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**News>> We Have Numerous Opportunities In Tourism, Wildlife, Blue Economy And Mining Sectors**

**P. 8.** As The Number Of Tourists Continue To Increase, The Government Through The Ministry Of Mining Has Been Keen On Ensuring We Don't Export Our Minerals As A Raw Material



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# Gachagua Calls On Mt Kenya Leaders To Unite, Shun Divisive Politics

**Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has asked Mt Kenya leaders to unite, shun divisive politics and promote greater participation of the youth in productive socio-economic activities. Speaking at Kiambu Golf Club on Saturday night during a thanksgiving ceremony for golf champion Michael Karanga, the Deputy President said there was a political scheme to divide the Mt Kenya region voting bloc.**



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua addressing guests at Kiambu Golf Club on Saturday night.

STORY ON PAGE 9

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# More Students In Othaya Expected To Join Secondary Schools Following Intervention By Area MP

By: William Muchiri  
@themtkenyatimes



Othaya MP Wambugu Wainaina addressing journalists after a consultative meeting with Education officials and area Day Secondary schools Principals last week..

### Worth Noting:

- “We want to ensure that no student fail to learn in our day schools due to lack of fees. We have decided that the parents of such children will be required to raise one thousand shillings with the rest being paid by the NG-CDF office,” Wainaina said.
- As he affirmed his commitment to continue supporting education, the MP urged parents not to keep their children any more at home but instead have them joins the day schools in their locality.

Dozens pupils who sat for their Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) last year from Othaya constituency are now expected to join secondary schools after the local leadership announced plans to settle most of the required fees.

The students joining day secondary schools in the constituency will be required to pay a termly fee of KSh1,000 only with the government through the local National Government Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF) catering for the rest.

Last week, area MP Wambugu Wainaina held a consultative meeting with all Principals managing the local day secondary

schools alongside Ministry of Education officials where it was resolved that all last year KCPE candidates joining such institutions will get scholarship with the requirement being raising KSh1,000 per term.

“We want to ensure that no student fail to learn in our day schools due to lack of fees. We have decided that the parents of such children will be required to raise one thousand shillings with the rest being paid by the NG-CDF office,” Wainaina said.

As he affirmed his commitment to continue supporting education, the MP urged parents not to keep their children any-

more at home but instead have them joins the day schools in their locality.

He further disclosed that Kagumo, Karuthi, Irindi, Kairuthi and Gitundu Secondary schools will admit form one students without seeking anything in fees for the first term.

Those who have already paid their fees will have pushed to cater for the next term’s fee.

Apart from those joining day schools, the MP and the NG-CDF office is also supporting those who excelled and secured admission in board schools in the constituency and other parts of the country.

Sources said several other constituencies in the area like Tetu have since taken up the matter and are in the process of rolling out a similar programme.

Kiharu constituency which is headed by Ndindi Nyoro was the first to take the initiative.

Editor's Desk

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



There is change of guard at the International Police (Interpol) regional bureau for Eastern Africa. On Friday, the Director of Criminal Investigations (DCI) Mohamed I. Amin hosted the new Interpol boss Mr. Apollo Africa who paid him a courtesy visit. Mr. Africa has replaced Mr. Gideon Kimilu who retired from the Police Service, with seven years of dedicated service at the Bureau. During their meeting, Mr. Africa assured the Director DCI of his cooperation with member countries towards achieving the mandate of Interpol. On his part, Mr. Amin assured the new Bureau chief of his full support in all Interpol matters.



The Kakamega County Government is set to establish Material Recovery Centers to segregate waste into biodegradable, solid, plastics, and E-waste for proper disposal. The biodegradable waste will be recycled to produce organic fertilizer, with an organic fertilizer factory in the Matawa Mumias West sub-county. The county government has set aside every third Friday of every month for monthly clean-ups. As the county prepares to host the African Nations Football Championships in September, protocols will be prepared to ensure high standards of cleanliness. The government is also working with the county assembly to establish sustainable waste management legislation and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with special interest groups to establish material recovery facilities.



Kwale Governor Fatuma Achani is aiming to refurbish and upgrade sporting facilities across the coastal county to drive sports development. The devolved government is investing in the construction and revamp of sporting facilities to attract more youth and improve the overall well-being of individuals. The ongoing construction of the Sh 450 million Kwale County stadium, which will host national and international sporting events, is being completed at an unparalleled speed. The new facilities will have football and basketball pitches, changing rooms, a restaurant, an athletics tartan track, medical rooms, washrooms, and floodlights. The coastal county boss is also constructing 500-seater rural stadiums to provide a conducive environment for athletes and sports enthusiasts to engage in various sporting activities. Achani believes that sports play a crucial role in the community, promoting physical fitness, mental well-being, and social integration among the youth.



Health Soccer Boy Child Empowerment Programme has kicked off in Laikipia County. Area Deputy Governor Reuben Kamuri oversaw the launching of the programme's Laikipia chapter at Likii Primary School, where four teams played. The programme is being spearheaded by the Spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi. This initiative aims at giving the boy child a dignified future through empowerment and mentorship. The programme will involve selected teams from across all the 15 wards in the county. Kamuri noted that ultimately, all the participants will be winners since they will benefit through select empowerment programmes of their choice. Earlier, the Deputy Governor had chaired a stakeholders sensitization meeting on the programme which Pastor Dorcas is expected to officially launch in a few days time. Among those who attended the meeting were County Commissioner Joseph Kanyiri, Ag CECM Education and Sports Biwot Kisorio, representatives from Office of the Spouse of Deputy President, Religious leaders and other interest groups across Laikipia County.



Chief Justice Martha Koome has gazetted two magistrates' courts in Uasin Gishu in efforts to expand access to justice.

The newly-established courts in Moiben and Turbo will be under the supervisory jurisdiction of the Eldoret High Court, Koome said in a Gazette Notice published on Friday.

The establishment of the two courts is part of an ambitious plan to set up a magistrates' court in all the 290 constituencies in an effort to make them accessible to the public.

Subordinate courts which include magistrate courts accounted for up to 85 per cent of cases in Kenyan courts in 2023 according to Koome.

The establishment of the two courts comes months after the Chief Justice inaugurated sixty-nine newly-recruited magistrates, hailing magistrate courts as "people's courts" and "the face of the justice system".

"This is so because it is at the Magistrates' Courts and the Small Claims Courts that the bulk of the cases – be it criminal, traffic or civil cases – that come to the justice system are heard and resolved," she said during the swearing of new magistrates October 9.

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# Jaramogi Oginga Odinga 30th Memorial

By: Our Reporter  
 @themkenyentimes

The memorial service was held at ACK St Stephen's Cathedral in Kisumu City. An Anniversary public lecture preceded the service at the historic Ofafa Memorial Hall where leaders from different parts of the country reflected on his legacy and contributions to the nation. Apart from the doyen of politics family members, other leaders that graced the ceremony included former First Lady Margaret Kenyatta, former Cabinet Minister Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Prof. Michael Chege, Prof. Robert Manson, Mzee Gitu Kahengeri, Jael Mbogo, Dr Olara Otunnu and the Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Moses Kuria.



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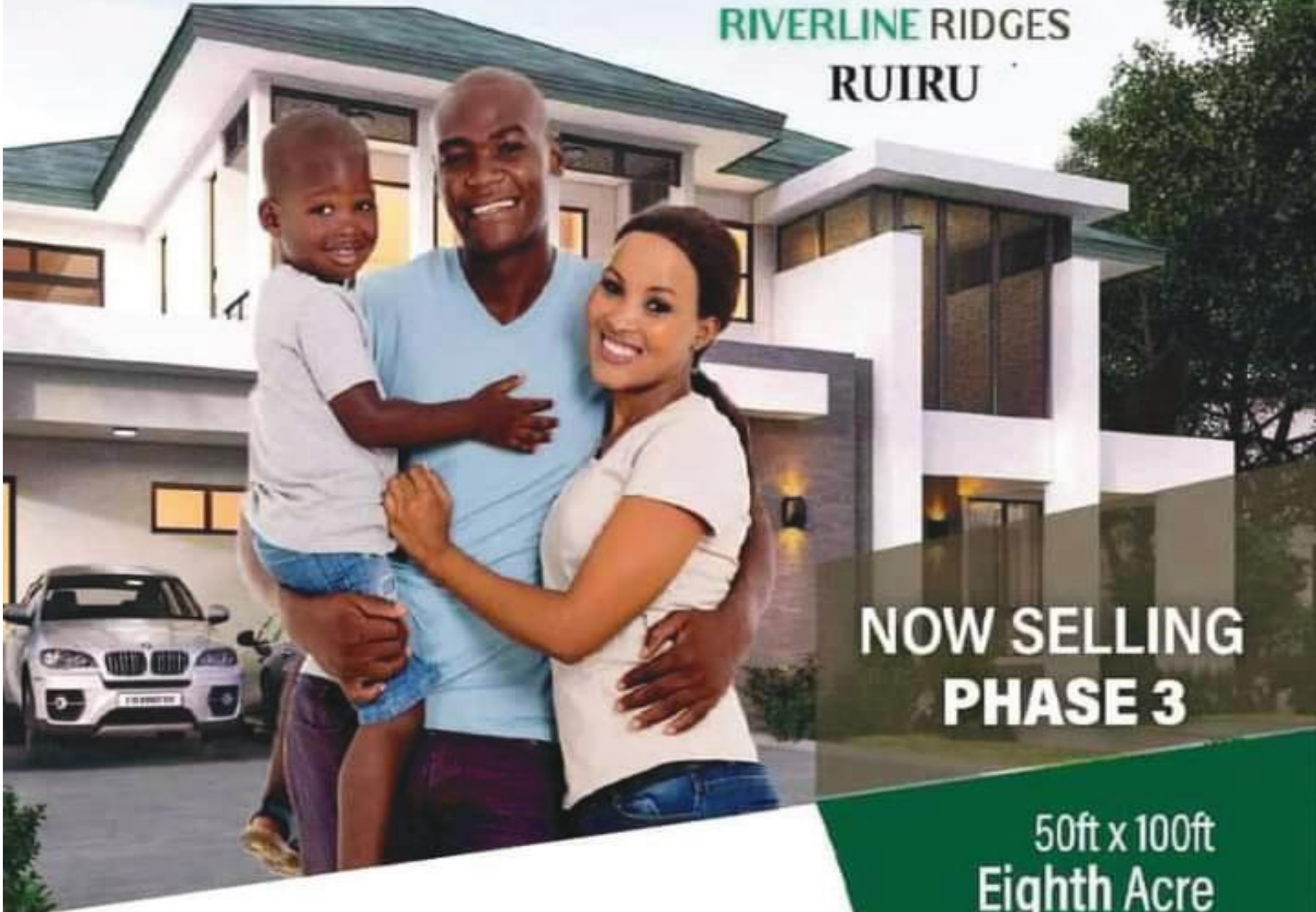
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# We Have Numerous Opportunities In Tourism, Wildlife, Blue Economy And Mining Sectors

*As The Number Of Tourists Continue To Increase, The Government Through The Ministry Of Mining Has Been Keen On Ensuring We Don't Export Our Minerals As A Raw Material*



By: ISAAC MWAURA  
@themtkenyatimes

I got a lot of feedback from my article last week, emanating from the fact that not so many people were aware of what there is for the youth, the jobless and for those of us in our society who are vulnerable.

Today, we are going to do the same by looking at our tourism, wildlife, mining and blue economies to help people understand what is in there for them.

Tourism is one of the leading foreign exchange earners in our country.

In fact, we pride ourselves as a very hospitable country, with our slogan 'hakuna matata' being a global catchphrase for international travel.

Our country is now visa-free, meaning we shall have more visitors coming into our country going forward. For example, international arrivals have grown by 18.42 per cent in the last 16 months, meaning that our country received 273,412 more visitors. This means that more money was injected into the economy.

In fact, the number of days that tourists have spent in Kenya has increased by one day from 10 to 11 days.

The more they stay, the more they spend. Actually, the country was able to rake in an additional Sh650 million from this sector alone, due to the fact that spending in hotels has also increased by 3 per cent in bed occupancy.

Tourists come to Kenya primarily to see animals. The government is thus putting in place measures to ensure the endangered species don't become extinct, such as the northern white rhino with a population of only two in the country.

However, endangered elephants have increased by 692, while black rhinos have increased by 80.



Our country has also increased in the tourism sector. These graduates will help support this growing sector of the economy, whose full potential is yet to be realised.

For example, the Ronald Ngala Utalii College to be opened in June this year will have a capacity to train 5,000 youth at a go.

The focus is to make the college a centre of excellence on export labour to countries such as Saudi Arabia that is building a new city, requiring 350,000 workers! This is indeed a great opportunity for those who are jobless!

Kenya is also becoming a popular destination for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibition travel.

Last year alone, our local and international conferences hit the 10,000

mark with an increase of 2,151 conferences, and more than 4,000 delegates from around the world attended.

Our country is really endowed with many natural resources, including minerals such as gemstones, gold, fluor spar, granite, and so forth.

The government, through the Ministry of Mining, has been keen on ensuring we don't export these minerals as a raw material.

As a result, five value-addition sites have been completed in Voi, Vihiga, Elgeyo Marakwet, and in Nairobi counties for gold, gemstones and other minerals.

This way, our miners will get more value from their labour, translating to higher incomes for them and also foreign exchange for the country.

Moreover, 869 youth were recruit-

ed last year alone to work on foreign ships, thus earning an income for their families in foreign currency. In addition, 621 Common Interest Groups comprising fishermen and other occupations within the blue economy were given grants amounting to Sh1.5 billion in the last one year to boost their businesses. Some of the beneficiaries are 50 Beach Management Units that have also been transformed into cooperative societies.

An example is the Mwakamba BMU in Diani, which has helped restore the mangrove forest around the Kongo Estuary that drains into the Indian Ocean.

In addition, 26 boats have been donated by the government to eight BMUs; while 875 fishermen have been training on how to do deep sea fishing.

This is important as Kenya has so many fish in the deep that go unexploited or are taken by other countries for free.

Further, 565 seaweed farmers have been trained in mariculture in Kwale county to enable them to conduct this form of farming in a more profitable manner.

Whatever is not communicated, hasn't happened! Now you know, smell the coffee.

*Dr Isaac Maigua Mwaure is the government spokesperson*



## Worth Noting:

- The focus is to make the college a centre of excellence on export labour to countries such as Saudi Arabia that is building a new city, requiring 350,000 workers! This is indeed a great opportunity for those who are jobless!
- Kenya is also becoming a popular destination for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibition travel.
- Last year alone, our local and international conferences hit the 10,000 mark with an increase of 2,151 conferences, and more than 4,000 delegates from around the world attended.
- Our country is really endowed with many natural resources, including minerals such as gemstones, gold, fluor spar, granite, and so forth.

# Gachagua Calls On Mt Kenya Leaders To Unite, Shun Divisive Politics

*The Deputy President Warned The Mountain Leaders And Residents Of A Scheme To Divide Them, Saying Such A Move Was Bound To Backfire On Those Behind It*

By: DPCS and WILFRED MUCHIRE



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua receiving greetings from Kiambu County Senator Karungo Thang'wa as Michael Karanga who hosted them looks on.

## Worth Noting:

- “Elections are over, let us the close debate on who voted where because nobody was wrong in making his or her political choice. Let us not remind people where they voted because that is null. President William Ruto and I decided to move on and unite the people. The region is united behind President William Ruto; the people want development and a conducive environment for their businesses,” he stated.

- Leaders present were area MP Waithaka Machua, Kiambu Senator Karungo Thang'wa, Kiambu Woman Representative Anne Wamuratha, Kiambaa MP Njuguna Kwanjiku, Alice Ng'ang'a (Thika Town), Engineer John Kiragu (Limuru), Kamande Mwafrika (Roysambu), MejjaDonk Gathiru (Embakasi Central), Members of East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) Kanini Kega and Maina Karobia, MCAs among other leaders.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has asked Mt Kenya leaders to unite, shun divisive politics and promote greater participation of the youth in productive socio-economic activities.

Speaking at Kiambu Golf Club on Saturday night during a thanksgiving ceremony for golf champion Michael Karanga, the Deputy President said there was a political scheme to divide the Mt Kenya region voting bloc.

He, however, said the schemers will not succeed in their mission as he asked the leaders to focus on development and socio-economic growth of the people.

“I urge the leaders to be united and focused. Those scheming to divide the region should know that the people of Mt Kenya are intelligent and are aware of what is happening. Those seeking to divide us are enemies of the region. Our relevance in national leadership lies on our unity. We know what disunity and divisive politics did us in 1992 and 1997 elections,” he added.

Accompanied by tens of Members

of Parliament and other leaders from the mountain region, who declared to rally behind him, Gachagua asked them to be united by the vision of a strong and prosperous community.

Mr Gachagua said he had embraced all leaders across the political divide irrespective of how they campaigned or voted in the 2022 General Election.

“Elections are over, let us the close debate on who voted where because nobody was wrong in making his or her political choice. Let us not remind people where they voted because that is null. President William Ruto and I decided to move on and unite the people. The region is united behind President William Ruto; the people want development and a conducive environment for their businesses,” he stated.

Leaders present were area MP Waithaka Machua, Kiambu Senator Karungo Thang'wa, Kiambu Woman Representative Anne Wamuratha, Kiambaa MP Njuguna Kwanjiku, Alice Ng'ang'a (Thika Town), Engineer John Kiragu (Limuru), Kamande Mwafrika (Roysambu),

MejjaDonk Gathiru (Embakasi Central), Members of East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) Kanini Kega and Maina Karobia, MCAs among other leaders.

Others were the chairpersons of Kenya Airports Authority Caleb Kositany and Kenya Golf Union Phillip Ochola.

“During the 2022 campaigns we said it was President Ruto ten years without a break and the same for DP Gachagua. I urge my colleagues in the Mt Kenya region that we focus on development and success of the President not succession of leadership, let us stop the politics and internal wrangles,” said EALA Member Karobia.

The Thika Town constituency MP said, “There is always one leader at a time. We are fine with DP Gachagua's leadership”.

She condemned attempts to divide the region through intercounty politics adding that it was disrespectful to start succession politics at a time President Ruto and DP Gachagua were only one year in office.

Similar sentiments were aired by

virtually all the leaders who spoke during the event.

In the last two weeks, a section of leaders from Murang'a and Kirinyaga counties have come out supporting one of their own to replace Gachagua as President Ruto's running mate, come 2027 General Election.

The debate which most political and religious leaders have termed as premature started in Murang'a where a group of local politicians led by area Senator Joe Nyutu called for Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro to replace Gachagua.

Last week, Mwea MP Mary Maingi ignited a similar debate calling for the elevation of Kirinyaga County governor Ann Waiguru.

Relating to sports, the Deputy President said that the government is transforming the sector and for talent to be an income generating activity.

He said the organiser of the event, 28-year-old Michael Karanga, was a testimony of the bottom up economic transformation model as he has risen from a caddy at Ndumberi Golf Club to a world champion.

“Karanga is a testimony of the bottom-up having risen from a caddy to a world champion in golfing. We are here because we support sports and as a government we are committed to developing sports and the digital highway. We are also nurturing talents. Let us assist the young people by making sure that they are busy and engaging in creative activities such as sports,” said the DP.

Mr Karanga is ranked fourth top amateur golfer in Africa and position 74th in the world amateur rankings.

On the country's state of the economy, the Deputy President asked Kenyans to be patient with President Ruto's efforts to revive the economy.

He said the economy has improved since President Ruto took over the Presidency.

“Relax and be patient. When you buy a company that is leaping it cannot recover in one day. It takes time. President Ruto inherited a beaten economy. We are not complaining because it is our work to fix. Please work hard and things will get better as we move along,” said the DP.

# KNEC Finally Releases Withheld Results

By: William Muchiri and Christine Otieno @themtkenytimes

The Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) finally released the results of some KCSE candidates whose marks had been withheld over suspected malpractice.

Hundreds of candidates who sat for the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education who sat for the national examination last year from various parts of the country had been affected by the move.

Kisii's Cardinal Otunga Boys fraternity was elated on Friday after receiving the results of all its 432 students who sat the examination.

During the release of the 2023 KCSE results, the Ministry of Education through Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu and the KNEC flagged the results of 4,113 candidates across the country on allegations of breaching exam regulations.

There is however heightened tension in some schools whose candidates are yet to receive results.

"I wish to inform the general public that we finally have 100 per cent of



Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu while releasing KCSE results a few weeks ago.

the results and their results are very impressive because all of them are transiting to the university," Cardinal Otunga school Principal Albert Ombiro said.

With a total registered candidature of 432, the last candidate at the school got a B-, with the Principal saying the

students had 6 As, 60 A- 137 B+ and 26 B-.

Kisii County Commissioner Tom Anjere stated, "All of us need to take responsibility if the school has not done well, it's not just the candidate, it is all the stakeholders...so let us not get to this miss advise of chasing the prin-

cipal on basis of poor performance."

A similar sigh of relief was also witnessed at Nyakongo Secondary School after KNEC released withheld results of the entire KCSE cohort of 263 students, exonerating the school from alleged cases of malpractice.

In Migori County, Mabera Secondary

School also received their withheld results from the examination body.

In Nandi County, however, there is heightened tension at Sameoi Secondary School which is yet to receive its results.

Area MP Benard Kutur expressed his displeasure with the Ministry of Education over the decision to withhold the results.

"There was no hurry of releasing results without not being conscious of people and the suffering parents are going through...you should have done investigations before saying these results have been cancelled because now you're holding students on ransom as others are celebrating...everybody is in limbo," aid the Nandi Hills lawmaker.

KNEC flagged results for a total 4113 candidates over suspected exam malpractice.

Their fate was to be decided by a special committee constituted by the Ministry of Education where principals of affected schools were to be questioned regarding their claims.

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# Is Ndindi Poised To Take The Mantle Of Mount Kenya Kingpin?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



## Worth Noting:

- Karanja stayed in office for less than one year. It is worth to note the political plot to hound him out of office had crafted by two lightweight politicians-Embakasi MP David Mwenje and the head of Motor Vehicle Inspection Unit Kuria Kanyingi. Just like DP Gachagua, he had downplayed the threat posed by the duo.
- The name of President Moi was dragged into this matter. However, there was no tangible evidence that he was behind this plot or rather sponsored it.
- Ndindi, Gachagua supremacy battle took a new turn a few days ago when Ndindi hosted more than 20 Kenya Kwanza members of parliament drawn from different parts of the country in his Kiharu constituency.

I have been following keenly the supremacy battle for Mount Kenya Kingpin pitting Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro.

Gachagua have been taking this matter lightly. He believes that he is the most-senior politician from region.

To him, Ndindi is a light weight and hence he does not pose any threat to him. If I were him, I would take a different approach.

I want to remind him about the famous words of former powerful Attorney General the late Charles Njonjo. He once said that politics is a dirty game.

You may think that today you are very powerful but you never know what will happen tomorrow.

Njonjo uttered these words after falling out with President Daniel Arap Moi.

He never thought that this can happen. This is because he was a close ally and confidant of President Moi.

Former Vice President Joshat Karanja had also suffered fate. After Moi fell out with his Vice President Mwai Kibaki, he pointed Doctor Karanja to this position.

Karanja stayed in office for less than one year. It is worth to note the political plot to hound him out of office had crafted by two lightweight politicians-Embakasi MP David Mwenje and the head of Motor Vehicle Inspection Unit Kuria Kanyingi. Just like DP Gachagua, he had downplayed the threat posed by the duo.

The name of President Moi was dragged into this matter. However, there was no tangible evidence that he was behind this plot or rather sponsored it.

Ndindi, Gachagua supremacy battle took a new turn a few days ago when Ndindi hosted more than 20 Kenya Kwanza members of parliament drawn from different parts of the country in his Kiharu constituency.

The MPs showered him with accolades. Ndindi's track record on matters of development, peace and unity speaks for itself.

Former Secretary General of KNUT and ODM nominated MP Wilson Sosian set the ball rolling. He noted that Ndindi was a presidential material.

I want to assure you the people of Muranga that Ndindi was poised to succeed President Ruto in 2032 when he completes his second term in office. You can take this to the bank.

Soon after this event, a section of the politicians started peddling unfounded rumors that President William Ruto was sponsoring Ndindi's campaigns. They would not produce an iota of evidence to support their claims.

This is not the first time that the name of the head of state would dragged into premature 2032 succession politics.

Sometimes back Kakamega senator Bonny Khalwale had made similar claims. This happened during Dr Ruto's visit to the region.

He alleged that President Ruto had held a closed door meeting with the leaders

of Mulembe nation at Kakamega State Lodge. We managed to convince him to support the candidature of ANC leader Musalia Mudavadi in 2032.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua is not suitable for the position of the President. We want to tell him to forget it. President Ruto will pass the baton to Mudavadi, Khalwale added.

But in a swift rejoinder, Dr Ruto dismissed and denounced his remarks. It is premature and too early to talk about 2032 succession. We are here to launch and commission development projects. This is in line with promises we made during the campaigns.

I'm not holding brief for the President but I'm persuaded to believe that his position is the same. This is regard to Ndindi's political game plan for the Mount Kenya region.

Though Gachagua is arguably the senior-most leader, the recent developments have shown that his popularity was dwindling.

Ndindi's political star was on the other hand rising very fast.

I have been listening to the views of the Kikuyus living in Githurai and in my rural area.

Well, DP Gachagua curves a niche of being a truthful and a God-fearing man. So, with due respect, I want to let him know this.

Majority of them do not believe in him. To drive the point home, they would revisit his previous utterances and history.

You heard him likening Kenya to Shareholding Company. This was a reckless statement. They would also fault him for picking a war with Nairobi governor Johnson Sakaja. His statement was divisive, callous and designed to put the Kikuyus into a collision course with rest of the Kenyan communities.

This is because Nairobi is the home to all the 45 communities of Kenya.

Others would allege that Gachagua was only considering his home county of Nyeri for state appointments.

Some would recall the alleged 'ills' associated with him when he served as a 'special' District Officer (DO) during the era of President Daniel Arap Moi.

It is also worth noting that Gachagua was not the preferred choice of the majority of the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) leaders from the Mountain for the position of the running mate. The final decision however lied with presidential candidate William Ruto. He settled on him.

Given this scenario, one would have expected Gachagua to immediately start healing the wounds after being sworn in as DP. It is widely believed that one year down the line he has failed to do this.

The Kikuyus opposed to him would aver that Kiharu MP Ndindi is the most suitable candidate to lead the Mountain.

Apart from being youthful and well educated, he is a development conscious leader and a unifier.

Besides, he has never been implicated in corruption or any other wrong-doing. Ndindi's track record of development



Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro.

in Kiharu is there for all to see.

The MPs and other elected leaders are travelling there for bench-marking.

The other day a renowned opinion poll firm rated him as the best performer in the country. This is on matters of development.

Matters of education are close to his heart. Ndindi have done a lot in terms of building new state-of-art classrooms and renovating the old ones.

He has also been spending part of money he receives from National Exchequer to build TVET colleges.

National Government-Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF) is one of the kitties.

He moved a step further when he initiated a school feeding programme for the students in all day secondary schools in Kiharu constituency.

Dozens of MPs from across the country who attended this event showered him with praises.

Ndindi has demonstrated he is a servant of the people.

This places him as the best-suited to take up the mantle of Mount Kenya kingpin. We are definitely going to drum up support for him so that he can clinch the seat, most of the speakers stated.

Ndindi steered clear of this topic.

He did this a few days ago when he hosted a similar event. This time Ndindi, who was being flanked by 15 members of parliament, commissioned a new programme.

In this, the NG-CDF funds will cater for the school fees of the students in day schools in Kiharu. The parents will only pay Sh1,000 per term.

Again, speaker after speaker, showered him with accolades.

Those who had attended the earlier events stated: We told you that Honor-

able Ndindi Nyoro is a good, caring and down to earth leader.

As a pioneer, we have been inviting him to come to our regions to help us rollout similar projects. He is still ahead of us.

What lesson do we learn here? He is larger than life. Besides steering Mount Kenya to success and prosperity, he has the qualities of a national leader. You never know, he may succeed President William Ruto when he completes his two terms of 10 years in 2032.

At this juncture, allow me to say this. The opinion of the Mount Kenya residents particularly the Kikuyus is divided.

There are those who believe that former President Uhuru Kenyatta is still holding the mantle of kingpin.

For others, Uhuru is no longer a king. His tenure came to an end when he retired as the President.

They would also aver that he failed to champion their interest when he was at the helm. So, he cannot turn around and cast the image of holier-than-thou.

So, if he fall prey to those misleading him, we will once again shame him.

But supporters of Uhuru would argue that Ndindi and Gachagua will not go anywhere without his backing. They should look for Uhuru. The one who gets his nod will become the kingpin. But majority of them would prefer Ndindi to take up the mantle.

*Joseph Mutua Ndonga Is A Writer And Political Analyst Based In Nairobi*

# MPs To Propose Affordable Housing Allocation Be Capped At One House Per KRA PIN

*The Committee Chairman Allied Fears That The Project May Be Hijacked By Cartels, Who Might Buy The Housing Units And Dispose Them At A Profit*

By: PSCU and Our Correspondent  
 @themkenyatimes



Leaders at one of the Affordable Housing construction sites..

**Worth Noting:**

- “Concerns that these houses may end up largely benefiting other people as opposed to the common man have been raised in all the counties we have conducted public hearings. I however want to reiterate that the committee will propose measures to ensure that this program benefits even those at the very bottom. That’s why the program is dubbed affordable housing program”, he assured.
- He was responding to concerns that the project may be hijacked by cartels, who might buy the housing units and dispose them at a profit.
- During the opening session, the Vihiga County Deputy Governor, Wilberforce Kitiezo and area MPs Ernest Kivai (Vihiga Constituency) and Beatrice Adagala, endorsed the project adding that it is godsend.

As the public participation exercise on the Affordable Housing Bill 2023 enters the fifth day today, the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning want allocation of houses pegged on KRA PIN.

The committee chairman and Molo constituency MP Kuria Kimani has reiterated that the committee will propose a one housing unit per KRA PIN.

While addressing the residents of Vihiga County during public hearings on the Bill, Kimani sought to allay fears that the wealthy may end up buying off a majority of the houses for later resale at a profit.

“Concerns that these houses may end up largely benefiting other people as opposed to the common man have been raised in all the counties we have conducted public hearings. I however want to reiterate that the committee will propose measures to ensure that this program benefits even those at the very bottom. That’s why the program is dubbed affordable housing program”, he assured.

He was responding to concerns that the project may be hijacked by cartels, who might buy the housing units

and dispose them at a profit.

During the opening session, the Vihiga County Deputy Governor, Wilberforce Kitiezo and area MPs Ernest Kivai (Vihiga Constituency) and Beatrice Adagala, endorsed the project adding that it is godsend.

The three told the committee that the project would help alleviate the housing challenge in the county given the huge population density and a small land mass.

“Mr. Chairman, an average household in this county has eight people. Unfortunately, most families own less than an acre of land here. This means there is no enough land to house our people. This project will help alleviate that challenge”, Kivai said.

On his part, the Deputy Governor noted that the county was ready to partner with the government in the implementation of the project should the Bill be enacted. He also committed that the county government would provide land for the project.

At the same time, the proposal that lawmakers consider creating a provision on the proposed law to allow the State of Department of Housing partner with universities and tertiary institutions to close the gap for stu-

dents’ housing arose yet again.

The Acting Vice Chancellor of Kaijumo University Prof. Jack Nandi told the lawmakers that the University which has a student population of 4,000 had a shortage of 3,200 hostels and was in dire need of housing for the staff and students.

His sentiments were echoed by Mr. Moses Aluga who represented four Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutes who also called for amendments to the law to support institutional housing.

Throwing his weight behind institutional housing, the Sub-County Police Commander, Simon Ng’ang’a proposed that the program incorporates police housing. He noted that for decades, the police had suffered from poor housing, adding that the program would grant them decent housing by supplanting uni-huts that have characterized police housing for decades.

But even as Vihiga residents supported the program, they noted that there is need to make consideration for accessibility for people with disabilities and attendant amenities.

While noting that proper planning for amenities such as burial sites

need to be put in place, Dr. Fauzia a representative from the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce called for a culture change. She observed that with a population density of 1,200 per square kilometer, a common burial site would be ideal for residents who would take up the affordable housing units.

Other issues that were raised include a proposal to have those who contribute the housing levy and do not wish to own the housing units become shareholders. Hon. Kimani however explained that the housing levy was not a contributory fund but was rather a tax.

Asked why there are some ongoing housing projects round the country yet the Affordable Housing Bill has not been enacted, the members explained that the ongoing projects were being carried out by the National Housing Corporation (NHC) and the budget towards those projects had been allocated in the current financial year.

The public hearings will today take place in Uasin Gishu and Turkana Counties.

# Diverse Voices Advocate For Low Cost Affordable Housing For The Less Fortunate

By: PSCU

In a significant public participation event held in Mavoko, Machakos County, community members voiced their opinions on the Affordable Housing Bill, contributing valuable insights that could shape the outcome of the Bill before tabling of the committees report in parliament.

One of the attendees representing university students said there is need for dedicated hostels to university students.

Acknowledging the importance of providing suitable accommodations for students, she urged the committee to incorporate provisions for such facilities in the Bill.

A strong emphasis was placed on affordability, with residents advocating for a reduction in the cost of housing units to make them more affordable to low-income earners.

This call for economic inclusivity seeks to ensure that a broader spectrum of the community can afford de-



Vice chairperson of Housing, Public Works and Urban Planning committee, Rindikiri Mugambi (2nd left) going through affordable housing project details as other leaders, including Laikipia County Women Representative Jane Kagiri looks on.

cent housing.

People living with disabilities (PWDs) were not left out of the discussion. A representative from the group stressed the importance of involving PWDs in affordable housing projects by incorporating them in the

supply chain of building materials and providing technical support.

Furthermore, there was a collective call for housing designs that are inclusive and considerate of PWDs, allowing them easy access to the houses.

Local contractors also urged the

government to consider them in the awarding of contracts. The noted that involving local contractors would not only boost the economy, but would also ensure that the benefits of such projects extend to the surrounding communities.

Participants also called for an upgrade in social infrastructure surrounding these housing projects. This includes improvement of infrastructure in schools, hospitals, roads, and street lighting amongst other facilities.

They observed that this holistic approach to development aims at creating thriving communities supported by adequate amenities.

Mr. Malei Nthiwa, representing the Mavoko Jua Cali Association also shared his perspectives with the Housing Committee. He urged the lawmakers to ring-fence the Affordable Housing Fund to ensure its dedicated use for achieving the community's housing aspirations.

The further told the lawmakers that the association's recommendations, if incorporated, could contribute significantly to the success of the housing initiatives. Their sentiments were noted by the Vice chairperson of Housing, Public Works and Urban Planning Committee, Rindikiri Mugambi, who chaired the session.

# Laikipia Rancher Lucy Jennings Shot In Ambush By Unknown Assailants

By: Peter Mwangi  
@themkenyatimes

A rancher in Laikipia County was yesterday shot and critically injured by unknown criminals who laid an ambush on her.

Lucy Wambui Jennings, 50, had left her home to attend a morning church service in Rumuruti town when she was way-laid by unknown assailants who shot at her.

She suffered a gunshot wound at the back of her head and her arm during the early morning attack.

Her family members and friends managed to rescue her and rushed her to Rumuruti Sub-County Hospital where she received first aid treatment before being transferred to Pope Benedict XVI Hospital in Nyahururu where she was admitted.

Njihia Mbugua, her brother, dis-

closed that there have been similar attacks on her before.

According to Rumuruti Business Community chairman Fredrick Mwangi, this was not the first time the rancher has been targeted by criminals.

He regretted that the expansive Jennings Farm located several kilometres away from Rumuruti town had been invaded by illegal grazers who had also built shanties.

Efforts to evict them from her farm have always landed in courts as they claim ownership of part of the land.

Salama Ward MCA Mugambi Gatati has called on the government to move with speed and ensure the suspects are brought to book.

Security officers in Laikipia West are in pursuit of illegal grazers believed to have been behind the shooting of the rancher while at her farm within Thome location.

Residents want security to be enhanced in areas where such conflicts



between illegal grazers and landowners are rampant.

They are also calling on the government to deploy more National Police

Reservists in areas prone to such attacks to weed out illegal grazers and individuals in possession of unlicensed firearms.

Security agencies had been placed on high alert to ward off any incidences of banditry and armed conflicts.

## Enjoy The River Of Knowledge...



Oh God, guide me too.  
 Don't let the light of knowledge go out  
 in my heart,  
 Make my face shine before people,  
 Don't miss out on the wisdom of  
 science.  
 I too will be Navoi, follower of Babur;

Maybe a little fan of Zulfiya,  
 No matter what happens, be a poet.  
 Enjoy the knowledge river.  
 An example of "one rain" among adults  
 Let the little ones say "poet sister"  
 Let my mother and father be proud,  
 Don't miss out on the wisdom of  
 science.  
 Enjoy the world's knowledge,  
 Both Pushkin and Byron from the magic  
 of creation,  
 I keep saying it again and again,  
 Do not miss the river of knowledge...

I was born on October 18, 2003 in  
 Termiz District, Surkhandarya Region,  
 Jorajeva Marjona Bakhtiyar's daughter.  
 I studied in the district school number  
 12. Nowadays, I am a 2nd-year student  
 of Uzbek language and literature at the  
 Faculty of Philology of the Termiz State  
 Pedagogical Institute.

## Cries Of The Departed



I bring you the cries of the departed  
 Mighty and louder they have become  
 Not letting the living to rest  
 Filled with agony and bitterness  
 They cry  
 Crying day in, midnight and when night falls  
 They are louder and require to be heard  
 The cries  
 Cries of the departed

Not everyone cries  
 The cries belong to the few that died  
 Died in an execution i may say  
 Execution caused by our political differences  
 Yet their time wasn't over yet  
 But the slash of that panga found them  
 Declaring them dead  
 They cry  
 Crying yet nothing can bring them back  
 Louder they cry because we never learnt  
 The cries

Cries of the departed

Another group cries  
 Crying yet asking themselves to be quiet  
 How? How can this possibly be  
 Yes they ask their voices to shut  
 Because they died of hunger in a fruitful nation  
 They are embarrassed to even cry  
 How could the nation betray its own  
 Leaving them dead yet food was plenty to others  
 They cry  
 Abandoned to cry but pleading themselves to be  
 silent  
 The cries  
 Cries of the departed

Other cry out of what they see  
 Departed but for them they left  
 Crying for the souls of the living  
 From the pulpit to the mud-house  
 From the clergy to the begger  
 From counsel to the mayor  
 From the ruler to the ruled  
 Nothing seems to have changed  
 They cry  
 Crying to see can the tears change  
 Unfortunately not  
 The cries  
 Cries of the departed

Wanjohi. P. Mugambi  
 Weeping Onion

## Definition Of Homeland



I am a branch, my homeland is soil  
 You are my patience.  
 There is no evil in your heart  
 You are the sun that gives me strength.

I am a dove, you are my sky  
 Fly to your homeland.  
 You are my covenant, my decision  
 There are many beggars in your history.

I am a leaf, you are my tree  
 The wind blows me away without you.  
 You be the sky, I am your star

If you don't, you'll be happy.

I am a flower of the moon, you are my  
 moonlight  
 The light shines through the darkness.  
 You are my honor and pride  
 He directed everything in your way.

The homeland is speechless,  
 If I praise it, it will be epic.  
 If I say your name, my heart will be  
 enough

If you are a mango, you will be satisfied.

👉 Ozoda Rajabbayeva is the daughter  
 of Muzaffar

The daughter of Rajabbayeva Ozoda  
 Muzaffar, a student of the 9th grade  
 of school No. 83, Amudarya District,  
 Republic of Karakalpakstan, was born  
 on December 4, 2008. She is currently  
 engaged in writing and poetry. Her  
 future dream is to become a laureate of  
 the Zulfiyakhanim award to be

## We Have To Walk On The Path Of Victory



We have to walk on the path of victory,  
 One has to be strong even in conflicts.  
 Dreams have to be transformed into reality,  
 Difficulties have to be transformed into  
 smiles.

We have to walk on the path of victory,  
 We should not be afraid of conflicts.  
 To turn dreams into reality,  
 Go ahead and smile.

We have to walk on the path of victory,  
 We have to keep learning from struggles.  
 We have to show our courage in the face of  
 difficulties,

Defeats have to be converted into successes.

We have to walk on the path of victory,  
 We have to make the struggles our own.  
 Dreams have to be fulfilled,  
 We have to move forward and pave the way.

Poet – Anurag Upadhyay.

Poet biography –

Bio – My name is Anurag Upadhyay, I am  
 interested in literature. I love reading and  
 writing poems, stories, ghazals.  
 like. 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.

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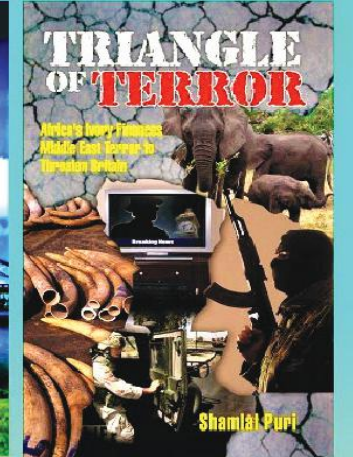
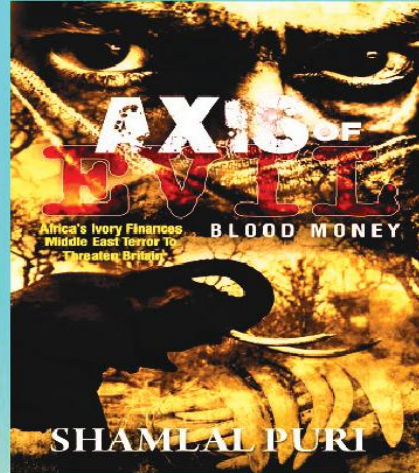
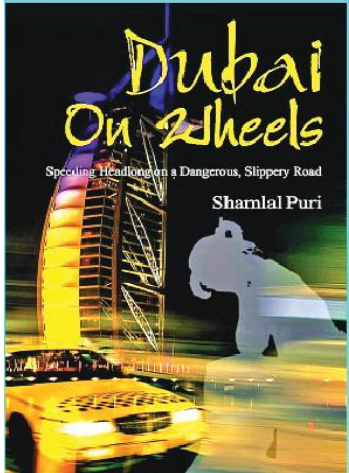
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# ICJ Kenya Cautions Judiciary Against Talks With The Executive

By: Capital Correspondent

The Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ Kenya) has warned the judiciary against engaging in dialogue with the Executive saying such talks could inhibit judicial independence.

In a statement issued Saturday, ICJ Kenya Chairperson Protas Saende stated that the Judiciary must maintain its independence, especially on issues touching on the administration of justice.

He urged the Judiciary to shun participation in discussions that risk compromising its autonomy in delivering justice.

Saende said sufficient mechanisms exist in the Constitution which empowers the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) to handle complaints against the judicial officers.

“Any concerns or complaints from the Executive should be duly registered with the JSC rather than aired



Supreme Court of Kenya

in public rallies, casting aspersions on the Judiciary as a whole,” he said.

The lobby stated that recent claims by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua against Justice Esther Maina, followed by a retraction without presenting evidence, raise concerns about the Executive’s intentions.

ICJ noted that the damage caused to the judge’s reputation as a result of

the Gachagua’s attacks is significant and shows a lack of commitment to a fair and unbiased discourse.

“Considering the above, we are adamant that the invitation by the Executive may not be in good faith,” the ICJ Chairperson said.

## Dropped petition

Gachagua Thursday announced that

he had dropped his planned petition against Justice Maina ‘for now’ after making corruption claims against her.

In a statement from his office, the DP welcomed dialogue on accountability talks between President William Ruto and Chief Justice Martha Koome.

“The Deputy President notes the

current national discourse on judicial transparency and application of Article 10 of the Constitution of Kenya on the conduct of Judges and other Judicial Officers,” Njeri Rugene, his press aide, stated.

“In this regard, the Deputy President will not proceed with the matter of the petition, for now,” Rugene announced.

Gachagua’s change of tact came even as the Chief Justice indicated that she had reached out for audience with President Ruto to establish his concerns.

Koome said the Judiciary would invite Ruto to share any confidential information he holds on any judge involved in corruption even as she emphasised the need for aggrieved parties to engage through formal channels under the JSC.

Ruto launched an aggressive campaign against a section of judges in the aftermath of the November 28, 2023, Constitutional Court decision that declared the Housing Levy unconstitutional.

# PS Muoria Urges TVET Institutions To Ready Certification Under RPL Policy

By: Capital Correspondent

Principal Secretary State Department for TVET Dr Esther Muoria has asked technical vocational and educational (TVET) institutions to prepare for certification of skills for learners from informal sector following the approval of Recognition of Prior Learning policy (RPL) by the Cabinet on Monday.

Speaking in Mombasa during the induction of Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) new Council members, Dr Muoria said the approval was timely.

“We have to hit the ground running in terms of certification of learners in informal sector, since we have now the policy that we have been waiting for long to guide this process,” said Dr Muoria who was accompanied by KNQA Council Chairperson Mr Stanley Kiptis and acting Director General Dr Alice Kande.

She lauded the Authority for spearheading the development of RPL policy with other stakeholders in the Education sector.

“Council members, your decisions will invariably intersect with policy considerations. It is therefore crucial that these decisions align with broader policy objectives and contribute to the realization of your shared vision. Let us ensure that our policies are not only effective, but also reflective of our values and commitment to societal well-being,” said Dr Muoria.

She went on: “I applaud the Management for their efforts in steering development of relevant policies, with the recent being the Recognition of Prior Learning. This Policy is aimed at assessing and certifying Hustlers who have relevant competencies and skills, but not certificates. It is appreciated that the Cabinet approved the Policy on 15th January 2024 and launch will be done hereafter.”

“The Recognition of Prior Learning Policy is the bridge to facilitate transition from informality to formality as well as facilitating multi entry/exit between the education system and the labour market,” Dr Muoria stated.

## Big Win

The development is also a major win for hundreds of learners who had completed their assessment and were awaiting graduation.

Dr Kande said the policy and guidelines will provide standards of assessing and certifying the skills and competencies acquired through experience.

“This will enable our skilled, but uncertified youths to be awarded certificates based on individual competencies expanding their opportunities in employment and advanced learning,” she stated.

The Principal Secretary also encouraged Council members to actively seek opportunities for professional development, both individually and collectively.

“Stay informed about emerging trends, best practices, and innovations in your respective fields to bring added value to the Authority,” added Dr Muoria.

She said Council members play a crucial role in steering the course of KNQA.

“Your insights, expertise, and dedication are invaluable assets that will shape the future 4 trajectory of not



Dr Esther Muoria/FILE

only the TVET Sector, but the entire Ministry as a whole. The success of any organization is embedded in the collaboration and synergy among its leaders. Your role in this Council is not merely symbolic; it is one of active participation, strategic thinking, and commitment to the common goals set forth. I encourage you to foster an environment of open dialogue, where ideas are shared, debated, and refined, leading to well-informed decisions,” emphasised the PS.

Kiptis assured the government that

the will work together to uphold the highest standards of governance, transparency, and accountability.

“The legal and ethical obligations placed upon us require diligence and commitment. I am fully dedicated to ensuring that our actions align with the values and principles that underpin our organization. The KNQA strategic plan provides a roadmap for our journey. Let us use it as a guide to make informed decisions that drive us toward our shared goals,” added Kiptis.



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# Tracing Chinese Military Tentacles In Africa

By: Agencies



President Xi Jinping welcomes President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi of Mozambique to Beijing on May 18, 2016. (Photo by Mark Schiefelbein/AP).

## Worth Noting:

- It was blacklisted by the US for trading with Iran and North Korea. It is alleged that Norinco has been selling weapons of mass destruction to North Korea. ZhenHua Oil, a subsidiary of Norinco, has also faced U.S. sanctions.
- There was a controversy early last year when Nepal was planning to procure armoured personnel carriers from Norinco for various UN peacekeeping missions.
- The Nepal Army has downplayed the move to buy APCs from China, even as it had initiated the procurement process through the Nepal Army Welfare Fund in 2021.
- It was involved in a controversial mining project in Myanmar at the Letpadaung copper mine, that it acquired through its subsidiary Myanmar Wanbao Mining Copper Limited.

China has invested heavily in Africa.

It frames its engagement with Africa as one of “mutual benefits”, “shared values” and “win-win cooperation”.

Nigeria and China commenced diplomatic relations in 1971 and, by 1972, a six-man delegation, led by Nigeria’s government officials, visited Beijing to negotiate an open-ended agreement on economic and technical cooperation, and trade.

With fragile social fabric leading to multiple civil wars, competition is heating up in the arms supply and security business across Africa.

As successive Nigerian governments have struggled to contain Islamist insurgents in the North-East, bandits and kidnappers in the North-West and herder-farmer clashes in the Middle Belt, the country has become the biggest arms importer in Africa.

Over the decades, Beijing has been extensively involved in arms sales and supply of surveillance systems to Nigeria and amassed huge profits through unsustainable and ecologically-destructive mining activities, and commercial engagements in oil sector, all through its PLA-linked military enterprise; North Industries Group Corporation Limited (Norinco).

This is a state-owned, defence equipment company.

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fare Fund in 2021.

It was involved in a controversial mining project in Myanmar at the Letpadaung copper mine, that it acquired through its subsidiary Myanmar Wanbao Mining Copper Limited.

There were recurring pushbacks against Chinese investments in Myanmar because Chinese investors’ close relationship with the country’s military government over the past few decades resulted in negative sentiments toward Chinese investment among Myanmar’s civil society groups.

The protests against the project were violently suppressed by the Burmese authorities.

In July 2014, the Chinese arms manufacturer Norinco delivered a shipment of 95,000 assault rifles and 20 million rounds of ammunition to the government, providing enough bullets to kill every person in South Sudan twice over.

When Kenya bought Norinco VN-4 armoured personnel carriers, China’s sales representative declined to sit inside the vehicles during a test firing. Kenya went ahead in 2016 with the purchase anyway and dozens of Kenyan personnel have been reportedly killed in those vehicles.

In March 2023, Politico reported that Norinco shipped assault rifles, drone parts, and body armour to Russia between June and December 2022. Amid increasing anti-French sentiment and disturbed Wagner Group, Chinese Norinco is actively capitalising Nigeria and other volatile regions in Africa for arms sales.

## NORINCO’s role in Nigeria’s Military

With a new sales office in Senegal and a regional office in Abuja, Nigerian Army inducted 60 Type 89 tracked armoured personnel carriers (APC) at the Army School of Infantry in Jaji, Kaduna State, procured from Chinese

Norinco in Oct 2021.

In early November 2021, it received the first batch of Dongfeng Mengshi CSK131 4×4 armoured vehicles from China.

Beijing’s armed drones CH-3 and CH-4 are also part of Abuja’s military arsenal. Other Chinese Norinco military sales to Nigeria include; NORINCO ST1 105 mm Fire Support Vehicle, VT-4 Main Battle Tank, SH-5 105mm self-propelled Artillery System and SH-2 122mm self-propelled artillery system.

The plethora of hardware from Norinco cost Nigeria an estimated \$152 million in a deal signed with China in 2019.

Beijing is currently seeking to sell its Y-20 Kumpeng airlifter to Nigeria, with Y-20BE model shown to visiting Nigerian Defence Minister Mohammed Badaru Abubakar in Beijing, military magazine Ordnance Industry Science Technology reported in early Jan 2024.

All these add to the avalanche of Chinese military equipment paid for by special funds and sent to Nigeria over the past few years by bribing Nigerian government officials.

Besides the supply of arms and military weapons, Norinco is also a big player in contracting in many African countries including Nigeria.

Huibang Group, a wholly owned subsidiary of Norinco, serves as the engineering, procurement and contracting company in several African countries.

In 2016, Abuja signed a \$75.6 billion MoU in investment in the oil sector to revamp its decades-old refineries, with Norinco’s subsidiary firms involved in this major deal.

It led to fears among Nigerian public of rising fuel costs, given Beijing’s muscle-flexing acts in Abuja’s internal affairs. Norinco is aggressively targeting Nigeria’s police and paramilitary forces for selling weapons

and other military equipment.

Nigeria’s new general and Chief of Army Staff Ibrahim Attahiru has warned Norinco that it could be excluded from future equipment supply contracts after mobile units it supplied ran into technical problems shortly after they were delivered to its Army in Nov 2020.

As a damage-control measure, its military forced the news outlet to remove the content from internet, calling it a concerted story and brushing off the truth.

It has not carried out independent investigations to test the substandard quality of Chinese military equipment.

Given the widespread corruption in Nigerian military and Chinese opaqueness, continued purchase and usage of substandard will deplete Abuja’s limited financial assets and further its existing civil society issues.

Nigerian national newspaper; This Day is a member of the Belt and Road News Network.

Since 2014, it has maintained a close relationship with the Chinese embassy in Abuja. Given the rampant issue of Brown Envelope Journalism (BEJ) in Africa, Chinese are exploiting the fragile social fabric of Nigeria at an alarming level.

Under the garb of “media cooperation”, many Nigerian media outlets like The Authority, Guardian have been bought by cash or kind, leading to negligible news reporting of Chinese harmful activities in Nigeria. The charm offensive of the current Chinese diplomat in Lagos, Ms Yan Yuqing, appears to emulate activities of former Chinese envoy to Kathmandu, Ms Hou Yanqi.

It leads to abnormal hyping of Chinese Norinco’s poor quality arms as “superior” and “cost-effective” as Beijing wishes Abuja to “tell China’s story well!”

While aggressively portraying itself as a “partner”, providing aid and engaging in trade and investment, Beijing, however, in stark reality, has been a dangerous predator engaged in neo-colonialism, underpinned by its extensive labour immigration to Nigeria, exploitation of mineral wealth, active involvement in Abuja’s domestic affairs and damaging the West African nation’s fragile ecology. In the long run, Chinese PLA could access Nigerian and other African military facilities, as majority are facing Beijing’s debt-trap situation.

Regular deliveries of substandard and faulty Chinese Norinco armoury for induction in Nigerian Army, under the garb of cost-effectiveness, punishes the latter with sacrifice of its precious lives of soldiers and burdens its depleting foreign reserves, thus pushing Abuja to become a Chinese vassal state. Hence, it is in the best sovereign interests of Nigeria to carefully recalibrate its military sales transactions with China’s Norinco.

# What Next For Kenya



Kenya seems to be jinxed by the name OIL. Within the last year Kenya has had to deal with two major crises related to OIL.

The cooking oil Saga made headlines in Kenya last year with indications that the country had lost Billions of money. This scandalous transaction brought to the fore little known state owned company by the name Kenya National Company.

The cooking oil issue did not fix anything but more or less enlarged the economic crater that is afflicting the

country. No one was and has been taken to task on this matter to date. Rumour had it that a cabinet official was to be shown the door, but that remains as hearsay as no one was convicted.

The second saga, that of G to G Oil agreement is the most recent oil curse afflicting is now. The intention of this arrangement was touted to be the solution for the country's dollar reserve crunch. This arguably was a very well justification that would allow the country a breather on the monthly Dollar demand. However it

has become a flopper too.

The pullout has come out to despite there being red flags that in retrospect spell out a lot of side dealings related to the G to G.

The name Njeri (the Oil Baron whom many claimed never looked her part) is a case that upto date is mysterious and very scanty in the eyes of the Kenya public.

Who was she, the never heard of oil importer who traded corporate warfare with renowned OMC's (Oil Marketing Company's) after they claimed

her cargo. How this matter pinned out after emerging within the public gallery, not many know

## The Big Q now, is what's next for Kenya.

If the G to G did achieve the intended outcomes in the short term especially the easing of hard Dollar demand, then what will happen now?

Will or are we to see a steep and decline further of the exchange rate (KES to USD). This is yes if truly the KK regime achieved with the G to G. What other measures are there in place to cushion Kenya (ns) from further descent. Will the petrol prices skyrocket. What of the forex we earn through transit and trade with our neighbors, Uganda. How ll this affect the EA economics? Does the shift from G to G revert us back to the previous oil importation procedure of OTC (Open Tender System)?

Rumour has it the the blame buck for the G to G was Treasury cabinet. This rumour was insistent on the demand for the CS to be laid off. The G to G was hailed as the best deal Kenya has ever attached with. The crafters of the G to G such as the unpopular economist (economic advisor) taking it to their social media pages to trumpet on

the benefits and advantages of the arrangement.

Where are we going wrong? In comparison to the immediate administration, KK seems to miss the targets and the resorts its taking are generally knee jerk and lack the full grasp and considerations of bettering Kenya.

Is the cabinet incompetent? Do the officials of the cabinet really mind about country? Is the executive really well prepped on such catastrophic decisions before embarking on them?

The what next seems a scary place to be in. The KK is now known to be a better liar and promised than a deliverer. Kenyans are on the precipice and watching and it may reach a point where enough may be enough.

Can a cabinet reshuffle really sort us out? Can new faces drawn from even the President Uhuru Kenyattas previous cabinet salvage the situation?

Undoubtedly and to the KK major players shocker, it will take more than just a cabinet reshuffle to jumpstart our stalled economy

The answer lies in plain sight, that which is President Uhuru Kenyatta

*The author is jubilee Gatanga Sub-county chairperson \_*

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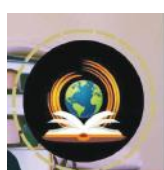
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# 4<sup>th</sup>

FEBRUARY 2024

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### Group 2

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### Group 3

Kiharu, Mathioya, Kangema, Othaya Tetu, Mukurweini, Mathira, Nyeri

### Group 4

Kieni, Laikipia East, Laikipia West, Laikipia North, Ndaragwa, Ol Joro Orok, Ol Kalou, Kipipiri

### Group 5

Kinangop, Naivasha, Ndia, Gichugu, Kirinyaga Central, Mwea, Molo, Njoro

### Group 6

Kuresoi South, Kuresoi North, Rongai, Nakuru West, Bahati, Subukia, Nakuru East, Gilgil

### Group 7

Mbeere South, Mbeere North, Chuka, Igamba Ngombe, Maara, Tharaka Imenti South, Imenti Central, Buuri

### Group 8

Imenti North, Tigania East, Tigania West, Igembe Central, Igembe North, Igembe South, Manyatta, Runyenjes



FOOTBALL KENYA FEDERATION



MOSES KURIA FOUNDATION

# SPORTS NEWS

- PHOTOS
- SCORES
- OPINIONS
- STATISTICS
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- BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> \*Mitchell Weiser stunned his former club with the only goal as Werder Bremen defeated Bayern Munich 1-0 yesterday, keeping Bayer Leverkusen seven points clear at the top of the Bundesliga

## Advantage Leverkusen As Bremen End 16-Year Wait For Bayern Victory



Bayern Munich's English forward Harry Kane reacts during the German first division Bundesliga football match between Bayern Munich and Werder Bremen in Munich on January 21, 2024. (Photo by KERSTIN JOENSSON / AFP).

Mitchell Weiser stunned his former club with the only goal as Werder Bremen defeated Bayern Munich 1-0 yesterday, keeping Bayer Leverkusen seven points clear at the top of the Bundesliga.

Bayern were last held scoreless in the league in February 2020, when former Munich manager Julian Nagelsmann's Leipzig recorded a 0-0 draw at the Allianz Arena.

Bremen's victory, their first over Bayern in any competition since 2008, broke a 27-game winless run against the German champions, which included 26 losses.

Leverkusen's 3-2 win at RB Leipzig on Saturday, with Xabi Alonso's men coming from behind twice and scoring the winner in injury time, put the pres-

sure back on Bayern, who went into Sunday's game with two games in hand.

Bremen were unlucky to have a goal struck off by VAR in the first-half for a foul on Jamal Musiala but Weiser took matters into his own hands in the second period, gliding down the right wing and blasting into the net after 59 minutes.

Bayern pinned Bremen in their own box after the opener but failed to break through.

Bremen travelled to Munich trying to overturn recent history, the visitors having not beaten Bayern in any competition in 16 years.

On that day, a teenage Mesut Ozil ran riot, scoring one goal and assisting in two more in a 5-2 victory during happier times

for the four-time Bundesliga winners.

Bremen started strongly, Weiser forcing a fingertip save from Manuel Neuer midway through the first-half.

Bremen's Justin Njinmah had the ball in the net after a lightning-fast counter attack, but the goal was struck off, with VAR finding a foul on Musiala at the other end of the pitch.

Bayern exited the pitch to a sprinkling of boos and whistles but the half-time break failed to revive the home side, with Bremen continuing to impress.

Weiser, who spent three years at Bayern after arriving as an 18-year-old before leaving on a free transfer in 2015, gave the visitors the lead in impressive style, dancing down the right

flank and unleashing a rocket into the top of the net.

Bremen's win consigned the defending champions to their second league loss of the season.

Bayern can cut the gap at the top when they play their game in hand at home to Union Berlin on Wednesday.

Bremen's victory lifts them nine points clear of the relegation placings.

Later yesterday, Borussia Mönchengladbach host Augsburg.

AFP

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*Police FC cruised to a comfortable 2-0 win against relegation-threatened Nzoia Sugar at the Police Sacco Stadium yesterday afternoon, thanks to a first half brace from South Sudan import Tito Okello.

# Okello Inspires Police To Victory Over Nzoia, Leopards Stop City Stars



Files: Tito Okello (C) of Kenya Police FC celebrates with teammates after scoring against Muranga Seal FC during their FKF Premier League match at Police Sacco Stadium on December 03, 2023. Kenya Police FC won 2-0. Photo/Samwel Ogor/Sportpicha

Police FC cruised to a comfortable 2-0 win against relegation-threatened Nzoia Sugar at the Police Sacco Stadium yesterday afternoon, thanks to a first half brace from South Sudan import Tito Okello.

The law enforcers moved to fifth in the Premier League standings with 30 points, 13 points behind leaders Gor Mahia – who have 43 points.

It was last season’s Nzoia coach Salim Babu who led Police against his former team, which has been struggling since his departure at the beginning of the current campaign.

Despite the loss, the millers coach Godfrey ‘Solo’ Oduor remained upbeat his boys will escape the axe, noting positives in the defeat. “I feel like we have made some improvements compared to last time (lost 5-2 to Shabana). We started the match pretty well but after conceding an early penal-

ty, the players lost concentration which led to the second goal,” averred the former Harambee Starlets coach.

The hosts took the lead in the 33rd minute when Okello converted a penalty after Nzoia goalkeeper Fred Shihundu fouled the Ugandan-bon South Sudan forward in the box.

Eight minutes later, man of the match Okello bagged his second, heading in David Owino’s cross after a short corner.

Police could have taken the lead much earlier, when Kenneth Muguna came close with a well taken free kick, which was however parried away in the 20th minute by Shihundu.

Two minutes later, the former Gor Mahia striker fired wide from a David Ochieng’s corner, before hitting the crossbar in the 25th minute.

Nzoia came close with Joseph Oyugi latching onto a Victor Ha-

ki’s cross before halftime but the effort went wide.

The visitors were forced to an early substitution as fullback Elisha Wekesa limped off with a thigh injury, eight minutes before halftime.

The loss leaves Nzoia at the bottom of the league with 13 points after 19 games, with only one win in the last six matches.

The Bungoma-based side will look to change their fortunes when they host Posta Rangers at the Sudi stadium in two weeks time.

### City Stars stopped

At the Bukhungu Stadium, AFC Leopards tore apart 10-man Nairobi City Stars, ending their fine run that had seen them win the last five matches.

Maxwell Otieno and Kevin Kimani were on target for Ingwe, ensuring the important win for the Thomas Trucha side which has

been blowing hot and cold this season.

Collins Akolo was given his marching orders for a reckless tackle on an opponent, leaving the Simba wa Nairobi struggling towards the end of the match.

In other Kenyan Premier League matches played today, Bidco United thrashed hosts FC Talanta 5-3, as John Kamau’s Posta Rangers edged Murang’a SEAL 1-0. The result left the mail men third on the log, just one point behind second-placed City Stars.

### Collated Results

- FC Talanta 3-5 Bidco United
- AFC Leopards 2-0 Nairobi City Stars
- Police FC 2-0 Nzoia Sugar
- Posta Rangers 2-0 Murang’a SEAL

Citizen Sport

# SPORTS NEWS

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## Family

By: Nigora Tursunboyeva  
@themtkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- At one point, a big dog appeared, biting a bone. He also gave the bone to the sick dog. He raised his head and started kneading the bone and felt much refreshed. At one point, they all fell asleep in each other's bed. As I continued on the road, I remembered our neighbor Aunt Nasiba. Are animals kinder than people?!
- Aunt Nasiba was abandoned by her children when she was ill. Neighbors were aware of him. So the puppies are kinder than Aunt Nasiba's children.



Nigora Tursunboyeva .

Late autumn. Darkness began to fall around. As I walked down the street, I noticed various people on foot. Someone is in a hurry to go home, someone is busy reading a newspaper on the bench despite the cold. As I was quietly walking away, I suddenly saw a group of puppies. I looked closer. He went to his mother who was lying in bed and moaned very sadly. As far as I know, his mother is sick. I took out my bag and

saw that there was a piece of bread left over from my lunch. I took it and threw it to the puppies. Although he was hungry, he pushed the bread to his mother. His mother ate the bread. I was surprised. Do these animals have love too?!

At one point, a big dog appeared, biting a bone. He also gave the bone to the sick dog. He raised his head and started kneading the bone and felt much refreshed. At one point,

they all fell asleep in each other's bed. As I continued on the road, I remembered our neighbor Aunt Nasiba. Are animals kinder than people?!

Aunt Nasiba was abandoned by her children when she was ill. Neighbors were aware of him. So the puppies are kinder than Aunt Nasiba's children.

I don't know how I got home with my imagination.

Every day when I come home, hot

food is ready, houses are clean. My mother came out of the kitchen holding her waist.

- Yes, my daughter, are you upset?

- No, honey, I'm just... Does your back hurt?

- Well, you know, my old patient...

Did I ignore my mother's illness?

Dad is used to it as usual...

I looked at my mother. Wrinkles fell on their faces. Involuntarily, puppies came to my eyes.

Even though he was hungry, he hung his bread on his mother. A propeller around his mother because of his illness. Do I not have this animal intelligence? I have such a family given by God. I have never disappointed my parents and grandmother. My brother, brother and sister are busy with their work. Mom, forgive me. I was crying inside. Everyone gathered for dinner. Again, my mother sat down later than everyone else. After eating, they left one after another. My mother began to eat alone and put away the dishes.

I ran and took the dishes from his hands.

- Give it to me, I'll wash it myself.

My mother blinked in surprise.

- Now it will be different in the family, mother. Everyone in this family loves you. This is my family, I said quietly.

- I learned to show love to the family, the sanctity of the family from dogs, mother.

- Don't you have a fever, girl?

My mother was surprised.

- You rest in peace, mother.

My mother slowly went to the window, wiped her moist eyes, and hugged me tightly.

I have a kind mother, kind family. Along with these thoughts, the lights burning in the distance passed before my eyes like clock

Nigora Tursunboyeva was born on February 23, 2009, in Namangan region. Currently, she is a 9th grade student of Ishakhan Ibrat creativity school. Along with writing poems and stories she can speak freely in 4 languages: English, Russian, German and Uzbek.