



**Controller Of Budget In Court Over Fraud**  
 Controller of Budget, Dr. Margaret Nyangate Nyakang'o was yesterday charged with; defrauding Claudia Mutungi of Ksh 29 million; operating FEB Sacco Society Limited without a valid licence; and forgery. She pleaded not guilty to the 3 counts before Mombasa Chief Magistrate Alex Ithuku. Page 18

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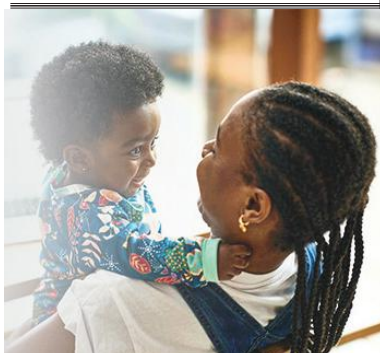
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**News>> Tea Factories In Murang'a Ready To Sign Management Agreement With KTDA**

P. 8. All 10 tea factories in Murang'a County are now ready to sign management agreements with the Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA).



**Motivation>> Do Growth Matters To A Child?**

P. 12. Manifestations of physical growth and development range from those at the molecular level such as the activation of enzymes in the course of differentiation the complex interplay of metabolic and physical changes associated with puberty and adolescence.

# Ruto: Enhanced Kenya-India Ties Will Boost Govt's Transformation Plan

⚡ Kenya and India have signed five memoranda of understanding to enhance bilateral relations. President William Ruto said forging stronger ties with India will be instrumental in advancing Kenya's Bottom-Up Empowerment Transformation Agenda.



President William Ruto with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in India for a two-day State Visit

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# FOLU Advocates For 2030 Action Plan As They Celebrate World Soil Day

By: Wendy Keziah  
@themtkenyatimes

### Worth Noting:

- This strategic plan prioritises key issues such as sustainable land use, productive and regenerative agriculture, healthy diets, reducing food loss and waste, protecting and restoring nature and whole system transition through gender, youth and social inclusion.
- Kenya's agriculture sector, integral to its economy and food security, currently realizes only 25% of its potential yields. This underperformance is largely attributed to the rapid depletion of critical micro and macro nutrients in the soil, such as phosphorus, essential for optimal plant growth and yields.



Principal Secretary State Department of Crop Development and Research Dr. Paul Ronoh (Right) and AGRA East and Southern Africa Regional Manager Prof. Jean Jacques Muhinda

Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU) Kenya and other partners of the Coalition, hosted the World Soil Day Conference themed “Enhancing Soil Health for Sustainable Food Systems”.

The conference brought together more than 100 stakeholders to discuss the vital role soil health and management play in pursuing food production that meets the nutritional needs of Kenya’s growing population.

Also, during the conference, The Kenya Food Systems and Land Use Action plan 2024-2030 that makes recommendations on building a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient food system for Kenya was

launched.

This strategic plan prioritises key issues such as sustainable land use, productive and regenerative agriculture, healthy diets, reducing food loss and waste, protecting and restoring nature and whole system transition through gender, youth and social inclusion.

Kenya’s agriculture sector, integral to its economy and food security, currently realizes only 25% of its potential yields. This underperformance is largely attributed to the rapid depletion of critical micro and macro nutrients in the soil, such as phosphorus, essential for optimal plant growth and yields.

With approximately 63% of Kenya’s arable land suffering from soil acidity, only between 1% and 8% of farmers adopt the appropriate use of lime for managing this acidity. This coupled with the compounding impact of climate change, including prolonged droughts and persistent rains leading to catastrophic floods, highlight the pressing need for urgent action to address soil health in Kenya’s food system.

Speaking during the launch, Chief Guest Principal Secretary State Department of Crop Development and Research Dr. Paul Ronoh emphasized the government’s commitment to addressing soil health to further transform Kenya’s Food

Systems.

“I am greatly honoured to join you in this year’s World Soil Day celebrations. The 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly declare the year 2015 as the international years of soil and since then, every 5th of December is celebrated as the World’s Soil Day,” said Dr. Ronoh

“The nexus between soil health and land use is strongly correlated. Improve soil health through appropriate land use practices is vital for intensification of agriculture production, thus enhancing food security and protecting the environment,” he added.

Through collaborative efforts with multiple stakeholders, this strategic plan aspires to establish for Kenya a food system that nourishes its people, protects the planet, and drives the economy.

Speaking during the same forum, AGRA Vice President for Program Deliver Prof. Hamadi Boga noted,

“We are pleased to launch the Food Systems and Land Use action plan 2024 – 2030 on this World Soil Day. Building on the momentum generated by a national consultative process, these evidence-based recommendations are a step in furthering the conversation of Kenya’s food system transformation, of which soil remains a critical element,” said Prof. Boga.

Echoing his remarks, Program Lead of FOLU Kenya Mr. Jeremiah Rogito said the action plan will focus on five key areas; healthy diets; productive and regenerative agriculture; protecting and restoring nature; food loss and waste; and youth and social inclusion.

In line with the UN Food Systems Summit recommendations and the Kenyan government’s Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Plan, the conference sought to promote soil health, biodiversity conservation, climate change, youth entrepreneurship in the food and land use systems, sustainable consumption and healthy diets in Kenya.

Editor's Desk

**The Mt Kenya Times** is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by **Exponential International Limited**, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

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# NEWS IN BRIEF



The Kirinyaga County Health Facilities Improvement Fund Bill 2023 has been passed by the county Assembly, providing a framework for health facilities to access funding for their operations. The bill also aims to establish mechanisms for managing resources within their control and establishes a board to oversee the fund's utilization. The bill is expected to transform the health sector, directing funds towards improving healthcare services and infrastructure. The bill was unanimously supported and is now in second reading.



Kenyan university graduates are pursuing technical colleges to acquire skills and secure jobs amid rising unemployment rates. Over 20 of 200 graduates at a Plant Operating college in Kithimani, Yatta Sub County, are university graduates. Graduates are calling on President Ruto for bilateral labor deals.



The 2022 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey shows a rise in Nyamira County residents seeking professional reproductive health services and using Insecticide-Treated Nets. However, the survey also highlights the need for better nutrition for children and calls for improved access to basic services, teenage pregnancy rates, and sexual violence.



Kwale Governor Fatuma Achani is enhancing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to combat youth unemployment in the coastal county. Since 2013, the number of TVETs has increased from 12 to 43 across 20 administrative wards.



Machakos County Government has launched a Sh45 million revolving fund for PWDs and women, aiming to provide affordable credit for businesses and sustainable livelihoods. The fund will be operational by February, with regulations and policies finalized by January. The government also plans to establish a PWD board.



The Hustler Fund has disbursed over Ksh 41 billion to over 22 million Kenyans since its inception according to the latest data from the government.

This is an increase from Ksh 39 million last week as more Kenyans continued to borrow from the revolving fund that has been met with support and condemnation in equal measures.

This came as the State department Micro, Medium, and Small Enterprises (MSMES) announced plans for an MSME fund targeting small and medium traders.

According to the PS in charge of MSMES Susan Auma, the number of Kenyans borrowing from the Hustlers funds was on the rise.

She downplayed allegations of mass default adding that the fund had empowered millions mainly the low wage earners in supporting their small businesses.

“As of the start of this week, the amount disbursed to Kenyans from the Hustlers funds has risen to Ksh 41B with over 22 million people benefiting,” she said.

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# Pastor Dorcas Early Christmas for Girls with Cerebral Palsy at Mother Teresa Home

*....The DP's Spouse Called On Parents Not To Hid Children With Disabilities*

By: OSDP



*The spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi smiles with one of the girls at the Mother Teresa Children's Home in Langata, Nairobi, where she gave a food donation to mark the international day of PWDs and an early Christmas celebration for the girls who have cerebral palsy and other disabilities. Photo/OSDP.*

those with disabilities, saying, "Let them enjoy the environment God created for them." She revisited the Special Olympics held in Berlin where Team Kenya raised the profile of Kenya, and won 15 Gold medals despite having different disabilities.

The office of the spouse of the Deputy President (OSDP) has three pillars; boy child, widows and orphans, and people with disabilities. The pillar of PWDs seeks for the inclusion and empowerment of those who are differently abled to give them a dignified future.

"The PWDs are part of our society, and they are Kenyans like other Kenyans, and Africans like any other Africans. They live in this world, and should inherit from this world in all its fullness and riches," said Pastor Dorcas.

She wished the girls, missionaries and workers at the home a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Sister-in-Charge, Mary Cletty Devasia appreciated Pastor Dorcas for the continued support to the home, and sacrificing her time.

"On behalf of the missionaries of charity, we thank you for your sacrifice and putting aside your duties, and coming to spend some time with us. We are grateful for the direct and indirect support to the home, and the different partners you have connected us," said Sister Cletty.

Sustainable Development Goals 10 and 11 address the needs of those with disabilities, and seek to reduce inequality, and encourage the inclusion of those with disabilities.

Worth Noting:

- "Let us not hide our beauty and the variety God gave us. But let us expose those with disabilities so they may also celebrate with us. Sometimes they may look different, and celebrate differently as they are doing here but they are human beings, and within them they have a joyful soul," said Pastor Dorcas.
- She decried the practice of hiding those with disabilities, saying, "Let them enjoy the environment God created for them." She revisited the Special Olympics held in Berlin where Team Kenya raised the profile of Kenya, and won 15 Gold medals despite having different disabilities.

The spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi made a Christmas food donation yesterday to Mother Teresa Children's Home in Langata, Nairobi.

The food donation was an early Christmas celebration with the girls who have cerebral palsy, and other disabilities cared for at the home, and to commemorate the International Day Persons with Disability that was

on Sunday.

All the girls at the facility were abandoned by their parents either along the road, at the hospital, Police Stations, bushes, and other locations, but found refuge at the home run by Missionaries of Charity.

Pastor Dorcas urged parents, guardians and caregivers not to hide those with disabilities, but bring them out into the world to discover and cele-

brate their skills, abilities and gifts.

"Let us not hide our beauty and the variety God gave us. But let us expose those with disabilities so they may also celebrate with us. Sometimes they may look different, and celebrate differently as they are doing here but they are human beings, and within them they have a joyful soul," said Pastor Dorcas.

She decried the practice of hiding

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# Tea Factories In Murang'a Ready To Sign Management Agreement With KTDA

By: Bernard Munyao  
 @themkenyaintimes

All 10 tea factories in Murang'a County are now ready to sign management agreements with the Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA).

This comes after directors of the factories concluded negotiations with KTDA and agreed on the issues they had raised about the proposed reforms in the new management agreement.

The management agreement signing had been delayed for almost seven months to give time for negotiations about the new reforms.

The Tea Board of Kenya (TBK) ordered negotiations after the tea factories rejected some of the reforms indicated in the management agreement.

Directors of the tea factories demanded to be in charge of the finances, as the KTDA was left to control the staff and processing of green leaf.

Mt Kenya region Tea Board of Kenya (TBK) Director Charles Kirigwi said directors from the county will soon enter into the memorandum of understanding with KTDA after they complete the negotiations.

"Only factories in Murang'a are yet to sign management agreements with KTDA. All the 19 tea factories west of Rift signed the agreement in April this year. Now that the negotiations have been concluded, directors representing tea factories in Murang'a are set to sign the MoU," said Kirigwi during the AGM at Kiru Factory in Mathioya last Friday.

He lauded the chairman of Kiru factory Chege Kirundi who advocated for tea reforms and demanded negotiations that would see farmers and the factories get better deals from KTDA.

Meanwhile, Kirigwi observed that TBK is considering measures to address the proliferation of the hawking of green leaf, which is rapidly becoming prevalent in tea-growing zones across the country.

Hawking of green leaf, he said, should be stopped since it is subjecting tea factories to operate below the required capacity.

Among the proposed measures, TBK has mandated the installation of trackers on all vehicles transporting green leaf. These trackers will be connected to both the regulatory body and the police.

Kirigwi stated that this initiative aims to streamline the tea industry



Tea buying centre.

and combat the activities of rogue merchants involved in the hawking of green leaf.

The TBK director further noted the regulator is pursuing three firms believed to be behind the hawking of green leaf saying every factory before being licensed should indicate many affiliated farmers and the amount of green leaf they will supply. Kirigwi added "Tea hawking is a

nationwide menace with roots in the West and East of Rift. Many factories have reported reduced production for processing."

He further explained, "The installation of car trackers in the tea sector will help apprehend crews invading the tea catchment areas of other players. We have players from Kiambu and Meru who have disrupted the tea sector."

The board also mandates tea factories to submit a list of farmers to the regulator and conduct regular inspections of weighing scales at tea buying centers. This effort aims to prevent corrupt clerks from stealing from the growers.

# Governance: MCK Pushes For Access To Information

By: Muraya Kamunde

Public institutions have been challenged to grant access to information as a means of promoting good governance, accountability and transparency.

Speaking during a journalists' training session on Access to Information and Good Governance, Media Council of Kenya (MCK) Director for Media Training and Development Victor Bwire said access to information is a critical ingredient in promotion of transparent governance.

"The right to information and freedom of speech are crucial mechanisms for ensuring good governance. A professional, independent and responsible media plays a significant role in fostering good governance", said Bwire.

Bwire urged journalists to leverage

Access to Information Act of 2016 to achieve other human rights, empower the public and monitor the progress of sustainable development.

"Journalists should not only restrict themselves to climate change stories but also focus on creating a platform for debate, setting the national agenda and framing national public interest issues", he underscored.

Katiba Institute (KI) head of Communication and Public Liaison Kevin Mabonga called for the need to empower journalists on the right to access information.

"Through empowering journalists, we are able to enhance their skills and knowledge on the use of ATI laws and in promoting good governance", said Mabonga.



Media Council of Kenya (MCK) Director for Media Training and Development Victor Bwire .

# Ruto: Enhanced Kenya-India Ties Will Boost Govt's Transformation Plan

By: Muraya Kamunde

Kenya and India have signed five memoranda of understanding to enhance bilateral relations.

President William Ruto said forging stronger ties with India will be instrumental in advancing Kenya's Bottom-Up Empowerment Transformation Agenda.

The President said Kenya stands to gain significantly from India's progress in technology, agro-industrial transformation, universal healthcare provision, slum upgrading, affordable housing programs and the digital economy revolution.

Speaking during bilateral talks with President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, India, President Ruto said India has agreed to facilitate skills and technology transfer, in line with Kenya's particular needs, in sectors such as health, education, ICT and digital governance.

"The thrust of the business transacted during our official bilateral meetings with the government of India, as

well as engagements with the representatives of the Indian private sector consisted of BETA-aligned encounters," he said.

To accelerate the realisation of Universal Healthcare, Kenya will work with India to advance the country's pharmaceutical and medical commodities manufacturing capabilities as well as advanced medical technologies including digital health and telemedicine.

"This would greatly deepen and broaden access to affordable healthcare for Kenyans from every walk of life and especially those at the bottom of the socioeconomic structure," he said.

The leaders discussed the expansion of bilateral trade and investment between Kenya and India and committed to resolving impediments to market access and addressing non-tariff barriers.

President Ruto welcomed the decision by India to open its market to avocados from Kenya, saying it will expand opportunities for Kenyan farmers.

President Ruto invited Indian companies to take advantage of Kenya's conducive and attractive environ-



President William Ruto with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in India for a two-day State Visit.

ment to invest in agriculture and value addition, manufacturing and pharmaceutical, health, ICT, green energy and green mobility, affordable housing, and water sectors, among others. To support agriculture, India agreed to finance agricultural mechanisation projects in Kenya to enhance agro-industrial productivity in line

with BETA.

The President said India has offered support in training and capacity-building in clean and renewable energy transmission, grid integration and management and energy efficiency to enhance the country's green growth ambitions.

The President said Kenya and India

have agreed on a Joint Vision Statement on Maritime Cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region dubbed BAHARI to facilitate collaborations in the maritime sector.

He said Kenya and India also agreed to scale up cooperation in security to combat terrorism and other common security threats.

# The Family Group Foundation Invests 90 Million On Scholarships For Needy And Bright Students

By: John Kariuki  
@themkenyatimes

Family Bank through its philanthropic arm Family Group Foundation will spend KES 90 million on scholarships for 1000 bright and needy students joining form 1 next year.

Through the Tufuzu Elimu High School Scholarship Program, the Bank has increased the investment in high school scholarships from KES 60 million to KES 90 million for 1000 students across 66 constituencies targeting over 350 schools.

"With the tough economic conditions, as a Bank, we are committed to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all. Through our education pillar, we will be able to offer bright and needy students the opportunity to pursue and success-

fully complete secondary education. This will provide relief to parents struggling to meet tuition needs and greatly contribute to the 100 per cent transition policy put in place by the Ministry of Education," said Family Bank CEO Designate Nancy Njau.

According to the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023, the low and lower middle-income countries face nearly USD 100 billion annual financing gap to reach their education targets.

"The need to bridge this financing gap is dire and it calls for the private sector to support Government initiatives and Family Bank is committed to seeing that we can support families across the counties and grow the next crop of future leaders," she added.

The awarded scholarships will cater for both tuition and upkeep for the beneficiaries and also offer soft-skills training for the students through annual workshops and boot-

camp.

The Family Group Foundation has also invested in TVET training for young and vulnerable women in plumbing and electrical work through a partnership with USAID Tumikia and World Vision Kenya. This partnership seeks to train close to 1000 vulnerable women by 2025 through a KES 30 million partnership.



Family Bank Acting MD and CEO Nancy Njau.

# Women Enterprise Fund Validates 5th Strategic Plan

*...The 2023-2027 Plan Is Aligned with Government's Economic Transformation Agenda*

By: Wendy Keziah  
@themkenyatimes

The Women Enterprise Fund yesterday successfully conducted a stakeholders' validation workshop for its upcoming 5th Strategic Plan.

Speaking at the workshop, Dr. Josephine Obonyo who represented the PS, State Department for Gender, highlighted the Fund's transition to digital processes in March 2023 which have seen the Fund disburse KSh941 million to 18,955 groups within a three month period.

She underscored the Strategic Plan's emphasis on Sustainability and Resilience, crucial in today's dynamic economic landscape.

During the workshop, Dr. Jane Lang'at, chairperson of the Women Enterprise Fund Advisory Board, emphasized key strategic focuses: enhancing financial sustainability, improving loan accessibility for women entrepreneurs, fostering financial and entrepreneurial skills,



enhancing market access, and strengthening institutional capabilities.

The proposed plan outlines ambitious goals, including the disburse-

ment of KSh30 billion to 5 million women entrepreneurs, training 1,000,000 women on essential skills, and facilitating market access for over 200,000 women entrepreneurs

in the next five years.

In her remarks, the chair of the Ad hoc Committee on the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, Yvonne Tonkei highlighted the plan's alignment with the

government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda.

Various stakeholders, including the State Department for Gender, National Government Affirmative Action Fund, UWEZO Fund, Office of the Controller of Budget, Kenya Bureau of Standards, IDInsight among others were present.

WEF beneficiaries were represented by 27 women from different Constituencies. They gave valuable insights, particularly on the lending process, which directly contributes to the sustainability of their businesses.

The Ag. CEO Women Enterprise Fund, Mr. Raphael Kimolo thanked all participants for their contributions and assured them that the final document will address all concerns in order to create the desired impact.

Women Enterprise Fund is a semi Autonomous Government Agency that provides accessible and affordable credit to support women and expand businesses for wealth and employment creation.

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# Stop Dragging The Name Of Ruto In State Corporations Privatization Saga



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



President William Ruto .

## Worth Noting:

- It is worth noting that the laws are made by parliament. The President is not a member. As the law required, the Treasury Cabinet Secretary organized public forums during which public views were collected and collated. Thereafter, the privatization bill was drafted with their views being captured and presented to parliament for debate.
- After this, the vote was taken and the bill received overwhelms support from members in both sides of political divide.
- Pursuant to power conferred on him by the constitution, the President William Ruto consequently signed the Privatization Bill into law.
- I would have expected Raila to do two things if he didn't not agree with Bill. First, mobilize his Azimio troops to reject the bill on floor of parliament. If he fails to marshal enough numbers, move to court immediately after the President assented to it.

A few days ago, the Raila Odinga-led Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) Party filed a petition in the High Court seeking to stop the privatization of 11 state corporations.

The judge declined to grant the prayer but he halted the privatization until February next year when the case will be heard and determined.

The ODM had argued that the due process had not been followed to the letter and spirit.

The parastatals are owned by the people of Kenya. So, this is a weight matter. You cannot sell them without involving them.

In earlier statements, Raila and other party luminaries had pointed an accusing finger at President William Ruto.

The President is fully behind this move and he is working with Treasury Cabinet Secretary.

The Azimio brigade would not point out sections of laws that the President had violated.

I'm not holding brief for Dr Ruto but allow me to demonstrate further that dragging his name bordered on malice and hypocrisy.

It is worth noting that the laws are made by parliament. The President is not a member. As the law required, the Treasury Cabinet Secretary organized public forums during which public views were collected and collated. Thereafter, the privatization bill was drafted with their views being captured and presented to parliament for debate.

After this, the vote was taken and the bill received overwhelms support from members in both sides of political divide.

Pursuant to power conferred on him by the constitution, the President William Ruto consequently signed the Privatization Bill into law.

I would have expected Raila to do two things if he didn't not agree with Bill. First, mobilize his Azimio troops to re-

ject the bill on floor of parliament. If he fails to marshal enough numbers, move to court immediately after the President assented to it.

He failed to do this. With this, his decision to move to court is being interpreted as an afterthought.

The question is. What prompt him to change his mind? Many avers it is not because of Wanjiku's interests but rather his personal interests.

Since the law was passed, a section of the leaders in the minority side had been making noises at the funerals, church pulpit, homecoming parties. Why wait until when the government starts to actualize this law?

It therefore means they were contented.

The decision to move to court had been preceded by Raila's remarks four days earlier. Are you ready to go back to the streets? Raila asked a crowd in Nya-mache, Kisii county, where he attended the homecoming party of Governor Simba Arati. Then, wait for my whistle.

We all know that Raila's political game plan is to continue engaging President William Ruto in a smear campaign.

This is not because the President is not doing his job of serving Kenyans, it is because he is yet to shed off misplaced and warped thinking that Dr Ruto stole his victory.

Raila was the candidate of the outgoing government. Dr Ruto was an outsider. So, how did an outsider stole your victory?

In light of this, this is my considered view. If he make good his threat, Raila's game plan would fail miserably.

Why I would not expect his supporters to heed his call to participate in demonstrations?

He failed to try organize protests when President Ruto assented to the Bill.

His turnaround is suspect. The other day I heard a group of the people in the estate saying.

Raila was angling himself to play the role of a big broker in the privatiza-

tion of some of the entities. He knew he would mint millions of shillings. It seems he has been elbowed out.

He is pursuing selfish and personal interests. Therefore, we cannot put our lives in danger for a course that has no bearing to public interest.

He used us last time. A fool has now become clever. He will be in for a rude shock.

It is worth to recall that during the electioneering period, Dr William Ruto, the presidential candidate of United Democratic Alliance (UDA)/ Kenya Kwanza, kept reiterating.

If I win the elections, I will give priority to the privatization of loss making State Corporations and Parastatals plus those that had already collapsed and shut down.

The leadership of the previous governments fully bore the brunt.

They just watched helplessly as these state entities crumbled down due to four main reasons: High levels of corruption, mismanagement, laxity and don't care altitudes. These vices would be committed by big fish entrusted to manage them.

To make the matter worse, the previous governments resorted to bailing out the entities.

Billions of shillings of taxpayers were being pumped but none of them will get back to its feet. Kenyans would not get value for thier hard-earned monies. As such, they would end up being the biggest losers.

For Dr William Ruto, he had conceived a workable plan which would be a game-changer in terms of changing this narrative. God heard his prayers and he won the elections.

He knew the power to make this decision lied with members of the National Assembly.

He was however optimistic that he will succeed to lobby members to support and adopt this proposal.

The Privatization Bill originated from

the cabinet in line with the rule of collective responsibility.

This reaffirmed the commitment of President Ruto to walk the talk. This is in terms of following the dictates of the constitution and law to the letter and spirit.

The Finance Law 2023 listed the 11 entities which are earmarked for privatization

It is worth noting former President Mwai Kibaki was a renowned economist but he failed to resuscitate them.

He was unable to deal with vested interests which were out to make a kill.

Reason? The political class played a key role in the appointment of the chairpersons and chairmen of these State Corporations.

As a result, the holders of these offices owed their loyalties to them. This cleared the way for each to dip their fingers into cookie jar and get a share of the looting.

Kenya Cooperative Creameries (KCC), Kenya Meat Commission and pyrethrum Ginneries were among profit making factories that had already collapsed. The loss making ones were: Kenya Airways, Mombasa Port, Kenya Pipeline, Kenya Seed Company, National Oil Cooperation among others.

Given this background, President William Ruto is on the right course.

Having served the previous governments, he understands where the problem lies.

Once advertised, the bidders' history should be thoroughly scrutinized.

The two main considerations should be. First, the proprietors of the firms that qualify have the interest of the Kenyan people at heart.

Secondly, the investors have success stories of managing and turning around the fortunes of similar entities that had been run down by the state.

You would expect the multinational companies to buy some of the State Corporations.

For them, their success stories would go beyond the border.

Besides, the government would be expected to review the tax regime and enact laws that will attract both local and foreign investment.

As I conclude, allow me to say this. The good thing with privatization is that this create room for competition.

So, the new owners will work very hard. This is because they want to make profits out of this. They know the Kenya government will also collect a huge chunk of monies as taxes.

Again, if the entity collapses, they will become the biggest losers. They will not only lose the capital but also the assets which they had aquired through sweat.

To avoid these pitfalls, I'm sure they will manage the entities in a professional, disciplined and precision manner.

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

# Do Growth Matters To A Child?



By: Wanjohi P. Mugambi  
@themkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- The more and more information the child receives from his own body, his perception, his physical motor activities, he understands the world better. Whatever the child does from his birth to pre-school stage, does lay foundation not only for later physical motor skills, but also for cognitive progresses and social-emotional and aesthetic development as well.
- Therefore, interrelatedness among all the aspects of growth and development should always be recognised. We need to know the children with keener insight and have a clear understanding of how they develop and learn in these early years so that we will have a point of departure for planning, administering and supervising a solid base on which to make our appropriate decisions.

Manifestations of physical growth and development range from those at the molecular level such as the activation of enzymes in the course of differentiation the complex interplay of metabolic and physical changes associated with puberty and adolescence. Neurodevelopmental processes, such as the acquisition of basic gross and fine motor skills, depend to a great extent on maturation of neural structures, but they may be profoundly modified by the environment and by experience. Cognitive growth and development depends on both genetic and environmental factors. In early infancy this process may be difficult to differentiate from neurologic and behavioural maturation. In later infancy and childhood, cognitive and intellectual functions are increasingly measured by communicative skills and by the ability to handle abstract and symbolic material.

The psychosocial development of the child integrates all of the foregoing in a process that incorporates genetic constitution, cognition, and experience into the continuing and ultimate definition of the individual as a unique person and personality. Genetic factors may set limits to biologic potential, but these are intimately interwoven with the environment.

Physical trauma may be prenatal or postnatal, nutritional, chemical, residual from infection, or immunologic.

Nutritional factors may reflect primarily socioeconomic realities. Social and emotional factors affecting growth potential include the sex of the child, the position of the child in the family, the quality of interaction of the infant of child with siblings, parents and others, the personal concerns and needs of the parents, and the child rearing patterns of the parents and of the community.

Cultural considerations may either limit or expand the range of behaviour of children by establishing conventional expectations and may alter the schedule for acquisition of skills, such as sitting or walking, which were once regarded as depending almost entirely on maturation. Politics and culture are closely related, in as much as the political life of any community provides the arena in which public priorities are set, including those that may have profound effects on children.

The experience of each child is unique, and the patterns of development may be profoundly different for individual children within the broad limits that designate normality. Patterns of physical growth and development, for example have such variabil-



ity that they can often be expressed only in statistical terms.

So long as the fetus is inside the mother's womb it receives food materials directly from the nutrients of the mother's blood stream. These nutrients are obtained from her food through the process of digestion. They are absorbed and carried to the placenta by her blood stream which then passes to the fetal circulation. Hence, it is very essential to keep the mother in proper diet by providing her with essential nutritious food. This would be perhaps the only right step to look to the development of the child (fetus) during the prenatal period.

These two terms "growth" and "development" are sometimes confusing. Many people use these two terms interchangeably. In reality these two terms "growth" and "development" mean different aspects. Growth, in the strict sense, refers to measurable quantities such as weight and height whereas development refers to the process of functional maturation, that is, maturation of the roles played by the body's systems, in its purest sense.

'Troth does not restrict its reference only to outward physical growth but that of internal organs like brain. Hence it is both physical and mental. But development by contrast, refers to "qualitative changes".)

As Anderson has not emphasised "Nor is development merely a matter of adding inches to stature or ability to ability, instead, it is a complex process of integrating many structures and functions." In the views of Hurlock "It may be defined as a progressive series of orderly coherent changes." Progressive" signifies that the changes are directional, that they lead forward rather than backward.

"Orderly" and "Coherent" suggest that there is a definite relationship between a given stage and the stages which precede or follow it." It is the emerging and broadening of the child's ability to function on a higher level, whether in the psychomotor, cognitive or affective domains of human behaviour. It is impossible to separate these three areas of human behaviour from one another due to unity of man. It is rather inappropriate to try to perpetuate development in one domain separately.

The more and more information the child receives from his own body, his perception, his physical motor activities, he understands the world better. Whatever the child does from his birth to pre-school stage, does lay foundation not only for later physical motor skills, but also for cognitive progresses and social-emotional and aesthetic development as well.

Therefore, interrelatedness among all the aspects of growth and development should always be recognised. We need to know the children with keener insight and have a clear understanding of how they develop and learn in these early years so that we will have a point of departure for planning, administering and supervising a solid base on which to make our appropriate decisions.

The rates growth with individual children are not the same. They grow and develop at their own rate. These rates vary due to various reasons which are discussed later. Hence at Pre-schools stage we get children with different ability level. Even though theories very little to be done about the maturational component of the process, teachers and care takers can influence the experience component very well.

All movements occur in space and

involve an element of time and the development of these structures in considered basic to efficient functioning in variety of other areas. Hence while planning physical and motor activities in Pre-school Education it is essential to enhance the child's knowledge of his/her spatial world by means of getting his/her involved in movement activities designed to his/her body awareness, directional awareness and spatial awareness.

If we look to the condition of Physical Education in our formal schools now we can very well mark its place in the curriculum. Even though it is very essential to contribute towards proper growth and development of the child it still remains as a neglected subject.

Children who are supported by physical education are usually those who are well developed physically and motorically, moving forward to be future promising school athletes, whereas most of the students try to avoid this and become poorly developed. It is also very easy to escape physical education classes in the school as it finds least place in school curriculum.

In words we give much importance to physical education by saying "a sound mind rests in a sound physique." But in practice, no tangible steps are taken in formal schools to provide adequate opportunity to the children for having proper physical growth and development.

Hence teachers of young children should recognise the need of such an education and put emphasis on these activities to enhance both fine and gross motor skills with children to expedite proper growth and development.

# El-Nino: DP Leads Partners In Humanitarian Intervention To Garissa And Tana River

By: Muraya Kamunde



At least Ksh 1 billion has been released for rehabilitation of the roads.

## Worth Noting:

- “The loss of lives and destruction of property in times of disaster is a concern for our President, H.E Dr William Ruto. We are working with the Governors and other partners in ensuring no more lives or property are lost henceforth.
- The money will be disbursed under the Hunger Safety Net Programme is implemented by the National Drought Management Authority under the ASAL ministry.
- At least 7,199 beneficiary households in Garissa County will receive Ksh 58,311,900 as regular monthly transfers for October, November and December. In Tana River County, 5,985 vulnerable households will receive Ksh 48,478,500, the Deputy President said.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua on Monday led a high-level humanitarian intervention in Garissa and Tana River Counties- some of the worst hit regions by the El Nino crisis.

Relevant Cabinet Secretaries, international development partners, humanitarian and other Government agencies joined him in Garissa Town, Madogo and Garsen in Tana River County where they distributed food, nonfood items and medicines to thousands of families displaced by the fierce El-Nino, which has caused deaths and massive destruction of livelihoods and infrastructure.

The Deputy President, in the company of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and Roads Kipchumba Murkomen and Arid and Semi-Arid counterpart Peninah Malonza, visited sections of Madogo-Garissa where the road networks have been badly damaged in both counties. He inspected the ongoing restoration work, promising that the destroyed road network and infrastructure is ongoing.

At least Ksh 1 billion has been released for rehabilitation of the roads.

While announcing the release of Ksh 451,699,200 for cash transfers to at least 119,178 vulnerable household in

eight arid counties Garissa and Tana River included, the Deputy President said the Government is working with partners to mitigate the damage.

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“Our development partners please continue supporting us with financial and technical assistance. As you have seen the kind of conditions people are living in and the danger of disease outbreak because of sanitation, lack of clean water,” he said.

In Tana River, the Deputy President visited and interacted with displaced

families at Jua Kali camp.

He appealed to development partners to continue supporting the Government and counties as they battle the El-Nino crisis, to restore normalcy.

“We really have a challenge in Tana River and the rest of the country and we urge the development partners to continue supporting us, giving more support so that we can make the necessary mitigation and interventions on behalf of the people of Tana River and the rest of the country,” he added.

He stated that the Government has mobilised helicopters and vehicles from the Kenya Defence Forces and National police Service to deliver medicines, food, and other supplies to areas marooned by floods.

“It is our responsibility as government and humanitarian agencies to ensure nobody dies because of starvation or disease that may break out due to floods. Today we started air drops in areas that cannot be accessed because roads have been cut off,” he said.

Mr Gachagua asked governors in most affected areas to suspend development projects and release resources to mitigation measures, adding that the Office of the Deputy President is galvanising support from partners for

lasting solutions.

“We cannot, forever, be responding to emergencies; it is costly to our economy and less effective. The answer lies in lasting solutions. In our plan of building and strengthening resilience structures, last month, we adopted a joint strategic framework with our development partners. The Joint Plan is Coordinated through my Office,” he said, adding that a synchronized strategy will deliver better results in resilience.

The Deputy President urged the residents of Tana River and Garissa County to support President William Ruto’s target of planting 15 billion trees by 2032 when things return to normalcy.

“It is important to do so because the threat of Climate Change is disrupting the world order. We must be prepared well. Planting trees is one of the lasting measures of mitigating the negative impact of Climate Change,” he said.

Mr Gachagua assured the Kenyans of Government’s determination to ensuring no lives are lost.

# Do Not Stop On The Path Of Kindness, My Teacher!



By: Shokirkhonova Ezosa

The era of our teachers is continuing, the cycle of mentor-student and their bond is unfolding. Because, if there is a teacher, certainly there are also students who have benefited from their knowledge. In the most challenging regions of the world, as well as in its most central parts, suitable individuals with the understanding of a teacher exist. Our teachers are like oceans. Even if they share their knowledge with hundreds of students, it does not diminish their strength. When our teachers give lessons, they do so with such love that their students will never forget this love until the end of their lives. On the contrary, giving lessons with such passion during teaching makes those moments heard in our lives where we achieve the highest peaks.

A teacher is like a nurturing parent, a devoted guide. No words, no praise can adequately describe the hard work, effort, and health they have sacrificed over the years. They do not become any less worthy of their title over the years. They are such wonderful architects that with their cities, they become great personalities among the great.

These masters create a lively spirit for the students of life. Indeed, their students are like their own children. When we say "mother," we are reminded of another person who cherishes our teachers with our eyes. With this view, we do not mean to say that only women are worthy of respect. Only in this context, the responsibilities of a mother and a teacher are very similar. If there was no difference among them, in the wound of the world, in the battle of life, our great words and professions that call them great teachers would not have been wounded.

Just as a child is not without a mother, there is also no student without a teacher. Throughout our lives, even without a teacher, we unknowingly encounter their teachings. Because a large and strong tree cannot grow without being watered from time to time. Have you ever thought about it? Why doesn't a small sapling always grow into a large

and strong tree in one direction? The reason is that an apple will take the color of the apple tree itself. Have you ever thought again? Why do small rivers always flow from large and wide rivers? The reason is that if new rivers learn from the wrong path, their confluence is possible. If we compare teachers to a fast-moving train, students are like wagons that attach to it. Teachers never set like the setting sun. They spread their light without being tired of anyone, equalizing everything.

Teachers are like a kneading trough, shaping their students with care. They mold the minds of their students with such kindness during the time of teaching that their students will never forget this kindness until the end of their lives. In contrast, during the continuation of the teaching, giving a little push, it leads to the fact that the moments heard by our ears achieve the highest peaks in life.

Teachers are like the pen that never dries on the paper. This pen brings out the verses, centuries-old works written with this pen come to light. Teachers are skilled builders. They know how skillful they are by the buildings they create. Such an endless and respectful profession is not suitable for everyone. No one will be worthy of this great profession, which provides an infinite service to society, without a heart full of love. If you want to know how correct a teacher is, you can learn from the results of their students. Have you ever thought about it? Why doesn't the seed grow into a single wide place without passing through a narrow space? The reason is that the seed adapts its color to the color of the soil. Have you ever thought again? Why do small branches bend towards large and wide branches? The reason is that new branches can take the wrong path and may be overshadowed.

Teachers are quickly moving towards the express train, and students are like wagons that attach to it. Teachers never set like the setting sun. They spread their light without being tired of anyone, equalizing everything. The movements of teachers are like the efforts made to students' stoves in the oven. Their soft and delicious bread grows. Here are these breads are the students of teachers. Teachers are like a pen with which written verses, works of centuries come to light. Teachers are true illuminators. They illuminate their light, not only from anyone but also from everyone. Teachers' movements are like the efforts made to the ovens in the tandir. Their bread grows soft and delicious. Here, these breads are the students of teachers.

Teachers are a symbol of genuine kindness. They present each lesson with love and passion, shaping not only our academic knowledge but also our life skills and worldly perspectives. They are like our guiding angels, leading us on the right path. Teachers are not only masters of their profession with knowledge but also impart wisdom with love and kindness. They go beyond being mere instructors; they become mentors who inspire and guide us throughout our lives.

As we advance in various fields of learning, we encounter teachers who excel in molding minds, shaping characters, healing the sick, creating art, translating languages, and

more. In this regard, calling them teachers is not just a label; it is a recognition of their contribution to our growth. Moreover, most of us remember our first teachers. In my vision, when I hear this phrase, it is often associated with Mr. Jumaniyozov Ikrom Umarovich, our English language teacher who prepared us based on the principles of mutual respect and sincere camaraderie.

They were not just less humans. When some of our classmates perceived this phrase as an encouragement to study hard, others took it as an incentive to embark on a journey of knowledge, freeing themselves from the burden of debts. Our teacher, being aware that it is not just about earning money, shared an insightful saying during the early days of our education: "As a student, you will pay off when you start earning your own money." I was amazed the first time I heard these words. Because until then, I had learned knowledge through punishment and hardship.

But later, I realized that I was wrong to think that way. The teacher's words were like a revelation that most of our classmates started their studies with the aim of repaying their debts. Our teacher, if it was him, prayed for us every day.

The main goal of all graduates before becoming students was to enter higher education. And in all their prayers, they asked for these things. If our teacher was there, they prayed even more fervently for us. The prayers of our teacher were unique in each of their prayers.

Before becoming a student, the main goal of all graduates was to enter higher education.

And in all their prayers, they asked for these things. If our teacher was there, they prayed even more fervently for us. The prayers of our teacher were unique in each of their prayers. The prayers, as well as the efforts, bore fruit, and until now, they continue to serve our country and our people as valuable professionals. Ikrom Umarovich, our esteemed teacher, deserves our gratitude for sharing his knowledge and shaping not only our academic achievements but also our life perspectives.

His gracious words, "Become kind-hearted individuals on the path of kindness," resonate in my heart. I express my heartfelt thanks to our teacher for his dedication to shaping our futures. With these reflections, we find ourselves in a world full of heart, hard work, and teachers who are unselfishly dedicated to imparting knowledge, shaping characters, and achieving their students' success as their own. Our lives continue to bloom and flourish with these qualities.

In our lives, filled with various professions, our great teachers are invaluable guides. Their hard work, dedication, and responsible professions contribute to the development of their respective fields. May success be the reward for their struggles. We always honor our teachers!

## The Last Month Is December



Not alone, these winter December nights are with you.

Hidden in the color of the stars,  
The last month is a journey full of love.  
The journey of stories is about to end,  
Come together, let us enjoy this moment.

The whole scene covered with snowfall,  
Time is saying, listen to this now.  
This is the story of the past year,  
Unexplored dreams, forget useless things.

Poet – Anurag Upadhyay.

Bio –

My name is Anurag Upadhyay, I am interested in literature. I love reading and writing poems, stories, ghazals. I am a student, I am very pleased to be a co-author of this book, I am very grateful. Who provided me this opportunity. I am very thankful to my parents, my sister, my God, my teachers, that they have made me worthy of being with and in front of you all today.  
Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Winds blow, cold increases, December nights,  
The story of the year wrapped up, the things of the past.  
Flowers lost their color, leaves became dry,  
There was a coolness in the sky, a blanket of snow spread.  
Hope resides in the hearts, the arrival of the new year,  
May happiness spread in your dreams this December.  
Beauty starts increasing with the winter season,

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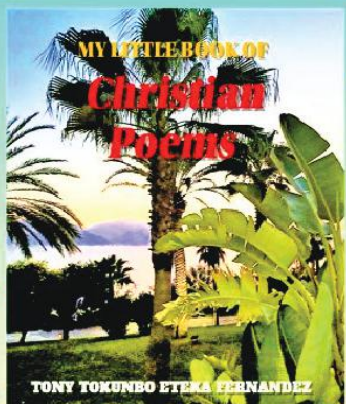
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# EDUCATION

## CBC A Practical Dispensation For Learners

By: John Kariuki  
@themtkenyatimes

### Worth Noting:

- Kenya is a developing country that is constantly looking for ways to grow. The implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum is one example of such development. The establishment of this framework arose from the need to update and enhance Kenya's education system.
- Language is a tool we use to exchange and convey information with others. Under this curriculum, our learners are able to acquire the skill and ability to exchange with others' thoughts, information and behaviour.
- One of the key outcomes of a quality education is a learner's ability to utilise the following critical thinking skills: problem-solving, making judgements and reasoning.



Registrar of Kasarani Group of Schools Purity Wangui.

The Competence Based Curriculum abbreviated as CBC has been hailed as a practical solution especially in equipping learners. The Mount Kenya Times E-paper sought to hear from the leading private school in Nairobi County, Kasarani Group of Schools which has held the number one position in Nairobi County consistently.

In 2023 KCPE the school posted an impressive Mean score of 393.3.

Helping us to delve and understand CBC is none other than the schools Admin. Madam Purity Wangui.

"The implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum in Kenya was prompted by a variety of factors aimed at transforming the country's education system. The conventional rote-learning method was deemed inadequate in preparing learners for the modern world.

### Why the Competency-Based Curriculum?

Kenya is a developing country that is constantly looking for ways to grow. The implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum is one example of such development. The establishment of this framework arose

from the need to update and enhance Kenya's education system. The education sector considered that it was equally important to promote knowledge application as it was to promote its acquisition.

The implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum emphasised what learners were expected to do rather than what they were expected to know. For example, it is not enough that students know the process of growing a plant; instead, they could be tasked with sprouting a plant from a bean, which allows them the opportunity to apply the acquired knowledge to real-life scenarios."

What are the seven core competencies of the Competency-Based Curriculum?

### Communication and collaboration

Language is a tool we use to exchange and convey information with others. Under this curriculum, our learners are able to acquire the skill and ability to exchange with others' thoughts, information and behaviour. The Competency-Based Curriculum necessitates for collaboration in a number of learning activities. Work

can be done in pairs or groups if not the entire class. This encourages learners to speak to one another and be cooperative in order to achieve a common goal.

### Critical thinking and problem solving

One of the key outcomes of a quality education is a learner's ability to utilise the following critical thinking skills: problem-solving, making judgements and reasoning. This skill is important as it allows learners to constantly evolve their thinking and adapt in the future.

### Imagination and creativity

A child's mind is rather creative and imaginative in their formative years. The Competency-Based Curriculum capitalises on that aptitude. It encourages learners to convert what is in their imagination into creative materials. It also motivates learners to seek out new ideas and turn them into reality.

### Citizenship

A community is a group of people who share a common belief or identity. This shared identity is often anchored by subcommunities. The more the group of people in this community grows, the more set of values they share. Once they are governed by a political, economic, social and religious framework, they become citizens. They experience a sense of belonging and patriotism - wanting to uphold what is right and condemn wrong behaviour. The Competency-Based curriculum encourages our learners to understand their role as members of a larger community.

### Learning to learn

Learning is a never-ending endeavour. Acquiring new information allows one to become a better decision maker and problem solver. The Competency-Based Curriculum encourages our teachers to teach learners how to think and not what to think, which means learners will develop an inclination to seek new information, even outside the confines of the school system.

### Self-efficacy

This competency ensures that learners are capable of independently completing tasks successfully. This means that a learner can take a difficult task and break it down into its smaller components for better understanding without rely heavily on their teacher. The by-product of this skill is that the learner demonstrates a high self-esteem and increased confidence.

### Digital literacy

One advantage the current generation enjoys is being digitally savvy. Children are able to navigate their way on digital devices with ease. Digital literacy is measured by learner's ability to safely and cleverly use hardware and software technology to access information. In a world where tech becomes quickly obsolete, learners who are prepared for change adapt quicker."

Kasarani Group of Schools was the pioneer learning institution that not only embraced the CBC but also had been privileged to undertake the piloting.

Kasarani Group of Schools offers learners a serene, friendly and conducive learning environment.



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# Controller Of Budget In Court Over Fraud

By: DPP

Controller of Budget, Dr. Margaret Nyangate Nyakang'o was yesterday charged with; defrauding Claudia Mutungi of Ksh 29 million; operating FEB Sacco Society Limited without a valid licence; and forgery.

She pleaded not guilty to the 3 counts before Mombasa Chief Magistrate Alex Ithuku.

She was released on Ksh 2 million bond with a surety of a similar amount with an alternative cash bail of Ksh 500,000.

Court further issued summons to Dr. Nyakang'o's co-accused namely: Jackson Ngure Wanjau, Susan Kendi Kiambati, James Makena Wanyangi, John Muchira Kithaka and Jane Karuu Ndanyi, Others included: Muthoni Eliphas, Joan Chumo, Mercy

Ndura Mukora, Gregory Mwangangi Mailu and Michael Kipkirui.

The charges read that Dr. Nyakang'o allegedly: Defrauded Claudia Mweni Mutungi of Ksh 29 million on diverse dates between 1 November, 2019 and 1 May, 2020 by pretending to operate a genuine investment namely FEB Sacco Ltd.

The second count accused her of Operating FEB Sacco Society Limited without a valid licence from Sacco Regulatory Authority with the third accusation stating that she forged Claudia Mweni Mutungi's signature on 2 December, 2019 at FEB Sacco Society Limited within Mombasa.

Prosecution was led by ODPP Coast Regional Head, Mr. Peter Kiprop alongside Mr. Alex Gituma.

The case will be mentioned on 13th Dec. 2023.



Dr Margaret Nyangate Nyakang'o when she appeared in court yesterday

# Nairobi Governor Sakaja Allies With Abagusii Community For Unity And Representation In The Capital

By: John Kariuki  
@themkenyatimes

In a bid to foster inclusivity and representation within Nairobi City County, Governor Johnson Arthur Sakaja has taken decisive steps to ensure the vibrant Abagusii community feels recognized and empowered within the city's governance structure. The appointment of Geoffrey Mosiria as the Chief Officer of Health Facilities stands as a significant milestone in this initiative, symbolizing both gratitude and a deserved recognition for the Gusii community's invaluable support.

Chief Officer Mosiria's exemplary performance in his role has not only earned him recognition as the best performing officer in Nairobi but has also elevated him to the position of the Gusii spokesperson. Geoffrey Mosiria's designation as the Kisii representative in decision-making processes within Nairobi signals an era of increased influence and voice for the Abagusii community. His role ex-

tends beyond representation; Mosiria stands as a symbol of unity and a focal point for addressing the community's grievances.

Governor Sakaja, recognizing the significance of unity and inclusivity in governance, encourages the Abagusii community to rally behind Chief Officer Mosiria and continue supporting his vision for a harmonious and prosperous Nairobi. The governor's dedication to fostering peace and co-operation aligns with Mosiria's role in bridging divides and steering the community towards unity. During his enrollment gathering at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) on July 22, 2023, prominent leaders from the Abagusii community expressed their gratitude to Governor Sakaja for his unwavering support and commitment to their community's representation and commended Sakaja's administration in empowering Mosiria as the community's key representative in Nairobi.

The elders within the Abagusii community have endorsed Mosiria, acknowledging his exemplary leadership and hard work. Mosiria's upcoming responsibilities include playing

a role in political negotiations and providing essential leadership for the community's interests within the Nairobi County. Former political figures like Stephen Nyarangi and Alfayo Onyambu have praised Governor Sakaja's commitment to empowering and uniting the Abagusii community under Mosiria's leadership. They emphasize the importance of community unity and encourage continued support for the governors administration.

Governor Sakaja's alliance with the Abagusii community signifies his positive intentions to create a more inclusive and united Nairobi. The request for unity and backing Chief Officer Mosiria stands as a chance for the community to fortify their representation and make a significant contribution to the city's advancement under Sakaja's leadership. Governor Sakaja emphasizes that Nairobi's success is deeply linked to the unity and collective efforts of all communities, including the Abagusii. His administration is dedicated to fostering an environment where every voice is heard and every community feels represented.



Nairobi City County, Governor Johnson Arthur Sakaja .

# Kenyan Women Parliamentarians Unite In Condemning Physical Violence Against Fellow Woman

By: Erick Wanjala  
 @themtkenyatimes



From left is Nominated senator Veronica Waheti nduati, Maureen Mutinda Nominated senator Nairobi, Miraj Abdulrahman Nominated senator Mombasa and Mary Wamaua Njoroge member of parliament Maragwa.

## Worth Noting:

- “Kewopa would like to call upon the inspector general Mr Japheth Koome and all the relevant authorities to immediately effect necessary arrest and investigations in the matter ensure that the investigations are done without any bias and the culprit is charged in accordance with the applicable laws. We women leaders further call upon these authorities to investigate the operations of the matatus and ensure that the regulations on the operations of the matatu sacco” Stated nominated senator Maureen Mutinda
- The women parliamentarians are calling for a thorough investigation into the incident, urging law enforcement agencies to expedite the process and ensure that the perpetrator is held accountable. They also emphasize the importance of fostering a safe environment for women in all spheres of life, including the political arena.

In a powerful display of solidarity, KEWOPA (Kenya women parliamentarians association) led by Nairobi Nominated senator Hon Maureen Tabitha Mutinda are taking a stand against the scourge of physical violence as they vociferously condemn a recent case involving an assault against a women on board a matatu along Thika road . The incident has ignited a collective call for justice and underscores the urgent need for comprehensive measures to address gender-based violence within the country.

The shocking episode, which unfolded last week, saw a lady being harassed by a matatu operator of By buss Trans Sacco, a respected member of the Kenyan Parliament, become the victim of physical violence. As news of the incident spread across the social media platforms, it sparked a wave of outrage among the members of the public that drew the attention of the members of parliament, prompting a swift and united response from women parliamentarians across party lines.

In a press conference held at Parliament, prominent women leaders

including nominated senators Hon Veronica Waheti, Hon Miraj Abdulrahman, Hon Maureen Mutinda and member for Maragwa Hon Mary Wamau Njoroge spoke passionately about the need for immediate action and justice for the survivor. They emphasized that the incident is not only an attack on one individual but a reflection of the broader issue of gender-based violence that continues to plague Kenyan society.

“Kewopa would like to call upon the inspector general Mr Japheth Koome and all the relevant authorities to immediately effect necessary arrest and investigations in the matter ensure that the investigations are done without any bias and the culprit is charged in accordance with the applicable laws. We women leaders further call upon these authorities to investigate the operations of the matatus and ensure that the regulations on the operations of the matatu sacco” Stated nominated senator Maureen Mutinda

The women parliamentarians are calling for a thorough investigation into the incident, urging law enforcement agencies to expedite the

process and ensure that the perpetrator is held accountable. They also emphasize the importance of fostering a safe environment for women in all spheres of life, including the political arena.

“We, as women parliamentarians, stand together in denouncing this act of violence against our fellow woman. This incident is a stark reminder that no woman should live in fear, be it in her home, on our transport sector or even at workplace. We will not tolerate any form of violence, and we demand justice for our sister.” says nominated senator Veronica Waheti Nduati

Beyond seeking justice for the survivor, the parliamentarians are using this incident to draw attention to the broader issue of gender-based violence in Kenya. They are calling for the implementation of stronger legal measures, increased awareness campaigns, and enhanced support systems for survivors. The women leaders are actively engaging with their male counterparts to garner bipartisan support for legislative initiatives aimed at combating gender-based violence.

This united front of women parliamentarians reflects a growing commitment to address the root causes of violence against women in Kenya. By amplifying their voices and leveraging their positions of influence, these leaders are not only demanding justice for lady who was mistreated on a bus but are also challenging societal norms that perpetuate gender-based violence.

As the nation watches and marks the 16 days of activism against gender based violence, the women parliamentarians are determined to turn this unfortunate incident into a catalyst for change. Their collective condemnation sends a clear message: violence against women will not be tolerated, and the time for comprehensive action is now. Kenya’s women parliamentarians are poised to lead the charge towards a safer, more equitable future for all women in the country.

# Life Dedicated To Literature...!



By: Saidaliyeva Parizoda Davlatbaevna  
@themkenyatimes



### Worth Noting:

- The ones I enjoy the most (in a comparative sense): Muhammad Yusuf; “Hero of Uzbekistan” Abdulla Oripov; Usman Nasir, Zulfiya, Abdurayim Rahmonov, Erkin Vahidov, Saida Zunnunova and Khushiyev Eshniyoz Elboyeovich...

Yes, of course! My grandfather Khushiyev Eshniyoz is a poet from whose poems I can in some sense learn lessons and inspiration, spiritual rest, and the knowledge and skills I need. When I first heard about this person’s life path, I was shocked. Because this person spent his whole life on literature: poems, works, learning and teaching science, and as a highly educated person, especially in my eyes.

[Tashkent State University: teacher Khushiyev, who taught ethics and aesthetics, will be dedicated to the life path of Eshniyoz Elboyeovich...]

Literature.... Literature is such a unique universe that you can live with its wonders. Literature is such a world that you can stay forever in it. Literature is like a priceless garden...In this garden there are many saplings and trees rich in the best quality, sweet, pleasant and fruits that you can enjoy if you eat them. Poets, writers, thinkers, and writers who devoted their lives to literature are fruit trees, and their fruits are in the form of unique poems, quatrains, and works that they left behind. Every time we read, hear, or read poetry, we can enjoy it, gain spiritual nourishment, and expand our worldview. We create our own world in the world of silence...

“I’m sick of literature,  
My training was not worth it either.  
Sealing his word forever,  
I will be a man, my students too...”

People’s poet of Uzbekistan. The

faithfulness of Muhammad Yusuf wrote before it last poem...

As we mentioned above, I am the fruit of those fruit trees.

The ones I enjoy the most (in a comparative sense): Muhammad Yusuf; “Hero of Uzbekistan” Abdulla Oripov; Usman Nasir, Zulfiya, Abdurayim Rahmonov, Erkin Vahidov, Saida Zunnunova and Khushiyev Eshniyoz Elboyeovich...

Yes, of course! My grandfather Khushiyev Eshniyoz is a poet from whose poems I can in some sense learn lessons and inspiration, spiritual rest, and the knowledge and skills I need.

When I first heard about this person’s life path, I was shocked. Because this person spent his whole life on literature: poems, works, learning and teaching science, and as a highly educated person, especially in my eyes. On the one hand, my grandfather, and on the other hand, he became one of my favorite poets. Khushiyev Eshniyoz was born on August 25, 1943. He later studied at the National University of Uzbekistan with the most famous poets and writers of our country, in particular: The holder of the titles “Hero of Uzbekistan”

and “People’s Poet of Uzbekistan”, one of today’s writers studied together with Abdulla Oripov.

When I was in creative talks and meetings with our hero, they said that he spent a lot of time with Abdulla Oripov. He knew Persian, Arabic, Russian, German... we can’t express it in words. Even when fate pinned him to the bed, he wrote down his sufferings, pains, and happy moments on white paper, accompanied by a pen, for poetry. the owner of a familiar soul.....!

No one can be like my mother!

Sometimes I dream of the sun,  
Sometimes the thorn in the flower catches my attention...

They didn’t know my pain, even if they were blood relatives  
SHE can’t laugh when her child cries,  
No one can be like your mother!

\*  
Tell me, didn’t she run because of you?  
If you’re sick, didn’t it kill you?  
Or did not have time to become a mother?

SHE laughs and cries, even if she

gets a thorn in her hand!  
No one can be like your mother!

\*\*  
If you cry, shed tears together,  
SHE risked her life so that you will live when the time comes,  
SHE waited for your happiness longer than you,  
No one can know that you are an angel!

\*\*  
No one can be like your mother!  
Do you need anything more than that?  
Even white milk is delicious!  
Is every step you take a flower garden?

Golds are irreplaceable!  
No one can be like your mother!  
\*  
Your childhood passed with warm bread,  
With the beautiful moments of the old house,

Did you hear about the city with its bread?  
You can’t say why you don’t come!  
No one can be like your mother!  
\*\*  
The black hair she gave you  
SHE doesn’t complain even if her face is wrinkled!

Don’t deserve to lose one year,  
If she leaves, she will never be found!  
No one can be like my mother!

Saidaliyeva Parizoda Davlatbaevna was born on November 30, 2007 in Narpay district, Samarqand region of the Republic of the Uzbekistan. She study at school number 68 from 10 class. To this day, she is the owner of many examples of poetic creation. Achievements:

2nd place in the Zulfiya district stage of 2022, 3rd place in Termez in 2021, Navoi followers competition in the Republic of 2023 was named 3rd place and Surkhandarya region was also won added to the ranks of the provinces. In addition, participated in large and small competitions and won top places. From a young age, she put the profession of journalist in front of herself and began to work on herself. Her efforts paid off and she was invited to show on prestigious TV channels in Uzbekistan, such as ZO’R TV, and even appeared on the show “Morning Greetings”, as well as Uzbekistan’s most famous, as Laylo Rustamova, Ozod Nazar (critical journalist) In addition to this, she also appeared on TV channels in Surkhandarya region several times.

# Unlocking The Secrets Of English Pronunciation: Techniques For Improving Speaking Fluency And Accent



By: Ro'zaxon Matqurbonova  
@themtkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- Utilizing Technology and Online Resources: In today's digital age, learners have access to a wide range of technology and online resources that can aid in improving pronunciation. Mobile apps, websites, and software programs offer interactive exercises, audio recordings, and pronunciation guides.
- These tools provide instant feedback and allow learners to practice at their own pace, making the learning process more engaging and effective. For instance, there are pronunciation apps that use speech recognition technology to analyze and provide feedback on learners' pronunciation accuracy.
- These apps can identify specific areas for improvement and offer targeted exercises to address those areas.

**Annotation:** This article explores techniques and strategies for improving English pronunciation, with a focus on enhancing speaking fluency and accent. It emphasizes the importance of understanding phonetics and phonology, mimicking native speakers, practicing pronunciation exercises, utilizing technology and online resources, and seeking feedback and guidance. By implementing these approaches, learners can unlock the secrets of English pronunciation and develop greater proficiency in spoken English.

**Keywords:** English pronunciation, speaking fluency, accent improvement, phonetics, phonology, mimicking native speakers, pronunciation exercises, technology resources, feedback, and guidance.

To improve English pronunciation, it is essential to have a solid understanding of phonetics and phonology. Phonetics focuses on the physical sounds of language, while phonology examines the patterns and rules governing those sounds. By familiarizing themselves with the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and studying the specific phonetic features of English, learners can gain insights into the pronunciation nuances and develop a

more accurate and natural-sounding accent. For example, understanding the difference between the /θ/ and /ð/ sounds in English can greatly impact intelligibility. Pronouncing "think" as "fink" or "this" as "dis" can lead to confusion. By learning the correct tongue placement and airflow for these sounds, learners can improve their pronunciation and avoid misunderstandings. Practicing minimal pairs, such as "thin" and "then," can help learners distinguish between similar sounds and refine their pronunciation skills.

**Mimicking Native Speakers:** One effective way to improve pronunciation is by mimicking native speakers. By listening closely to how native speakers articulate sounds, stress, intonation, and rhythm, learners can develop a more authentic accent. This can be done by watching movies, TV shows, or listening to podcasts in English and imitating the speech patterns and pronunciation of the actors or hosts. For instance, if a learner wants to improve their American English accent, they can watch American TV shows and pay attention to how native speakers pronounce words and phrases. By imitating their pronunciation and rhythm, learners can gradually internalize the natural flow of the language. They can also practice

shadowing, which involves listening to a native speaker and repeating their words and sentences immediately after, focusing on matching their pronunciation and rhythm.

**Practicing Pronunciation Exercises:** Engaging in regular pronunciation exercises can significantly improve speaking fluency and accent. These exercises can include tongue twisters, minimal pair practice, and sentence drills. Tongue twisters, such as "She sells seashells by the seashore," can help learners develop agility and accuracy in producing specific sounds. For example, a learner struggling with the /r/ sound can practice saying phrases like "red roses" or "really nice" repeatedly to strengthen their pronunciation of the sound. They can also practice minimal pairs, such as "ship" and "sheep," to differentiate between similar sounds and improve their overall pronunciation.

**Utilizing Technology and Online Resources:** In today's digital age, learners have access to a wide range of technology and online resources that can aid in improving pronunciation. Mobile apps, websites, and software programs offer interactive exercises, audio recordings, and pronunciation guides. These tools provide instant feedback and allow learners to practice at their own pace,

making the learning process more engaging and effective. For instance, there are pronunciation apps that use speech recognition technology to analyze and provide feedback on learners' pronunciation accuracy. These apps can identify specific areas for improvement and offer targeted exercises to address those areas.

Learners can also utilize online pronunciation guides and resources that provide audio recordings and visual demonstrations of correct pronunciation. These resources can help learners practice individual sounds, stress patterns, and intonation in a structured and interactive manner.

**Seeking Feedback and Guidance:** Receiving feedback from native speakers or qualified language instructors is invaluable in refining pronunciation skills. Joining conversation groups, language exchange programs, or enrolling in pronunciation classes can provide opportunities to practice speaking with others and receive constructive feedback. Additionally, working with a language tutor or coach who specializes in pronunciation can offer personalized guidance and targeted exercises to address specific pronunciation challenges. For example, a learner can participate in conversation groups where they engage in discussions with native speakers and receive feedback on their pronunciation.

This drawback can help them identify areas for improvement and make the necessary adjustments. A language tutor or coach can provide individualized instruction, focusing on the learner's specific pronunciation goals and providing tailored exercises and strategies to address their unique challenges. By implementing these techniques and incorporating real-life examples, learners can unlock the secrets of English pronunciation and develop greater proficiency in spoken English. With improved speaking fluency and accent, individuals can enhance their communication skills, boost their confidence, and open doors to new opportunities in both personal and professional realms.

I am a second-year student at the Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages, named Jurayeva Diyora Usmonaliyeva. One of my favorite subjects is the English language, and I have a B2 certificate in this language. Currently, I am studying the culture of foreign countries and in the future, I want to travel to many countries

# SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS  
SCORES  
OPINIONS  
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BREAKING NEWS



**Sports >>** \*Jamhuri Mx Racetrack will play host to the thrill of racing when Kenyan riders take on their Ugandan counterparts in the second round of the FIM Africa CAC Motocross Challenge Cup on Saturday and Sunday

## Kenya To Renew Rivalry With Uganda In FIM Africa Motocross Challenge



By Citizen Sports

Jamhuri Mx Racetrack will play host to the thrill of racing when Kenyan riders take on their Ugandan counterparts in the second round of the FIM Africa Central African Challenge (CAC) Motocross Challenge Cup on Saturday and Sunday.

Having lost to Uganda in the opening round earlier in the year, hosts Kenya will be looking to utilize their home turf advantage in the season-closing regional motocross extravaganza.

CAC Round 2 promises to be a spectacular showcase of talent, with some of the finest motocross riders from across the region competing for top honors where high-speed racing, breath-

taking jumps, and heart-stopping turns will definitely captivate the audience.

Standout riders to watch from Team Kenya MX50 squad include Armani Amani, Jyaden Weru and Uhrie Yongo. In MX65, Kenya will peg its hopes on the likes of Kigen Mutuma, Mathenge Kamundia and Dylan Hatanga. Lewis Ogonyi, Wahome Mutahi and Atete Benzinge are the notable names for Kenya in MX Lites class.

MX 125 has the usual suspects in Neo Wahome and Tanav Choda, while in MX 1 seasoned riders Apollo Mbuki, Walter Kuria and Alex Kandie should be the toast of the Kenyan outfit.

Ugandan Brigade  
On the Ugandan side, Jude K.

Musede, Jamairah Makumbi, Faith Deedan in MX50, Jonathan Katende, Isaac Mitima and Ramadhan Mubiru in MX65, are of the names to watch out for.

MX Lites' Ugandan team has Tabula Malcom Gig, Jerome Mubiru and Ron Young.

In MX 125 Uganda has Apolo Milton Obote Akaki, Waleed Ali Omar and Jeremiah Mawanda.

Uganda's MX 2 outfit has Jordan Mukiibi and Sharifah Kateete while in MX 1 they'll field Isima Mukiibi, Fatuh Kiggundu and Fortune Ssentamu.

In the MX Vets, the neighbors have entered veteran Ashraf Mbabazi.

The exhilarating sport synonymous with dedication and skill, will take centerstage as the Mo-

torcycle Sports Federation of Kenya (MSFK) collaborates with the East African Motor Sports Club to host the prestigious FIM Africa regional return leg series event.

Following the success of Round 1 at the Busiika racetrack in Uganda on April 8 and 9, this weekend's event is set to showcase the thrilling competition among over 50 Kenyan motocross riders, 50 Ugandan riders, and nearly 10 riders coming from Tanzania.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>** \*Junior Stars on Tuesday booked a final showdown with Uganda after edging out neighbours Tanzania 4-3 in a post-match shootouts following a barren draw at the Jomo Kenyatta Stadium, Mamboleo in Kisumu.

# Spot-On Kenya Shoot Out Tanzania To Book Cecafta Final Ticket



By **Citizen Sports**

Junior Stars on Tuesday booked a final showdown with Uganda after edging out neighbours Tanzania 4-3 in a post-match shootouts following a barren draw at the Jomo Kenyatta Stadium, Mamboleo in Kisumu.

Kenya needed Ibrahim Wanzala's penalty heroics to breeze past the visitors after failing to find a

breakthrough in the 120 minutes scintillating semi-final affair.

MOFA Academy's Syphas Owuor converted the last spot kick to send the hosts into the much anticipated final after Wanzala saved Tanzania's last spot kick.

Collins Ochieng, Amos Wanjala, Humphrey Aroko and Syphas Owuor all converted their penalties as main man Stanley Wilson saw his penalty kick saved by An-

thony Mpemba.

The Tanzanian shot stopper had a brilliant afternoon after pulling off a brilliant save so deny Stanley Wilson a goal in the second half, a goal that would have sealed Kenya's place without going into the extra time.

The tightly contested match saw both teams struggled to create inroads in the opposition defence although Tanzania had a busy af-

ternoon trying to cut of Kenya's attacks marshalled by Aroko and Tyron Kariuki.

Both teams also missed to bury their chances but it was Kenya who had the last laugh after the post-match shootouts.

Kenya will now jostle for the CECAFA U-18 title with Uganda who narrowly stunned Rwanda 1-0 on Friday at the same venue.

# SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS  
SCORES  
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# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN

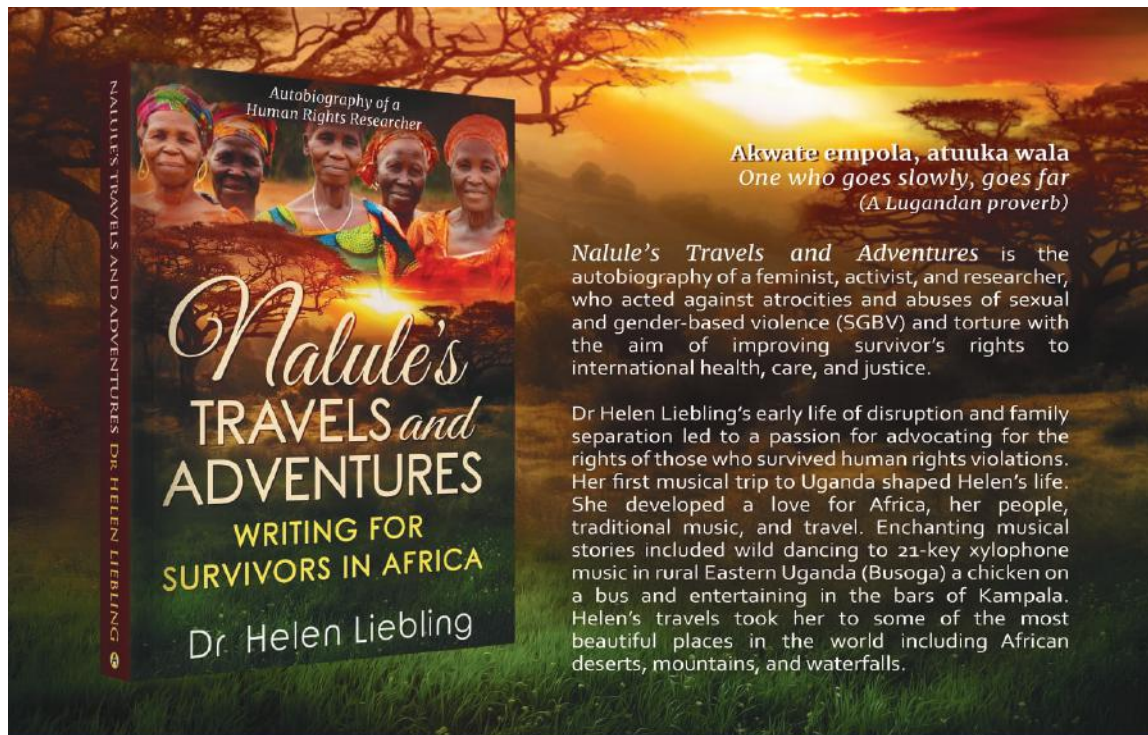


## Book Review Of Nalule's Travel And Adventures

By: Eric Wanjala  
@themkenyatimes

### Worth Noting:

- “The book was launched in Uganda on 24th November 2023 this is after I decided that I must speak out on the injustices that are happening to both genders during my work period in East Congo ,South Africa ,Liberia ,Rwanda and Uganda.I have been able to address challenges on political instability and put to an end the stigma behind those who have undergone gender based violence” says Dr Helen Liebling.
- One of the book's strengths lies in its unflinching portrayal of the multifaceted nature of gender-based violence. The author goes beyond the statistics, offering a nuanced understanding of the various forms this violence takes and its pervasive effects on survivors' lives.



**Akwate empola, atuuka wala**  
*One who goes slowly, goes far*  
(A Lugandan proverb)

*Nalule's Travels and Adventures* is the autobiography of a feminist, activist, and researcher, who acted against atrocities and abuses of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and torture with the aim of improving survivor's rights to international health, care, and justice.

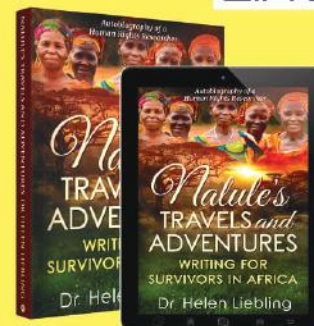
Dr Helen Liebling's early life of disruption and family separation led to a passion for advocating for the rights of those who survived human rights violations. Her first musical trip to Uganda shaped Helen's life. She developed a love for Africa, her people, traditional music, and travel. Enchanting musical stories included wild dancing to 21-key xylophone music in rural Eastern Uganda (Busoga) a chicken on a bus and entertaining in the bars of Kampala. Helen's travels took her to some of the most beautiful places in the world including African deserts, mountains, and waterfalls.

**Dr Helen Liebling** is well-travelled with a passion for the African Continent, Brazilian and African traditional music. Helen lived in Uganda where she assisted to set up and run the clinical psychology master's course. She returned to Warwick University to conduct her PhD research with women and men conflict survivors in Luwero District, Uganda. Helen's professional life included previously being clinical lead for refugee services in the NHS in Coventry and establishing services for urban refugees living in slum areas of Kampala.



Currently Helen is working at Coventry & Warwick Universities as an Assistant Professor in Research in the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations and Clinical Psychology. Collaborating very closely with African teams and colleagues, Helen has published funded research from fieldwork in eastern DRC, Liberia, and Uganda. Helen joined a writing group in Leamington Spa about four years ago and regularly performs with the Sambassadors of Groove Samba band as well as playing Ghanaian xylophone (Gyil).

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In her latest literary masterpiece, acclaimed author Dr Helen Liebling delves deep into the harrowing yet inspiring narratives of survivors of gender-based violence, unraveling the layers of pain, resilience, and courage that define their journey. “Nalule's Travel and Adventure” emerges as a poignant and timely exploration of a subject often relegated to the shadows.

The narrative unfolds with a compelling blend of empathy and her lifetime autobiography combined with some sense of journalistic pre-

cision, allowing readers to step into her shoes and those of the survivors and witness the complexities they navigate. Nalule is a Ugandan name meaning Bringer of good things. Through a series of heart-wrenching personal accounts, Dr Helen Liebling sheds light on the profound impact of gender-based violence, illustrating the indomitable spirit of those who refuse to be defined by their traumas.

“The book was launched in Uganda on 24th November 2023 this is after I decided that I must speak out on

the injustices that are happening to both genders during my work period in East Congo ,South Africa ,Liberia ,Rwanda and Uganda.I have been able to address challenges on political instability and put to an end the stigma behind those who have undergone gender based violence” says Dr Helen Liebling.

One of the book's strengths lies in its unflinching portrayal of the multifaceted nature of gender-based violence. The author goes beyond the statistics, offering a nuanced understanding of the various forms this vi-

olence takes and its pervasive effects on survivors' lives. By doing so, Dr Helen Liebling effectively dismantles the myth that gender-based violence is a one-size-fits-all narrative, underscoring the importance of recognizing the diverse experiences within this overarching issue.

The book also serves as a powerful call to action, challenging societal norms and systems that perpetuate gender-based violence. Through meticulous research and thought-provoking analysis, Dr Helen Liebling prompts readers to confront uncomfortable truths and engage in critical conversations surrounding the root causes of this pervasive issue. In doing so, the author positions “Nalule's Travel and Adventure” not merely as a book but as a catalyst for change.

While the subject matter is undeniably heavy, Dr Helen Liebling masterfully weaves threads of hope throughout the narrative. The resilience of the survivors becomes a guiding light, inspiring readers to reflect on their roles in dismantling the structures that enable gender-based violence. The author's sensitive handling of these stories ensures that, amidst the darkness, there is an enduring message of strength, empowerment, and the possibility of healing.

“Nalule Travel and Adventure” is an essential read for anyone seeking a profound exploration of the lived experiences of survivors of gender-based violence. Dr Helen Liebling has crafted a work that transcends the boundaries of a conventional book, offering readers an opportunity to not only bear witness to the pain but also to contribute to the collective effort to create a world free from the shackles of gender-based violence.

In a society that often silences survivors, Dr Helen Liebling has given them a voice, and in doing so, has created a literary testament to resilience, hope, and the unwavering human spirit. “Nalule's Travel and Adventure” stands as a powerful testament to the strength of survivors and a rallying cry for a world where gender-based violence is but a dark chapter in our collective past.