the lender has supported since 2015 through the Angaza Kifafa initiative since 2015. Internally, the BOA Kenya regularly conducts staff training with an aim to debunk the myths.

Blue Economy, Water And Irrigation Committee Engages MDAs's Under Its Purview On The Supplementary Budget

By: PSCU

The National Assembly Committee on Blue Economy, Water and Irrigation led by David Bowen (Marakwet East) met with two of the three State Departments under its purview to consider the Supplementary Budget Estimates 1 FY 2023/24.

The Committee met the Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Mr. Zachary Njeru, Principal Secretary for Irrigation, Mr. Ephantus Kimotho and Principal Secretary for Blue Economy and Fisheries Ms. Betsy Njagi.

They acknowledged the changes in the Supplementary Estimates, including a suggested decrease in allocation for the State Department for Irrigation by 100 million and the State Department for Blue Economy and Fisheries by 647 million. These adjustments were attributed to the President's directive to implement austerity measures.



Lamu West MP Stanley Muthama.

However, Committee members expressed concern about the unprecedented revision of the Appropriations-in-Aid (AIA) figures, occurring within the first four months of the financial year. The substantial increase from 600 million to 1.6 billion raised questions regarding the accuracy of Ministries' initial AIA submissions.

Members sought comprehensive project information, specific timelines, and a clear understanding of the objectives underpinning these projects. They emphasized the significance of smallholder irrigation in enhancing food security and highlighted the potential of semi-arid regions to become vital food production areas in the nation.

Additionally, they requested the procurement of drilling equipment to facilitate the creation of boreholes in the region, ultimately improving the residents' quality of life.

The Committee also communicated that they had initiated an investigation into the Soin-Koru dam project. This decision was prompted by disparities between the documented project details and the observed conditions on-site during a fact-finding mission conducted the previous week.

Hon. Bowen urged the State Department to carry out CSR activities to help the residents living near the projects.

"The Kenya Seed Company has

been instrumental in empowering local farmers, resulting in remarkable agricultural yields. It is imperative to consider further supporting these farmers by providing them with essential equipment to enhance farming practices in the region," said Bowen.

"During our visit to the Pekerra Irrigation Scheme, we observed that the residents were utilizing contaminated water sources. There is an urgent need to ensure they have access to clean and safe water. It is recommended to expedite the drilling of a borehole to address this critical issue," he said.

PS Kimotho assured the Committee that everything deliberated will be considered and measures taken.

PS Njagi emphasized to the committee the imperative need for funding the state department. She highlighted that the Blue Economy possesses the capacity to not only transform our economy but also bring about a significant positive change in the livelihoods of the coastal communities.

Committee On Housing, Urban Planning And Public Works Engages MDAs On Supplementary Estimates 1 For 2023/2024

By: PSCU

Members of the National Assembly Committee on Housing chaired by Hon. Johana Ng'eno (Emurua Dikirr) engaged Mr. Charles Hinga, PS State Department for Housing and Urban Development, and Mr. Joel Arumonyang, PS State department for public works on the proposed Supplementary Estimates No.1 FY 2023/24.

PS Hinga, told the committee that the National Housing Corporation possesses a substantial amount of available land and the necessary financial backing to undertake construction projects across the country, marking a significant stride towards addressing Kenya's housing deficit.

He further informed the committee that over 16 billion Kenyan shillings have been collected by Kenya Revenue Authority through the Affordable Housing Levy. This fund is pivotal in supporting the govern-



Bahati MP Irene Njoki.

ment's agenda on affordable housing projects and ensuring successful execution.

In the submissions made before the committee by the PS State department for public works, Mr. Joel Arumonyang, he lamented that the budget cuts imposed on most of the

areas will have adverse negative impacts on delivery of key projects.

"The Supplementary 1 estimates will the implementation of government Building projects, Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) projects, coastline infrastructure Development including

pedestrian access and development of construction industry," He added.

Key areas that will suffer from the sharp knife of the budget cuts include: Government Building projects, Supervision of Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) projects, Coastline Infra-

structure Development and pedestrian Access, General Administration, Planning and support services, Regulation and Development of construction Industry.

The committee raised concern on the efficiency for National Construction Authority (NCA) to carry out thorough inspection on building standards in the wake of collapsing buildings across the country. The concern was raised out of a budget reduction on Regulation and Development of Construction Industry from the earlier allocation of Ksh 25 Million to Ksh 15 Million. According to NCA this will reduce the number of structures inspected and audited from projected number of 2,500 to 1500.

In his remarks, Committee Chair Hon. Ngeno underscored the importance of ensuring completion of stalled housing projects across the country and also pledged to support the undertakings of the ministry in delivery of affordable houses.

Government Urged To Change Its Strategy In The War Against Terror

By: Jacob Songok
 @themkenyatimes



North Eastern Regional Commissioner John Otieno addressing the Media in Garissa town yesterday. On the right is National Counter Terrorism Centre, head of Prevention and Resilience Njenga Miiiri..

Worth Noting:

- The Regional Commissioner said the government cannot afford to lag behind the terror group in terms of intelligence gathering which he noted would be 'catastrophic'.
- "The Al-Shabaab has changed their strategy of engagement. These attacks are intelligence-led attacks aimed at our security personnel, government workers, teachers, and even civilians," Otieno said.
- "And for such attacks to happen you must have credible information. And the information normally comes from the people who may include our security personnel and the civilians who provide information on the movement of our officers" he added.
- He thanked area residents for their continued support of providing credible information that has helped security agents deter terror attacks. He further urged them to continue with the same spirit.

There is a need for the government security agencies to change their strategy on the war against terror, North Eastern regional commissioner John Otieno has said.

Otieno said that the terrorist groupings have taken advantage of a dynamic world, and emerging technology to change their tact and are now involved in targeted attacks that are intelligence-led.

The Regional Commissioner was addressing the press at a Garissa hotel yesterday after opening a two-day workshop organized by the National Counter Terrorism Centre to review the national strategy for countering violent extremism. The document was developed in 2016.

The administrator noted that the document has 'served the country well and there is a need to enrich it further so that it serves us now and in the future'.

The North Eastern region and Lamu County have borne the biggest brunt of terror attacks perpetrated by the Somali-based terror group.

Several security officers, police reservists, and civilians have lost their lives.

Mobile telephone communication masts have not been spared in the attacks.

The Regional Commissioner said the government cannot afford to lag behind the terror group in terms of intelligence gathering which he noted would be 'catastrophic'.

"The Al-Shabaab has changed their strategy of engagement. These at-

tacks are intelligence-led attacks aimed at our security personnel, government workers, teachers, and even civilians," Otieno said.

"And for such attacks to happen you must have credible information. And the information normally comes from the people who may include our security personnel and the civilians who provide information on the movement of our officers" he added.

He thanked area residents for their continued support of providing credible information that has helped security agents deter terror attacks. He further urged them to continue with the same spirit.

Otieno was, however, quick to urge a few who might be working with Al-Shabaab to 'change and work with the government because this is our country we have everything to lose for lack of security'.

He said that the war on terror is both a soft and hard approach. The hard approach is the security approach while the soft approach is bringing on board the religious leaders, the political leaders, the youth and the civil society, and all other relevant groups so that we can be able to preach the message of de-radicalization to the youth.

"We have to look at the factors and drivers of radicalization so that we can be able to address them," he said.

"The government is committed to ensuring that there is peace and security in the region and any other part of this country. This can only be done if we work together with all actors



Armed Al Shabaab fighters on pick-up trucks prepare to travel into the city, just outside Mogadishu, Somalia.

including the political wing, county governments, religious leaders, civil society, and the media," he noted.

On his part, the head of prevention and resilience at NCTC Njega Miiiri said that the media plays a critical role in countering violent extremism by propagating the messages that preach unity and security to the citizenry.

Miiiri said that NCTC is looking for collaboration from the communities, leadership, and the media in countering violent extremism among the youth in the region and the country at large.

"We implore upon the media to reach out to the people with the correct messages and information. The enemy will always try to propagate a lot of information and disinformation

and half-truths," Miiiri said.

"On our part, we need to collaborate and partner so that our communities out there can get the correct information," he added.

The region has experienced a spate of attacks orchestrated by the Somali-based Al-Shabaab terror group.

The meeting that brought together county security teams from Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Tana River and Kitui, and Garissa counties, youth, women, religious leaders, civil society, and county governments is supported by The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) in partnership with The National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) and Act Change Transform.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Solution To End Thousands Graduates Who Are Jobless

Dear Editor,

As we celebrate another year of graduations, it is important to acknowledge the harsh reality that thousands of young people are left without jobs. According to recent statistics, only a quarter of the yearly graduates are able to find employment, leaving a staggering three quarters to face the daunting challenge of unemployment. This cycle has persisted for far too long, and it is time for us to take action to address this issue.

There are several solutions that can help to clear the backlog of jobless graduates. Firstly, we must prioritize vocational training and skills development programs. These programs can provide young people with the

practical skills and knowledge that are in demand by employers, making them more employable. Additionally, we must encourage entrepreneurship and self-employment. By providing resources and support for young people to start their own businesses, we can create opportunities for them to become job creators rather than simply job seekers.

Another solution is to address the issue of mismatch between the skills taught in universities and the skills demanded by the job market. Universities and employers must work together to identify the skills that are in demand and adjust their curricula accordingly. This will ensure that graduates are equipped with the skills that are needed to succeed in the job market.

Lastly, we must work towards creating a more favorable business environment. This can be achieved by reducing bureaucratic red tape, streamlining regulations, and investing in infrastructure. By doing so, we can create an environment that is conducive to business growth and job creation.

It is important to note that these solutions will not provide instant results, and it will take time to clear the backlog of jobless graduates. However, with a concerted effort from all stakeholders, we can make progress towards reducing unemployment and creating a more prosperous future for our young people.

In conclusion, the solutions to the

issue of jobless graduates are multifaceted and require a collaborative effort from all stakeholders. By prioritizing vocational training, encouraging entrepreneurship, addressing the skills mismatch, and creating a favorable business environment, we can work towards clearing the backlog of jobless graduates and creating a more prosperous future for all.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Nyakoboke

You can write letter to the Editor on any subject through:

news@mountkenyatimes.co.ke

Email Us:

news@mountkenyatimes.co.ke

State To Sort Out Pending Bills - President Ruto

By: PCS

Genuine public sector pending bills will be the first items to be charged in the Government budget.

President William Ruto said it is time the Government sorted out the sticky issue in a just and fair manner. He explained that it is not the business of the Government to drive enterprises to ruin but to facilitate their performance.

“We must restore confidence in the people who do business with the Government by paying them in time,” he said.

The President noted that the move will stimulate economic revival by pumping back the much-needed capital in production.

He was speaking on Tuesday at State House in Nairobi when he pre-

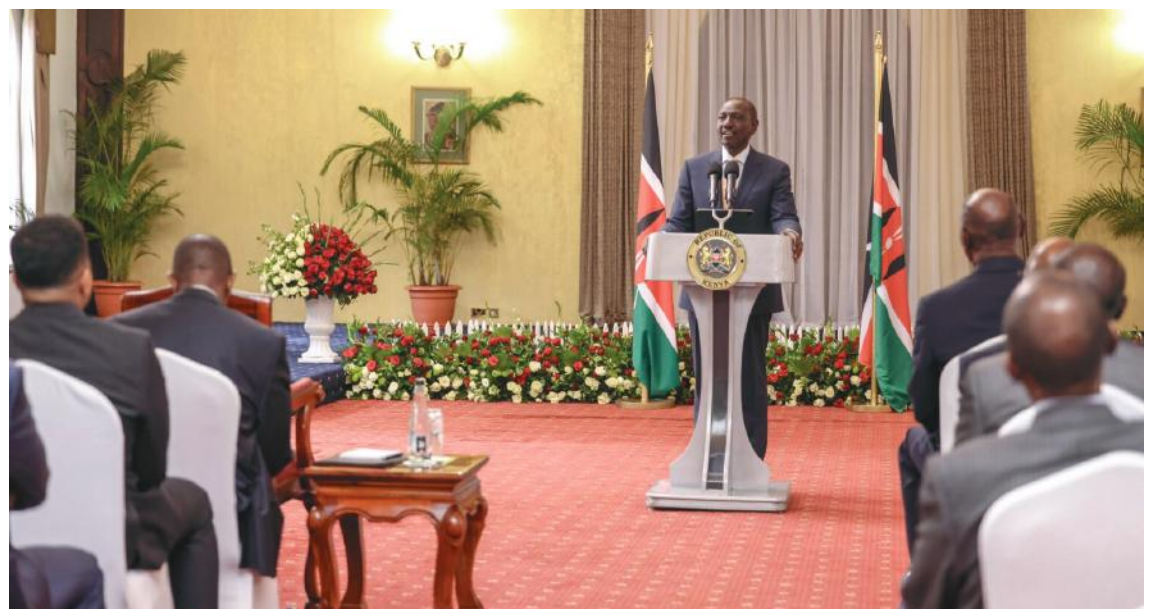
sided over the inauguration of the Pending Bills Verification Committee.

It will be chaired by the Former Auditor-General Edward Ouko.

Present were Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, Cabinet Secretary Njuguna Ndung’u, Attorney General Justin Muturi, Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, Permanent Secretaries, among others.

According to President Ruto, the Government owes its suppliers, mostly small and medium-sized enterprises, more than Ksh 600 Billion.

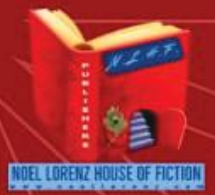
“When we pay in time, we will bring discipline in our country’s fiscal management.”



The Head of State at State House, Nairobi, during the inauguration of the Pending Bills Verification Committee.

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Scammers Target Zikomo Africa Awards

By: Paula .O.M Otukile
 @themkenyaintimes

The upcoming Africa event of the year is approaching namely Zikomo Africa awards. Owner of the award initiative successfully completed the task above par last year and managed to unite Africa through arts and entertainment at Zambia, Lusaka.

This year the awards are bigger and better, bringing the A listers I. The music industry, books, fashion, beauty and therapy as well as well as humanitarians.

The arts and culture development fraternity cannot withhold their breath as they are busy voting the nominees and promoting the event.

With such huge preparations of this event ongoing there are numerous platforms that are used to unite the nominees and the organizers such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and Twitter which renders the groups created to be easily hacked or harbor criminals too who come as clouds of

supporting structures and representatives of awards.

The Zikomo awards project fraternity has embarked on freelance translators of Spanish, Portuguese, Swahili, French in order to reduce and break the communication barriers.

No amount of money is supposed to be paid to anyone for anything because the awards entry is free. Posters and fliers are done freely.

Endorsed ambassadors are only posted by the awards management meaning no hidden ambassadors or representatives exist!

Zikomo Africa awards wishes to caution particularly the nominees to be vigilant and are encouraged to continue to support and work on voting without being disturbed by scammers as these awards are not asking for any form of payment at all.

Zikomo Africa awards look forward to seeing each and everyone together enjoying at the Grande finale on 18th November 2023 in Lusaka, Zambia.



Child Education In Dewey's Pedagogical Ideas

By: Our Reporter
 @themkenyaintimes

Abstract: Dewey's pedagogic concept refers to students' active rather than passive acquisition of education.

Key words: John Dewey, knowledge, learning, motivation, innovation.

The famous scientist Dewey, who formed the main principles of education that determined the direction of many pedagogical innovations of the 20th century, said that learning and acquiring knowledge should be done on an active basis, not passively. "A child is not a vessel to be filled, but a lamp to be lit." Dewey considered the principle of democratic participation as a means of introducing a person, whether a child or a teacher, to self-government in a just and prosperous society. There is no doubt that he is critical of group processes that are devoid of pedagogical guidance, involve participation for the sake of participation, and do not pursue any rational goal. Motivation is a very important factor in education. he clearly indicated

that the teacher is responsible for pedagogical guidance, and that in order to encourage them, "everyone does what he wants" situations should not be allowed. Dewey understands teaching as the organization of children's activities related to solving practical problems from everyday life. The basic principles of this theory were considered to be: "There is no need for pre-structured training courses", "Teaching materials should be taken from the child's experience", "The child should determine the quantity as well as the quality of teaching", "Using performance teaching is the main method in school". Thus, Dewey rejects the need for clearly defined content of education and specific subjects in school, does not recognize scientific education, and considers education to be narrow and based on student interests. His work: "School and Society". • The concept of "Pedagogy of actions" is in many respects Dj. It is a consequence of Dewey's philosophical (pragmatism) and psychological views. Its author, one of the reformers, the German pedagogue Wilhelm August Lay (1862-1926), shows the following three stages in the process of learning: perception,

re-development, expression. Methods of formalization of knowledge: practical and creative work, experience, illustration, treasure, game, singing, sports, dancing.

Dewey argued that children do not need systematic knowledge, because it weakens their attention and promotes individual themes taken from life, which children tend to reproduce in an imaginary form. According to Dewey, they begin by describing what they see in activities, games, drawings, etc. home life, then discover its connections with the environment. These ideas of theirs develop gradually in separate parts of the topic that appear at different times. "Reproducing the same way of life ... the child works on something, giving its various stages clearly and clearly, connecting them with each other in a logical order." In this way, a "sense of solidity" is cultivated in him.

Dewey's pragmatic pedagogy became official in the United States and became the basis for the activities of schools. Its practical consequences turned out to be very negative. It turned out that students studying in US schools were significantly behind their peers from European



Rakhimbayeva Madina .

countries in terms of their knowledge, as a result of which American educators and public representatives strongly criticized this system.

Rakhimbayeva Madina was born on February 4, 2001 in the village of Bogholon, Yangibozor district, Khorezm region. Currently, she is a

2nd-year student of the Pedagogical Department of the Urganch State Pedagogical Institute. Many of her creative works have been published in international conferences, magazines and anthologies. She is diligent and inquisitive.

SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *Kenya's 10,000m world silver medalist Daniel Simiu Ebenyo has made the final shortlist for the International Fair Play Award at this year's World Athletics Awards set to be staged in December.

Kenya's Daniel Simiu Makes Final Shortlist For World Athletics Award



Daniel Simiu celebrating after clinching silver at the 2023 World Championships in Budapest, Hungary. Photo/ERICK BARASA.

Kenya's 10,000m world silver medalist Daniel Simiu Ebenyo has made the final shortlist for the International Fair Play Award at this year's World Athletics Awards set to be staged in December.

Simiu was nominated for his brilliant act in saluting compatriot Sebastian Sawa as he overtook him to win gold at last month's World Road Running Championships in Riga.

With gas and strength running off his feet, Simiu smiled as the stronger Sawa surged past him to go on and win gold in the men's half marathon, and to appreciate his effort, swished in a salute to his teammate as he managed to stay close for silver.

He will contest for the award with Ethiopia's Letesenbet Gidey and Britain's Jessica Warner-Judd who also displayed sportsman-like behavior at the

World Championships in Oregon.

After securing silver in the women's 10,000m at the World Athletics Championships Budapest 23, Gidey went back to comfort Netherlands' Sifan Hassan after Hassan's dramatic fall on the home straight.

For Warner-Judd, she finished eighth in the 10,000m final at the World Athletics Championships Budapest, and was the only ath-

lete to wait and shake hands with the final placed runner who completed the event some distance behind the rest of the field.

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Mauricio Pochettino made a winning return to Tottenham with Chelsea as his former club were reduced to nine men on a night of chaos and controversy.

Chelsea Beat Nine-Man Tottenham In Chaotic Epic



Chelsea players celebrate their win over Spurs. PHOTO/Chelsea/Twitter..

Mauricio Pochettino made a winning return to Tottenham with Chelsea as his former club were reduced to nine men on a night of chaos and controversy.

The Argentine's comeback was reduced to a minor sub-plot by an epic game which brought five goals, a further five which were disallowed, two red cards, and a slew of VAR decisions in one of the Premier League's most frenetic ever encounters.

Spurs started brilliantly and deservedly went ahead when Dejan Kulusevski's sixth minute shot deflected in off Chelsea defender Levi Colwill, before Son Heung-min had an effort narrowly ruled out for offside as the home side looked to capitalise on their early dominance.

In a fevered atmosphere Chelsea had two goals of their own disallowed, one each from Raheem Sterling and Moises Caicedo ruled out for handball and offside respectively.

The latter situation still led to a Chelsea goal as a penalty was awarded for a crude challenge by Romero on compatriot Enzo Fernandez, and the Spurs defender was deservedly sent off in the aftermath.

Palmer nets penalty

Chelsea's summer signing Cole Palmer scored the resulting spot-

kick to level the match before Spurs were also handicapped by what looked like a serious hamstring injury for key defender Micky van de Ven and an ankle problem for James Maddison as both players were substituted before the interval.

Spurs were battling an even greater disadvantage when Destiny Udogie was sent off ten minutes after the break for an inexplicably reckless tackle on Sterling which brought a second yellow card from referee Michael Oliver.

Ange Postecoglou, who also received a yellow card on the Spurs bench amid the mayhem, gambled on keeping a high line even with nine men but Chelsea finally broke their resistance with 15 minutes left, Raheem Sterling breaking clear to set up Nicolas Jackson for a simple finish.

The game was far from finished, though, and Spurs came close to securing a stunning draw as Eric Dier had a superb finish ruled out for a narrow offside and Rodrigo Bentancur headed just wide after beating Chelsea's defensive line at a late free-kick.

Jackson then scored twice more in stoppage time to secure a late hat-trick and render the scoreline far more comfortable than the evening had been for the visitors.

Spurs fans were in buoyant mood before the game as they pondered the possibility of returning to the

top of the Premier League, only to see their hopes extinguished in a spectacular, incident-packed game.

Spurs pay price for indiscipline

It all started so well with Kulusevski's goal but Spurs paid a heavy price for the reckless indiscipline of Romero, who was fortunate not to see red earlier than he did for kicking out at Colwill, but there was no escape when he followed through needlessly on Fernandez.

Udogie was also lucky not to be sent off before his eventual dismissal for a wild challenge on Sterling, and the Italy international left the over-worked Oliver with no option when he dived in on the same player early in the second half.

Postecoglou gambled on continuing with the high line and goalkeeper Guglielmo Vicario hero acting as an emergency sweeper on several occasions, but just as Chelsea started to look frustrated, Spurs were broken and Jackson cashed in with his hat-trick.

Aside from the short-term pain of this defeat, Spurs now face long-term consequences from the chaos, not just with suspensions for Romero and Udogie but those injuries to Van de Ven and Maddison.

Spurs supporters gave their play-

ers a rousing reception for their efforts at the final whistle but this was a painful night which could be very costly in the long run.

Chelsea took their time to break down nine-man Spurs but eventually unlocked the defence, with Senegalese striker Nicolas Jackson the beneficiary.

Udogie also sent off for Spurs

Pochettino's men were already edging their way into the game even before Romero demonstrated his irresponsibility, but once he and Udogie were off Chelsea knew anything other than victory would have been unthinkable.

The home side made it to within 15 minutes of pulling off a remarkable draw before Sterling and Jackson finally cracked the code and this could be a landmark night for the 22-year-old striker, who has looked very much a work in progress since his summer move to Stamford Bridge.

He finish off three chances comfortably and marched off with the match ball, beaming in front of Chelsea's elated fans.

Pochettino will know this was not a victory earned in normal circumstances, but he will also aim to use it as a springboard after a middling start to the campaign.

-By BBC Sports

SPORTS NEWS



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She Is Now An International Recognized Speaker - Dr Paula O.M.Otukile

By: Our Reporter
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Nomawele Njongo barely forty years yet, invited, brand South Africa, US embassy in South Africa representative, Palesa from the kingdom of Lesotho who made an amazing poetry performance.
- Nomawele Njongo is an author of numerous books and an activist in her own right after suffering injustice in the past in her teens during her early working days.
- She rose beyond the trauma and abuse and managed to build a publishing house and now a movement or organization that strengthens literacy and empowers teens.
- Jessica Amaro is an American author and a wife, and owner of publishing company in America too.

On the 27th of October various literature fraternity went to South Africa where they gathered after a week of events ranging from book donations, interactive serving and working directly with students by the group of American literacy enthusiasts namely Amaro Literacy Mission in South Africa, this was a collaboration with Kwazithina Publishers founded by Nomawele Njongo, who collaborated with Jessica Amaro to form such a lucrative literacy project.

Approximately 15 or more Americans joined hands to come to cultivating the reading culture in Africa, specifically Diepkloof in Soweto, but a Gala event that included Botswana, Zimbabwe, Lesotho literature fraternity was held, on a Friday At Radisson blue hotel conference center where honor and support was given on form of speeches and poetry.

Dr Paula Otukile our residence editor and writer from Botswana was one of the honored speakers at the event.

The legendary poet and musician Dr Geina Mhlophe was the host and serenaded the crowd with ease.

Nomawele Njongo barely forty years yet, invited, brand South Africa, US embassy in South Africa representative, Palesa from the kingdom of Lesotho who made an amazing poetry performance.

Nomawele Njongo is an author of numerous books and an activist in her own right after suffering injustice in the past in her teens during her early working days.

She rose beyond the trauma and abuse and managed to build a publishing house and now a movement or organization that strengthens literacy and empowers teens.

Jessica Amaro is an American author and a wife, and owner of publishing company in America too.

The national anthem and entertainment was on the helm or shoulders of amazing opera queen Jamakazi Bazana. Bazana consequently says she aims to heal people through her music that soothes mind and heart.

On her future projects, Bazana is working on translating the “five basic human rights children’s book of Dr Otukile into an opera melodical message. The duo plans to collaborate in an upcoming Gbv project in Dukwi, Botswana.

Jessica Amaro did not come alone as mentioned before a group of outstanding youth and literacy activists accompanying her and working with her made the dream a reality indeed, and plan to do the event more often.



Jamakazi Bazana- Singer and entertainer



Mount Kenya times senior Editor, -Dr Paula O.M.Otukile at the event, Johannesburg, Rsa



Organizer and co- founder of event-Nomawele Njongo, Rsa author and publisher



Jessica Amaro- author, publisher from America, co-founder of event..