



Two Nairobi County Officials Arrested Over Revenue Diversion
 The suspects allegedly asked a complainant to pay Ksh45,000 annual parking fees for his commercial vehicles to a private bank account as opposed to the Nairobi County bank account.

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News>> Fulfilling Promises: Fresh Medical Care, Thanks To New Social Health Insurance

P. 8. It's amazing how a well-thought-out plan can benefit so many people.



News>> Gachagua Calls For Artificial Intelligence In Ending Insecurity

P. 12. Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has called for integration of artificial intelligence and other forms of technology to enhance security in Eastern Africa.

Why Kikuyu Community Must Unite - Dr Thuo Mathenge

Dr Mathenge said time was now up for the local leadership to seriously consider issues affecting the most populous community in the country, adding that without properly organized "recipe" the community's future was doomed. He thus called the leadership led by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua to urgently consider convening a meeting to chat the best way forward. "We need an urgent meeting for all leaders, irrespective of their political, social or economic affiliation so that we can decide our community's way forward," Dr Mathenge said.



The New Democrats (TND) party National chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge formally welcoming leaders to the party during a consultative meeting on Saturday. Photo/PAUL WANJIRU

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Embrace Technology But Be Cautious, Mudavadi Tells Youth

By: OPCS



Prime Cabinet Secretary (CS) and CS for Foreign Affairs Musalia Mudavadi speaking during the Kenya Diaspora Investment Conference 2023 - KICC, Nairobi. PHOTO:@MusaliMudavadi/X

Worth Noting:

- Mudavadi also called upon religious leaders - the christian and the Muslim leadership - to use their platforms to advise and educate the youth on the need to be extra-vigilant and understand the consequences that come when one gets trapped in the social media schemes.
- He said many predators are out there taking advantage of increasingly popularity of sites like Tik-Tok and Instagram and more sensitization need to be done on the effects of getting addicted to such sites.

The youth should explore technology especially on the social media platforms with caution, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has said.

Mudavadi regretted the deaths reported as a result of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and called for adoption of aggressive policies and regulation to address the growing prevalence of technologically facilitated gender-based violence.

He also called for collective stakeholder action to end the ever-rising cases of IPV. "We appreciate the role that technology through social media has played in the transformation of the society and brought about change, job creation and creativity. But we also should take note that through those platforms our young girls and boys end up to be victims of tragic occur-

es," warned Mudavadi.

Mudavadi called for vigilance on the social media sites saying predators have invaded with an aim of luring them and inflict physical harm or in some cases end up murdering them.

Mudavadi condemned IPV saying it is time the society wakes up to the brutal reality and alert the youth to avoid more cases from happening in the future.

He urged the society to be extra cautious especially the youth in their online interaction.

Mudavadi also called upon religious leaders - the christian and the Muslim leadership - to use their platforms to advise and educate the youth on the need to be extra-vigilant and understand the consequences that come when one gets

trapped in the social media schemes.

He said many predators are out there taking advantage of increasingly popularity of sites like Tik-Tok and Instagram and more sensitization need to be done on the effects of getting addicted to such sites.

A week ago, Women Rights Advisor to the President Harriette Chiggai said IPV victims should not be condemned, regretting that they form huge statistics of women and girls who have suffered the fate of violence and did not deserve to die.

However, she said this does not only affect girls but also, boys are victims but their cases may not have been highlighted as much as those ones of girls and women.

"One lost child is one too many for society. However, given what is happening, I urge our daughters to exercise caution on how and with whom they interact with on social platforms."

Chiggai stated that the Government is committed to ensuring that the structures that respond and support survivors do not re-victimize them.

Chiggai also reiterated that the Government in its women's agenda explicitly committed to ending all forms of violence but the work cannot be done by one arm of the government, one organization or one person alone.

She said the government will do everything within its power to nab the suspects but to also urge the judiciary to expedite cases of intimate partner violence.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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Group Executive Chairman
M. Danson

Our Contacts
P. O. Box 101 675 - 00101 Nairobi, Cell: 0700 161 866, 0705 215 262
Editorial Desk: editorial@mountkenyatiimes.co.ke, Adverts: ads@mountkenyatiimes.co.ke,
News Desk: news@mountkenyatiimes.co.ke, Web: www.mountkenyatiimes.co.ke

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Over 150 women's rights movements in Kenya have called for the government to declare femicide a national emergency and a threat to national security. The movements have sent a joint petition to Nyeri County Commissioner Pius Murugu, stating that recent femicide cases in Airbnbs highlight widespread gender inequality and the lack of effective measures to protect women and girls. They are now asking Interior Cabinet Secretary Prof. Kithure Kindiki and his Gender and Affirmative Action counterpart, Aisha Jumwa, to take immediate action to address the crisis. The women have also expressed concern over the tendency to downplay the incidents, with Actress and Human Rights defender Catherine Kamau arguing that the public has turned the issue into a moral issue instead of a human rights concern. The county administrator assures lobby groups that the government is addressing the short-stay accommodation issue but challenges the women's rights movements to extend their sensitization campaign to women in rural counties.



Laikipia health services have denied reports of a cholera outbreak at the British Army Training Unit (BATUK) camp in Nanyuki. Dr. Albert Taiti, the Chief Executive Committee-In-Charge of Health, stated that the information circulating on social media and mainstream media was false. He confirmed with the medical and surveillance teams at the camp that there were no cases of cholera or any other public health concern. Taiti urged residents to continue observing healthy habits for prevention and protection from diseases and other infections. He also clarified that cholera is not transmitted from monkeys to humans and urged residents to ignore the social media messages. The outbreak was alleged to be caused by a parasite sub-tribe linked to a tamed monkey in China. Cholera is an acute diarrhea illness caused by infection of the intestine with *Vibrio cholerae* bacteria, which can only be transmitted when one swallows contaminated food or water.



The Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) Foundation has launched the KCB Scholars Student-Athlete Scholarship Programme to support underprivileged athletes. The initiative aligns with the government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and aims to provide Kenyan athletes with opportunities to flourish and contribute to development. The program has awarded full scholarships to 50 student-athletes in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County. The government is working with the KCB Foundation and other partners to provide scholarships, coaching, and mentorship to these athletes.



Murang'a County's Own Source revenue increased by 26.49% from FY 2021-2022 to FY 2022-2023, with the highest performing revenue streams being Licenses, hospitals, liquor licenses, and Plan approval. The county government utilized 86% of the approved budget, with pending bills amounting to Sh 642,197,909. Policies aim to promote economic growth through agricultural productivity, with the County Integrated Development Plan providing a fiscal framework.



Cabinet Secretary Eliud Owalo has emphasized the importance of data privacy in Kenya, stating that it is crucial for protecting individuals' rights and ensuring a secure and ethical business environment. He highlighted the need for a robust data privacy culture in the digital era, urging organizations and government entities to uphold principles that safeguard citizens' personal information. The CS also recommended that the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner should organize programs reflecting the country's journey and ensure the actualization of Article 31 of the Constitution. The CS has undertaken data protection training in collaboration with the Kenya School of Government, targeting both County and National Government staff. He called for the integration of data privacy and digital literacy into schools' curricula to equip future generations with the necessary knowledge and awareness. The CS also launched the ODPC Regional Offices in Kisumu and launched a ChatBot to enhance user experience and accessibility of data information. He appealed to stakeholders to use the data privacy day as a catalyst for change and protect the rights and privacy of citizens.



Kieni constituency philanthropist John Kariuki Choromai yesterday spent his Sunday interacting with faithful in different churches. He fellowshiped with members of St. Antony Padua Catholic Church Kihuhuro where the Mass was led by Father Herman. At the church he presented contribution from the Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua in support of Church projects. Later he joined AIPCA Lamuria Church where the service was led by Bishop Bernard Muthoga and also presented contributions from the DP.

Principal Secretary for Energy Alex Wachira yesterday hosted two leading football teams from Nyeri; Marafiki FC and Rware City FC. This is in his bid and realization that promoting sports in the community provides an opportunity to support the youth in nurturing talents and improve the quality of life. The two top teams that he hosted for breakfast are playing in Division 2 of the Football League and have shown resilience and growth over the last few years with the PS vowing to support them to rise to the National League. This, he said, shall involve working closely with the club's management on various programs for sustainability and recreation which he added will be expected to help in tackling alcoholism and drug abuse, instill discipline, build strong families and healthy communities



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No Part Will Be Side-Lined In Development - Nyoro



Ndingi Nyoro.

By: Allan Obiero
 @themkenyatimes

Kiharu MP Ndingi Nyoro has assured Kenyans that the government of President William Ruto is keen on serving all Kenyans equally without any biases.

Speaking yesterday during a church service in Nyakach, Kisumu County, Nyoro said no part of the country will be side-lined in the Kenya Kwanza development plans.

The MP, who chairs the Budget and Appropriation Committee in the Nation-

al Assembly, noted that the government has outlined priorities aimed at uplifting the lives of Kenyans.

He said President Ruto has managed to steer the country in the right direction.

As the chair of the budget committee, Nyoro said he has managed to align with the needs of the people.

“Out of the Ksh.3.6 trillion budget, they have set aside Ksh.700 billion towards education. The sector is key in the Kenya Kwanza government agenda and already, school funds have been dis-

bursed,” the MP said.

Nyoro said the funds will also address issues of the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) to cushion poor parents whose children are pursuing higher learning.

The MP assured Kenyans of sustained development in the country, promising to finish up stalled projects.

He singled out stalled road projects noting that the last government promised too much without resources to execute.

Operation On Contraband Milk Powder In Mombasa



By: The DCI

Detectives from DCI’s Operation Support Unit conducted an operation at a Mombasa City wholesale shop suspected to be dealing with contraband milk powder which is located within Lebanon area Biashara Street.

Jointly with officers from the Kenya Dairy Board and Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), they conducted

a search at the said AMS Wholesalers Limited where some products were recovered

These included 41 bags of HILWA Full Cream Milk Powder each 25 kg product of New Zealand and 25 bags of BROOKSIDE Full Cream Milk Powder each 25kg.

KRA officials estimated a taxable value of KSh1,650,000 on the products, which have since been taken as exhibits at the KRA Changamwe warehouse.

One suspect, Ahmed Salah

Mohamed, who is the proprietor of the shop was arrested. Upon interrogations, the suspect claimed to have acquired the consignment from an accomplice in the name of Dahir, whose warehouse is located in Shimanzi, Mombasa.

The said Dahir had been arrested during an earlier operation in Nairobi, and investigations are ongoing to trace his Mombasa warehouse for inspection of the stored products.

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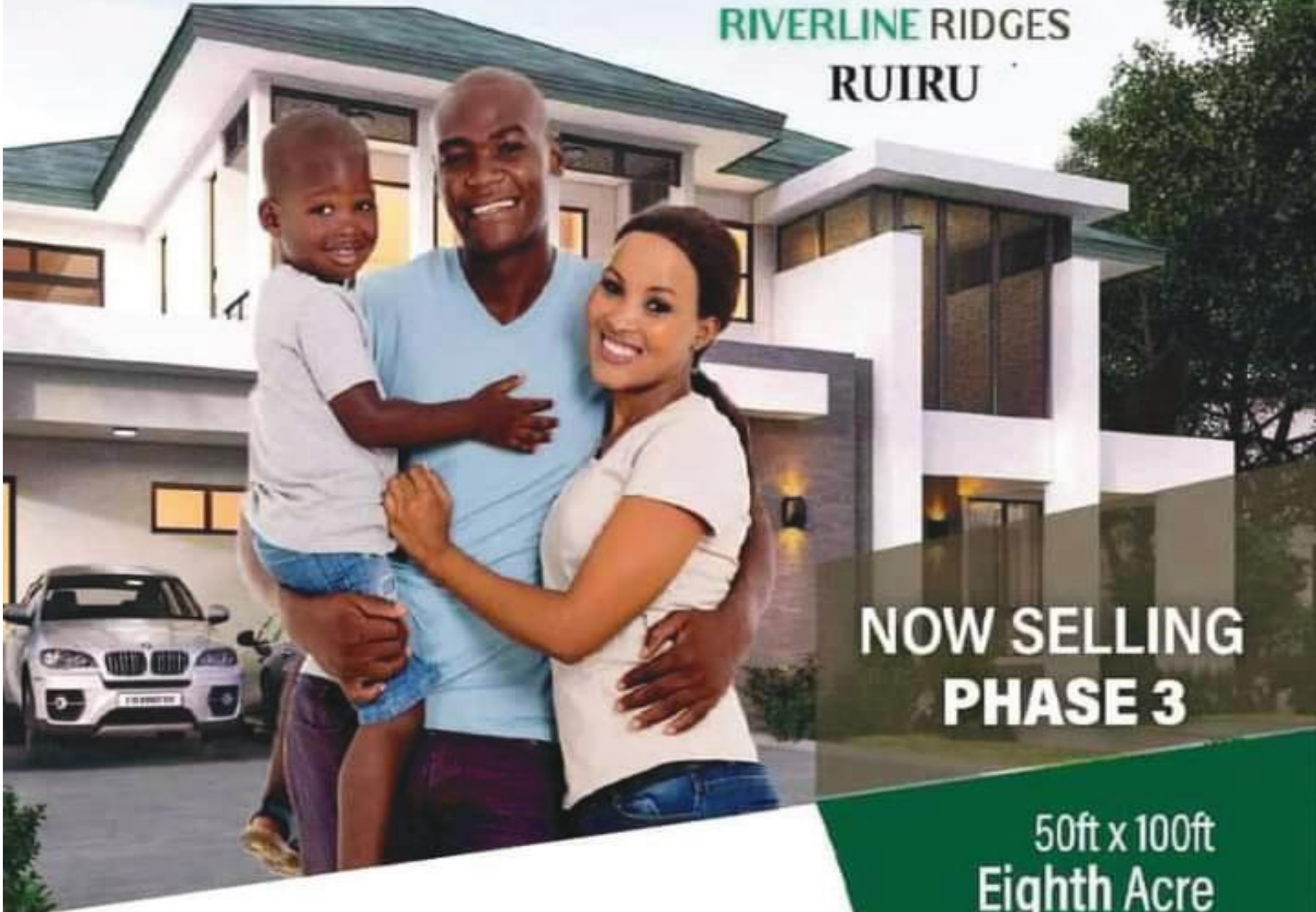
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Fulfilling Promises: Fresh Medical Care, Thanks To New Social Health Insurance



By: Isaac Mwaura

@themkenyatimes

It's amazing how a well-thought-out plan can benefit so many people. This is the case with the Kenya Kwanza universal healthcare plan now being implemented, after the judiciary lifted the orders barring its implementation.

The Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF), is a stride towards achieving a more inclusive and accessible healthcare system.

Notably, 54 percent of Kenyan hustlers will benefit from reduced NHIF contributions, resulting in greater affordability for essential healthcare services.

Simultaneously, the act ensures fairness by introducing a modest 2.2 per cent upward adjustment for the remaining 46 per cent of the population, contributing to a more balanced distribution of healthcare financing responsibilities.

Previously, disparities existed with minimum wage earners allocating 5 per cent of their salaries to mandatory medical contributions, while higher-income individuals, such as those earning a Sh1 million salary, contributed Sh1,700, representing only 0.0017 per cent of their income. The recalibration of these contributions aligns with the broader goal of creating an equitable healthcare landscape, in which financial burdens are distributed more fairly across the population. This is indeed the true Hustler spirit.

The SHIF will also ensure that Levels 1, 2 and 3 hospitals are publicly funded offering free services to patients, in order to attain the Universal Health Coverage as per 'The Plan'. This will help so many Kenyans at the Bottom of the pyramid to access quality and affordable health care, and medical bills that burden families will be a thing of the past.

The SHIF Act establishes the Social Health Authority tasked with managing the Primary Health Care Fund for Levels 1, 2 and 3 hospitals, the Social Health Insurance Fund for Levels 4, 5 and 6 hospitals, and the Emergency, Chronic, and Critical Illness Fund for ailments requiring a lot of high cost care, like cancer. These funds collectively aim to provide a comprehensive healthcare framework that meets the diverse needs of our population.

The Primary Health Care Fund, financed through the National Assembly allocations, in addition to grants, and donations, is dedicated to purchasing a spectrum of essential healthcare services. They include promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, palliative, and referral services. Registration is mandatory for all Kenyan residents beginning



March 1, 2024.

For the last 16 months, the government has been able to increase job creation in the formal sector of the economy from 2.9 million to 3.1 million jobs, which is a 6.9 per cent growth in job creation.

More jobs are on the way, as the government has entered into agreements for labour exchange with several foreign entities, including the recently advertised 2,500 positions for nurses to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In the health sector, we have a workforce that is more than enough workforce for both domestic and export labour.

The government has really enhanced the National Social Security Fund savings from Sh1.4 billion to Sh6.5 billion, inculcating a savings culture representing a savings growth of more than 360 per cent.

This is the highest since Independence. It will go a long way in cushioning our older parents when they retire and now the government is able to re-invest the monies in useful ventures that not only will help the pensioners, but also facilitate other national programmes, rather than getting expensive external financing.

In addition, it has raised the number of the social protection household beneficiaries from 1.2 million to 1.9 million under the Inua Jamii cash transfer programme.

This programme is aimed at redistributing income to the grassroots to stimulate rural economies, enabling the aging and vulnerable populations to build their assets.

More than 700,000 hustlers will now be able to get the monthly stipend of not less than Sh2,000 to help cater for household needs.

The government also has managed to

disperse the money through M-Pesa, saving the beneficiaries the hassles and costs of travelling long distances and queuing in banks to access their cash.

Further, the Kenya Kwanza administration has decentralised registration of persons with disabilities to be done by directors of health at the county level. This development saves the unregistered PWDs the agony of travelling all the way from their villages to Nairobi to seek verification and signing of their disability medical assessment reports by the National Director of Medical Services, paving way for their recognition.

The centralised system had in the past made quite a number of people with disabilities forego the registration, in effect, denying them benefits that come with recognition of one as a PWD.

The low number of the PWDs captured by the National Council for Persons with Disabilities is about 580,000 in the country, whereas the World Health Organization's figure stands at slightly above 6 million PWDs.

This is attributed to eligible PWDs shying away from registering over the long process but the uptake is now expected rise following decentralisation.

The process has further been shortened by the government's move of on-boarding the disability registration service on the e-citizen platform as per the Presidential directive. This online registration system is aimed at collecting accurate socioeconomic data of PWDs right from the ward level. Eligible PWDs can now register themselves from the comfort of their homes as long as they have a smart phone and the signed health

assessment reports backed by a national identity card or birth certificate and passport-size photo to be uploaded. The action saves the PWDs more time as they need not travel to county headquarters for the service.

Already, 3,091 submissions have been made through the e-citizen platform by PWDs since activation of the service last month.

Cognizant of the possibility of reversing the gains Kenya has made in promoting disability inclusion, the government will in the next cycle of government's performance contract, reinstate the disability mainstreaming performance indicator that had been retired from the performance contract of all ministries, departments and agencies

The Disability Support Allowance for Public Servants with disabilities has been revised by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission to include more types and categories of persons with disabilities such as those with low vision including albinism (drawing print nearer to the eye), two crutches, or walking frames.

The government urges all employers within the public service to take note of this new development and for persons with disabilities who qualify, as enumerated above, to contact their employers for them to benefit from this very empowering development.

This and many more interventions are a clear demonstration that the Kenya Kwanza government is really delivering to Kenyans on its campaign pledges towards a better Kenya.

The writer is the Government Spokesman

Worth Noting:

- The Primary Health Care Fund, financed through the National Assembly allocations, in addition to grants, and donations, is dedicated to purchasing a spectrum of essential healthcare services. They include promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, palliative, and referral services. Registration is mandatory for all Kenyan residents beginning March 1, 2024.

- For the last 16 months, the government has been able to increase job creation in the formal sector of the economy from 2.9 million to 3.1 million jobs, which is a 6.9 per cent growth in job creation.

- More jobs are on the way, as the government has entered into agreements for labour exchange with several foreign entities, including the recently advertised 2,500 positions for nurses to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Why Kikuyu Community Must Unite - Dr Thuo Mathenge

The Most Populous Community In The Country Risks Loosing Relevance In The Coming Years If The Current Trend Of Birthing Few Children Per Family And Disentangling Politically Continues

By: William Muchiri

@themkenyatimes



The New Democrats (TND) party National chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge formally welcoming leaders to the party during a consultative meeting on Saturday. Photo/PAUL WANJIRU

Worth Noting:

- “We need an urgent meeting for all leaders, irrespective of their political, social or economic affiliation so that we can decide our community’s way forward,” Dr Mathenge said.

- He was addressing dozens of The New Democrats (TND) party leaders and supporters at Bantu Africa Resort and SPA near Nyeri town.

- The meeting drew the party officials and members from Nyeri, Laikipia, Kirinyaga, Murang’a, Kiambu, Nairobi and Nyandarua counties.

- During the meeting, dozens of officials from Kanu, PNU, Jubilee and UDA among others defected to TND where they were received by Dr Mathenge who is the party’s National Chairman.

A political, economical and social storm whose result will have catastrophic ending is brewing in central Kenya.

The region, mostly inhabited by members of the Kikuyu community seems to have lost direction in virtually all spheres and without severe redemption, the gains made over past several decades will in the near future be lost.

The above sentiments were aired during a leaders meeting convened by Nyeri County based politician-cum-businessman Dr Thuo Mathenge.

Dr Mathenge said time was now up for the local leadership to seriously consider issues affecting the most populous community in the country, adding that without properly organized “recipe” the community’s future was doomed.

He thus called the leadership led by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua to urgently consider convening a meeting to chat the best way forward.

“We need an urgent meeting for all leaders, irrespective of their political, social or economic affiliation so



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During the meeting, dozens of officials from Kanu, PNU, Jubilee and UDA among others defected to TND where they were received by Dr Mathenge who is the party’s National Chairman.

“It is time to unite and speak with one voice. We cannot afford the differences being witnessed in the recent past,” Dr Mathenge lamented as he urged the Deputy President who is the most senior political leader in the region to convene an all leaders meeting as soon as is practically possible.

He said politically, leaders should consider supporting TND as their political vehicle just like the way other regions have done.

“Our region need a political party that they can face elections with. We need our own party, just like other regions have done. That way, we shall always have something to take us to the negotiations table,” he said, adding, “and that party is none other than The New Democrats which has today received dozens of defectors from other political parties.”

Dr Mathenge noted that his party was not opposed to the current government but wanted the region to have a political way forward.

He said leaders should for now support the current political establishment for the benefit of citizens and that alignments should be entertained when elections nears when voters will scrutinise and decide who to support.

On the ongoing crisis between the Deputy President and other leaders on who should be the presidential running mate during the 2027 General Election, the leaders noted that some powerful forces were behind

with the sole intention of disadvantaging the Kikuyu Community, despite overwhelmingly supporting the Kenya Kwanza candidates during the 2022 General Elections.

In a bid to popularise TND as the region’s party of choice, the leaders vowed to hold meeting and aggressively recruit new members.

They further called on some quarters to stop branding youngsters in the region as Mungiki saying the trend was detrimental to their well-being.

Among the leaders who graced the ceremony were Democratic Party of Kenya National chairman Essau Kioni and Maendeleo Ya Wanawake National vice chairperson Purity Ngunjiri.

During the meeting, former Ngobit Ward MCA Roberto Maina was appointed the party’s Laikipia County coordinator while his former Gatitu/Muruguru Ward counterpart Anthony Mwangi Kibuu was made the Nyeri Town constituency coordinator.

Authority Is Delegated Power



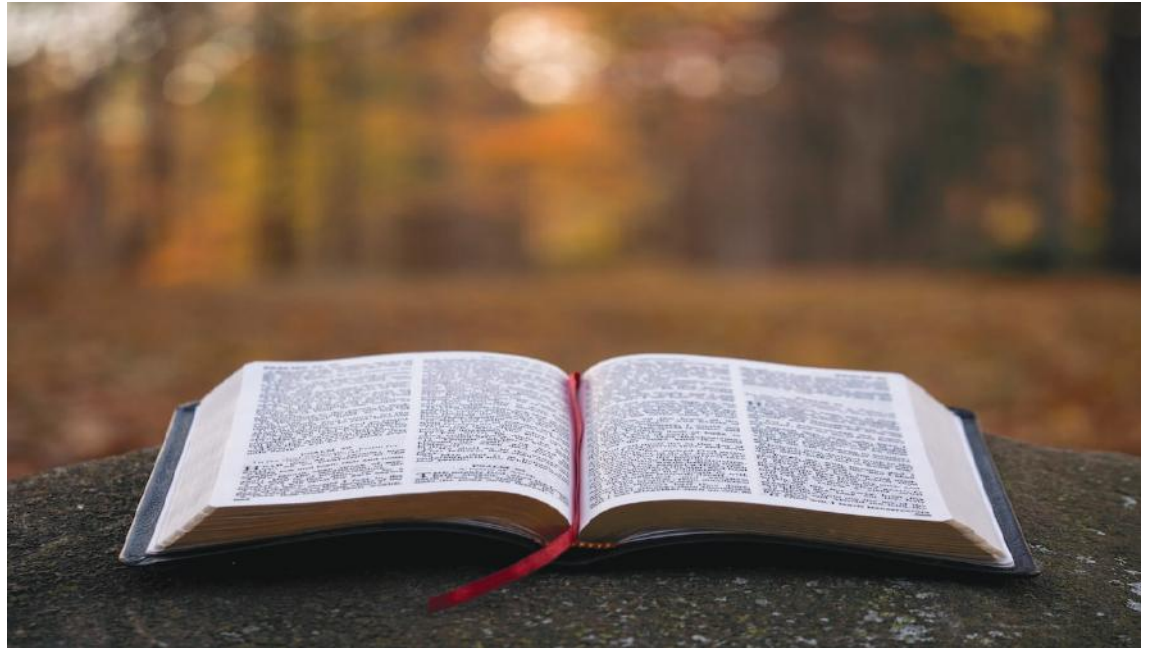
By: Eric Musa
 EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

policemen in a Kenyan road. He could ease his foot off the brake and a policeman can't stop him or delay his progress one iota. Physically, the policeman can't do anything. The giant tractor-trailer is so much larger than the policeman, it would be no contest. But the man in the truck can NOT DARE do such a thing. If he even entertains such a thought, he CAN NOT do it. He knows that behind that policeman were all the other policemen in Kenya. If that were not enough, they could call out the CIS. And if that were not enough, they could get the Army, Navy, and the Air Force.

This is what you call delegated power. When God Almighty saves our soul, He does not hide us like a hermit in some place of seclusion. He

sets us right in the midst of the intersections of life. Satan comes roaring down on us like a lion seeking whom he might devour. It seems that he is going to gobble us up. (And, sad to say, many Christians tuck their heads and run.) They run in fear and defeat. But thank God for those who stand. If you will hold up your hand and, in the name of Jesus, resist the devil and command him to stop, he must stop. That is what Scripture says. Now, there are many reasons why he stops. But one of the main reasons is this: he knows that behind you are all the holy angels. He knows within you is the Holy Spirit. He knows that behind the Holy Spirit is the Lord Jesus Christ. And behind the Lord Jesus Christ is God the Father. He doesn't dare come up against this type of power. This is authority!

This is THE AUTHORITY YOU HAVE AS A CHILD OF GOD. So when you stand in the intersections of life, with Satan coming against you with every type of problem he can bring your way, do not run. Don't fold over in defeat. Hold up your hand and, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, command Satan to stop! The Lord Jesus Christ promised, "What-



soever you bind (or stop) on earth, shall be bound in heaven. Whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." So you see, the problems of this world are caused by Satan. And, sad to say, Christians allow them to happen. I am not trying to say that every minor incident is caused by the failure of the child of God to exercise his authority in the Lord Jesus Christ. But many things are!

SELAH! GLORY TO GOD WHO ENLIGHTENS.

Evangelist Eric Musa:

(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit, as it is written; "NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2

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

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Has Ndindi Nyoro Taken A Tactical Retreat?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandong@yaho.com

As a writer and political analyst, I have been following the unfolding supremacy battle for Mount Kenya kingpin.

For now, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro are the leading contenders.

The duo hails from the Mount Kenya West and so many are waiting to see whether a leader from East will also throw the hat in the ring.

Ndindi have in the last few days changed his political strategy.

To me, this is a tactical retreat. It does not mean backing down as his critics want Kenyans to believe.

Speaking when he was hosted by the leaders from Northern Kenya, Rift Valley and Nyanza, the Kiharu MP stated that his loyalty to President William Ruto and his deputy President Rigathi Gachagua was unquestionable.

As their worker, my job is to help them implement the pledges they made to Kenyans during the campaigns.

In Luo Nyanza where he was accompanied by local leaders and MP Babu Owino, Ndindi reiterated the commitment of President Ruto to develop all regions of Kenya.

All of us pay taxes and so we are entitled to development goodies.

Speaker after speaker showered Ndindi Nyoro with accolades.

Ndindi is youthful, development conscious and well educated on matters of good governance and social rights. He also believes in peace and unity. Therefore, he is a presidential material.

In his speech, Ndindi steered clear of succession politics. The talk is premature and ill-timed. This is the time of helping our beloved President and his deputy to succeed in their job of transforming the lives of Kenyans.

Ndindi's change of tack was well understood. It came hot on the heels of a meeting he had hosted in Kiharu constituency. It was attended by 20 members of parliament drawn from different parts of country.

Most of the speakers endorsed Ndindi as the best suited to replace former President Uhuru Kenyatta as the kingpin of Mountain and also to succeed President William Ruto in 2032.

As it turned out, this meeting rattled the deputy President Gachagua. The DP troops did not wait for the

dust to settle. They accused Ndindi of working at the behest of powerful forces out to cut Gachagua to size.

Though they would not provide evidence to support their claims, media reports indicated that the DP opted to escalate this matter to State House.

Reportedly, this what prompted the President to wade into the succession battle pitting him and Kiharu MP.

My government promised to mentor youthful leaders. We have not changed but I want to caution young leaders not to engage in activities that could jeopardize our development agenda.

Before Ndindi changed the tack, I had a chat with a friend of mine. This is what he told me. You cannot stop an idea whose time has come.

Ndindi have a track record of development, reconciling and uniting the people.

DP Gachagua is the opposite of this. He was known to be vengeful, divisive and deceitful politician.

This explains why he is yet to deliver on the job of addressing the plight of farmers in Mount Kenya and other parts of the country. From onset, the DP had curved a niche of being a staunch defender of coffee, tea and milk farmers.

He had also convinced the President that he had what it takes to eradicate the menace of illicit brews and drug abuse once and for all.

But more than one year down line, he has not done anything to talk about.

For the farmers, they are still toiling and getting nothing in return. He had given them a false hope that they will start to put money into their pockets immediately.

Given this background, Ndindi seems to be the most favored candidate for position of Mount Kenya kingpin.

My friend added: We expect the duo to borrow a leaf from the late Kenneth Matiba who said in the countdown to 1992 general elections 'let the people decide'.

This means the people of Mount Kenya will choose candidate.

If it is Gachagua, then he will retain his position as Dr Ruto's running mate. If Ndindi defeats him, he will replace him.

Matiba had made the popular quote in the eve of 1992 general elections during a mammoth campaign rallies in Kiambu district.

This tour shocked Democratic Party (DP) leader Mwai Kibaki, who had taken his campaign there a week earlier. This is because all the gains he had made were watered down.

This is where Matiba branded Kibaki as 'general Kiguoya (coward)' amid cheers, ululations from mammoth crowds.

We wanted Kibaki to resign when he was demoted by President Moi from position of the Vice President

to that of the Ministry of Health that had been run down.

He had agreed to do so. This is after a series of the secret meetings with other leaders from across the country who believed that Moi was taking the country in wrong direction.

Kibaki however betrayed us on the floor of parliament. He declined to second a motion of confidence against President Moi which I had just presented.

This was a great betrayal. I become a marked man. I was put on the radar by state security agencies and I ended up in detention, Matiba declared.

The 'let the people decide' clarion call resonated very well with the masses not only in Mount Kenya region but Kenya as a whole.

I remember 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 Josphat 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. President Moi replaced Karanja with the late Professor George Saitoti.

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.

Former secretary general of KNUT Wilson Sosian who was among the leaders hosted by Ndindi in Kiharu, stated. 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 allied to DP 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



Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro

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.

The DP should bear this in mind. Ndindi's political star was rising very fast.

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

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 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

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.

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

Gachagua Calls For Artificial Intelligence In Ending Insecurity

By: DPCS



Participants from different countries pose for a photo with Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

Worth Noting:

- While calling for a common regional strategy in gathering of security information, Mr Gachagua said Artificial intelligence is key to tackling emerging threats, especially in the digital space.
- “Digital spaces have become playgrounds for recruitment and Radicalisation, money laundering and trap points for homicides and other cybercrimes, sadly, as recently witnessed in Kenya,” he said.
- Gachagua said the Ruto Administration is ready to support the national security institutions for deliver on their mandate.
- The Deputy President asked the officials to come up with a framework for sharing knowledge and information between and among our intelligence bureaus for strategic interventions and mutual benefit. He said, this is besides joint operations on issues of regional interest, moreso development.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has called for integration of artificial intelligence and other forms of technology to enhance security in Eastern Africa.

Mr Gachagua praised Kenya’s National Intelligence Service (NIS), saying the Government, led by President William Ruto, has total confidence in the work of NIS detectives.

The DP also pledged support for the security service, saying the Government will whatever possible in provision of resources to make NIS’ work smooth.

Speaking in Mombasa when he officially opened the Mashariki Co-operation Conference, which brings together top security and National Intelligence Service chiefs from over 10 States in Eastern African Region, Gachagua said technology is key to sustainably addressing insecurity. Kenya’s National Intelligence Service Director General Noordin Haji hosted the high level conference.

“While more resources are required in integration of Artificial Intelligence into security operations, we have no option but to invest for better outcomes. With advancing technology, we must be armed with highly innovative infrastructure for tracing, tracking and monitoring potential threats for early elimination and prevention,” the Deputy President said. While calling for a common region-

al strategy in gathering of security information, Mr Gachagua said Artificial intelligence is key to tackling emerging threats, especially in the digital space.

“Digital spaces have become playgrounds for recruitment and Radicalisation, money laundering and trap points for homicides and other cybercrimes, sadly, as recently witnessed in Kenya,” he said.

Gachagua said the Ruto Administration is ready to support the national security institutions for deliver on their mandate.

The Deputy President asked the officials to come up with a framework for sharing knowledge and information between and among our intelligence bureaus for strategic interventions and mutual benefit. He said, this is besides joint operations on issues of regional interest, moreso development.

Mr Gachagua said armed conflicts, trafficking in humans especially children, drugs, counterfeit goods, corruption and money laundering, wildlife trophies, among others are a threat to development.

In particular, the Deputy President added that security is crucial to development and Africa is to socio-economically transform as envisaged under Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

“Africa is, without a doubt, the Continent of the 21st Century. But insecurity, if not strategically and decisively tackled, may derail the vision of transforming the lives of our people. I cannot emphasise more, on why Security is key to a better, brighter and successful Africa,” he said. Further, the Deputy President said demolishing international networks of criminals requires transnational strategies, which must also be jointly implemented.

The National Intelligence Service Director General Noordin Haji said past collaborations in the region have

borne fruit and more can be achieved. “We must join forces in and pool resources for strategic security interventions,” he said.

He said States in the Eastern African Region, from Djibouti to Mozambique have common challenges, which can be surmounted.

States represented in the conference include Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Somalia, Seychelles, Comoros, Mozambique, Eritrea and Malawi.

MP Ndindi Nyoro Distances Self From Mt Kenya Succession Politics

A section of Murang'a leaders have expressed their endorsement for the MP to serve as the deputy to President Ruto in the 2027 general election.

By: Prudence Wanza and KBC Correspondent

Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro has distanced himself from the ongoing Mt Kenya succession politics reiterating his full support for President William Ruto and his Deputy Rigathi Gachagua

The MP urged all Mt Kenya region leaders to rally behind the Kenya Kwanza government and dispelled reports of an alleged feud between him and DP Gachagua over Mt Kenya succession politics.

“I want to assure you that all of us as leaders in Kenya Kwanza, our focus is on the delivery of services and transforming the economy and supporting the President in taking Kenya forward,” said Ndindi.

Ndidi spoke at Kanyarkwat village in West Pokot county during the burial of Pastor Mary Moroto, the wife of Kapenguria MP Dr Samuel Moroto

who succumbed to cancer after long illness.

A section of Murang'a leaders have expressed their endorsement for the MP to serve as the deputy to President Ruto in the 2027 general election.

Led by Murang'a Senator Joe Nyutu, the leaders are advocating for Ndindi Nyoro as a preferable choice over DP Gachagua, a subject that has resulted to a heated political debate in the Mt Kenya region.

However, President Ruto and DP Gachagua have both condemned the succession talks terming them as immature and instead urged leaders to focus on fulfilling their promises Kenyans.

“Let me ask all leaders that we focus our attention on the delivery of the assignment given to us by the people of Kenya,” Ruto said.

“Especially leaders in Kenya Kwanza and UDA, I want to ask them to step down any contestations for whatever positions present or future so that we can work,” he added.



Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro .

Declare Femicide A National Emergency, Lobby Groups Urge Government

Over 10 women have been killed in the last 24 days of January 2024

By: Florence Masha

Women rights movements have called on the government to declare femicide a national emergency and a threat to national security.

Speaking during a peaceful march in various parts of the country, the lobby groups urged Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki and his Gender and Affirmative Action counterpart Aisha Jumwa to take immediate and decisive action to address the crisis.

They noted that the recent femicide cases in Airbnbs point to the widespread gender inequality in the country and the lack of effective measures to protect women and girls.

According to the women right's movements, the incidents have adopted an alarming pattern posing a threat to national security.

During the walk, the lobby groups also handed over a petition to Nairobi woman representative, urging her to forward the motion in parliament

The men also were not left out in the walk as they came in numbers to show support to the female gender calling on the government to hasten security measures in the country and ensure safety of girls and women.

Over 10 women have been killed in the last 24 days of January 2024.



Women rights movements.

My Heavenly Mother



Tell the whole world
Your daughter looks good.

I'm Fine mom
You always stand by me,
Mothers like you in the world,
I don't know if there are any more.

I'm Khushbakova Angela
Berdymuratovna, I was born on April 17,
2006. Currently, I live in Surkhandarya
region, Oltinsoy district.

I took pride of place in many
competitions and science Olympiads
My poem was published in the French
International Anthology
My poems have been published in local
newspapers and magazines
I am interested in writing poems and
articles. I like to spend my free time
meaningfully and read books

Your hands in prayer
You are more than everyone else.
My paradise without you
I am without you.

I am alive because of you
I am the only one in the world.
Because of your prayer,
I will become a mature person.

Use me always
Your face is shining.

Winter



In the heart of the year, comes old winter,
so clear,
A season of whispering white, cold and
austere.
The world is hushed, under a crystal quilt,
Where each snowflake's descent is as
delicate as silk.
Bare branches etch against a steel gray
sky,
Like a monochrome painting, a melancholic
lie.
The wind howls, a lonely wolf in the night,
Echoing through the silence, under the
moon's silver light.
Ice-glazed rivers, once flowing, now still,
Stand as glassy mirrors, atop the silent
hill.
The world is a painting, dipped in hues of
white,

Every corner, every shadow, bathed in
soft moonlight.
Homes aglow with warmth, fires burning
bright,
Against the icy chill, a beacon in the night.
Smoke spirals upwards, like a mystical
dance,
In the heart of winter, in its cold, frosty
expanse.
Winter, a storyteller, with tales to unfold,
Of knights, of dragons, of the warriors
of old.
In its icy whisper, and its snowy veil,
It weaves tales of magic, as a fairy-tale.
So, rejoice in winter, in its icy embrace,
For it is a season of beauty, of subtle
grace.
In its cold, there's warmth, in its silence,
a song,
In the heart of winter, where dreams
belong.

Written by
ABDURASULOV NURIDDINJON
SHAROFJONOVICH,
student of group 751-20 of Jizzakh State
Pedagogical University,
Faculty of Foreign Languages

The Beauty Of His Sister



Reluctant cutie,
Cheerful and cheerful.
I'm quick-tempered, stubborn,
Her sister's beauty.

My mother is a supporter,
My father's joy.
Loved one,
Her sister's beauty.

May you live long,
May your home be filled with light.
My dear sister,
Her sister's beauty.

I was born on October 18, 2003 in
Termiz District, Surkhandarya Region,
Jorayeva 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.

Full moon faces,
They are kind.
Fascinating fan,
Her sister's beauty.

The Lamentation Of A Speechless Heart

The eyes are fixed on the
ceiling,
The pearls are stroking my
face.
Proud pins the words to the
heart,
Engrafting tears to laugh.
The heart is begging the skies,
My speechless heart laments
starveling.
The feelings are engrossed,
The white sheets are black, it's
howl.

I am havoc like fall,
I have roped into my rhymes.
Darkness which has gone away
From my heart
Goes brightly into other hearts.

Dilnoza Jabborova



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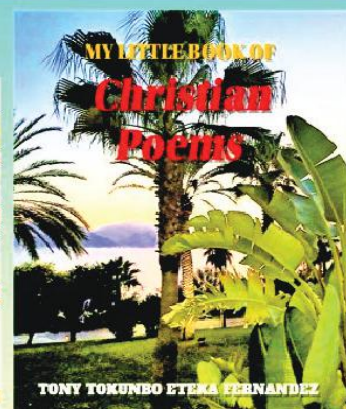
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KENYA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTITIONERS UNION (KEHPHU)

Hon. National Secretary General:
Brown A. Olaly
Hon. National Chairman:
Ken Ngari Ogendo
Hon. Treasurer:
Dr. Susan Mambo



Email: kehpunionsecretariat@gmail.com
Mob: 0724 593204/0720 965 883

MOTTO: Promote, Prevent, Protect

All Correspondences to be addressed to the Hon. Secretary General & CEO

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Date: January 27, 2024

Dear Members of the Fourth Estate,

RE: KENYA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTITIONERS' UNION(KEHPHU) PRESS STATEMENT ON HOUSING LEVY.

(Nairobi, Kenya) In the wake of the escalating costs burdening the Kenyan workforce, the Kenya Environmental Health and Public Health Practitioners Union (KEHPHU) wishes to welcome the ruling by the Court of Appeal on Housing Levy commonly referred to as the housing tax. The persistent outcry from health workers particularly Public Health Officers, Specialist and Technicians highlights their deep understanding of the challenges they face daily creating a stark contrast to the disconnect experienced by those in positions of power who have pledged to protect and uplift the citizens.

The resounding ruling by the Court of Appeal against the implementation of the housing levy is a victory for all healthcare workers especially **Public Health Officers, Specialist and Technicians** who are grappling with hard economic times.

In solidarity, with other trade unions Kenya Environmental Health and Public Health Practitioners Union call for the respect of workers' rights by employers, and strongly advises all employers in the Private Sector, County and National Government to take necessary measures to cushion all the Healthcare Workers against harsh economic times.

In conclusion, the Union remains committed to advocating for the rights and well-being of all the **Public Health Officers, Specialist and Technicians**, emphasizing the importance of fair and just policies that uplift the Kenyan workforce and society at large.

For further inquiries, please contact the **General Secretary** on **0724593204**.

Signed

Hon. Brown O. Ashira,
Secretary General &CEO,
Kenya Environmental Health and Public Health Practitioners Union (KEHPHU).

Seven Deadly Political Sins

By: William Waithaka
 @themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- From the second liberation, the democratic space has been further evolved to allow the Kenyan commoner to take part in matters of statecraft (at the very community level).
- Meru saw or witnessed an irate executive just recently. In what was an incidence where or that seemed not to augur well with the president, few youthful folk had irritably disagreed with what the political delegation headed by president Ruto seemed to be peddling. In retaliation the head of state openly condemned this disagreement and called on the nay sayers to “be of agreeable conduct”.
- Are both parties allowed to air their opinions, dissenting or not and in whatever way or by whichever means they so seem to be able to?

Documented history indicates that the MauMau had 7 Oaths “Miuma Mugwanja” or the Seal of 7. These oaths had structured means of application and administering. Unfortunately over 15,000 records were carted away and shipped to London, the actual truth of the “Muuma” remaining scanty and contradictory based on the stories shared now.

The Bible has mentioned the 7 deadly sins. Those immersed in the sins are deemed to be non-virtuous. In Realm of Politics there also are “7 deadly political sins”, which in Africa, many a leader falls in the pitfalls for as listed below,

- The Sin of Self Righteousness
- The sin of Greed
- The sin of Ignorance
- The sin of Hypocrisy
- The sin of Polarisation
- The sin of Contradiction
- The sin of Manipulation

In philosophical terms, the definition of politic is universally agreed to be the language that explains and justifies claims, and challenges or contradicts those of others.

Notable philosophical points of view further define politic as a collective responsibility and a noble activity under which man decides the rules that they will live by.

POLITICAL MORALITY:

In a democracy, politics then become a very serious matter to be left to the politicians alone.

The progressive Katiba 2010 of Kenya allows for “Public Participation”, “Referendas”, “Picketing” etc captured under the Bill of Rights article.

Does the Kenyan Politic address the Kenyan Issue (s) wholeheartedly and conscientiously?

As we ponder, does the Kenya believe that politiqu will address their problems? Is the politiqu in our county simply laced with a virtuos aspect as its framework for its basic structure.

Given that Human nature is always in conflict and not perfect however it’s through the development of such - Universal Law, Moral code of conducts by all that gives Politique its girth to thrust upon in the continuous development of human living

- Politics with principles
- commerce with morality
- Science with humanity
- Pleasure with Conscience
- Worship with Sacrifice
- Wealth with Work
- Contest with character

CLOSER HOME KENYAN CONTEXT

The conduct by many a Kenyan politician is known to be “the more crassier, the more mass appealing and influential this is”, however Kenya has arguably managed to lead this side of the world as taking the mantle of tolerance.

From the second liberation, the democratic space has been further evolved to allow the Kenyan commoner to take part in matters of statecraft (at the very community level).

Meru saw or witnessed an irate executive just recently. In what was an incidence where or that seemed not to augur well with the president, few youthful folk had irritably disagreed with what the political delegation headed by president Ruto seemed to be peddling. In retaliation the head of state openly condemned this disagreement and called on the nay sayers to “be of agreeable conduct”.

Are both parties allowed to air their opinions, dissenting or not and in whatever way or by whichever means they so seem to be able to?

The president had his way of disagreeing with the youth; however them too had their right. A politician in the eyes of the commoner who does seem to conduct within the 7 sins of politics will evidently get “shouting down”. This is the beauty of Kenya’s grown democratic space.

The president has been projected to contradict and ignore a lot, which seems to have eroded the mass confidence in his conduct and presentations.

Should Kenya take the initiative to rewrite itself and its political class “politically right”, should Kenya just confine politiqu a constant mainstream activity of the accorded 3 months in every 5 years or must Kenyans embrace politiqu as a model of metrics for daily living?

Is your politician a political sinner or not? According and based on the political sins? Is the electorate right in how they view the political class in Kenya?

Who should point fingers at the other?

As in the case of Meru?

The author is Jubilee Party Gatanga Sub County chairperson

Two Nairobi County Officials Arrested Over Revenue Diversion

The suspects allegedly asked a complainant to pay Ksh45,000 annual parking fees for his commercial vehicles to a private bank account as opposed to the Nairobi County bank account.

By: Prudence Wanza

The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) has arrested two Nairobi County officials for allegedly diverting county revenue through manipulation of the Nairobi Revenue Services portal.

The suspects have been identified as Daniel Odidi Ganje, Officer-In-Charge of the Data Office at St. Peter Cleavers Revenue offices in Starehe, and John Gachagua Mburu, a Mt. Kenya University Student on attachment at the same office.

According to the EACC, the suspects asked a complainant who sought to pay Ksh45,000 annual parking fees for his commercial vehicles to deposit the money into the student's private bank account as opposed to the Nairobi County bank account.

To assure the complainant of the viability of the deal, the suspects entered the registration details of the complainant's vehicle into the revenue portal which indicated full payment of the parking fees for the whole year, despite not having paid anything to the County.

The suspects were processed at EACC Police Station on Tuesday and later released on cash bail pending arraignment after concurrence of the ODPP.

The anti-graft agency noted that diversion of revenue is prevalent in several county governments and is one of the reasons why most devolved units fail to meet their revenue targets.

"Investigations undertaken in the counties so far reveal that some senior county officials use students on attachment or internship as conduits for theft of public funds, with some students being compelled to register

companies or business names which are later introduced into the IFMIS platform to facilitate execution of fraudulent schemes," said EACC.

"Upon payments to those proxy companies, the students are asked to withdraw the monies sent or diverted to the bank accounts and deliver the same to their masters. This partly explains the Commission's position that there is no big or small fish in the fight against corruption; all are criminals to be dealt with as such."



Dead End For Embu Mpesa Fraudsters

By: The DCI

Two notorious suspects that have been the nightmare of Mpesa operators in Embu county were yesterday nabbed after days of operating with impunity in the region, swiping cards and stealing huge sums of money from victims.

Their resolute pursuit and subsequent apprehension was launched after intelligence leads pointed to a con double, who had on Jan 18, 2023 advanced their didoes to Kithimu trading centre while posing as Safaricom agents.

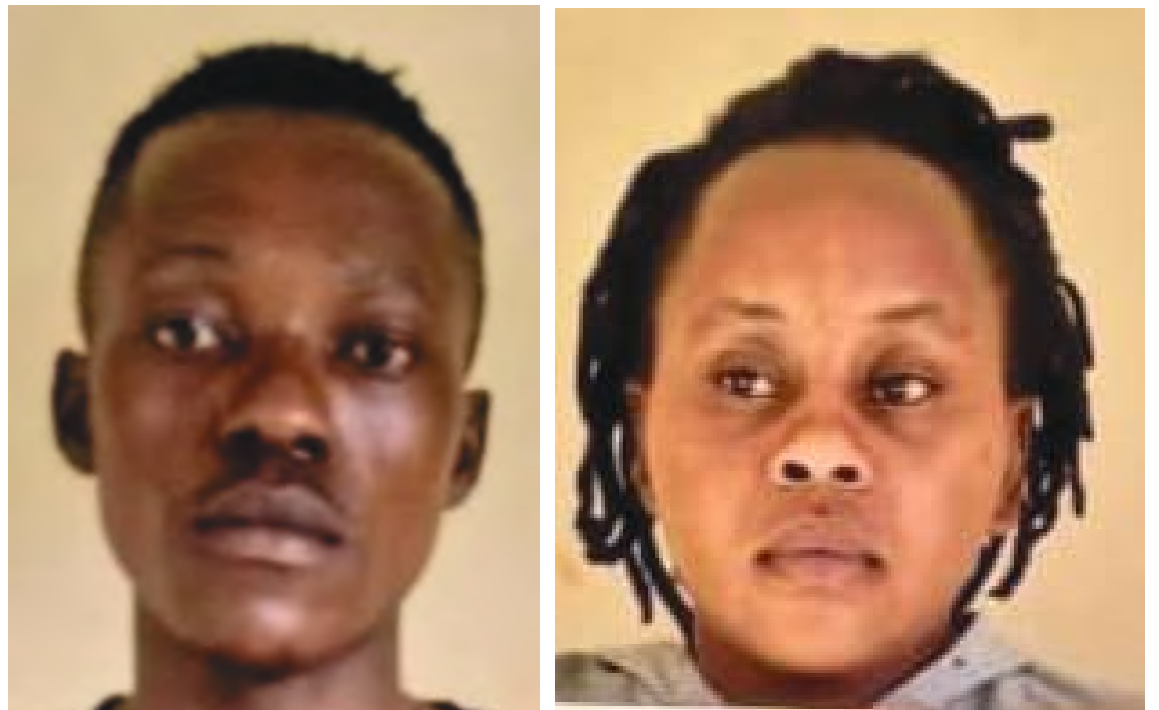
They picked on a target, a 49-year-old male Mpesa operator, somehow convincing him to have them replace his till number and in the process obtained his confidential details.

Using his details, they installed a safaricom app in their mobile phone

and withdrew Sh24,000 from the till, thereafter beetling off.

Yesterday, Evans Ngui Dorcas, 32 and Jackline Mwendu, 24 were trailed to Ngariama area where they were arrested and escorted to Itabua Police Station. They are being held for the weekend as detectives hunt down more accomplices.

The Embu County DCI Head cautions Mpesa operators and other businesspersons of numerous fraudsters roaming in the region guised as agents of reputable companies, and at the same time issues stern warning to culprits to mend their ways before maximum force of the law is unleashed on them.



Evans Ngui Dorcas and Jackline Mwendu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tkinship Or Kingship



By: **William Waitthaka**

A kin is defined basically as a relative; A King on the other hand is a leadership of the highest nature

Mt Kenya has witnessed the battle of Kinship fighting for Kingship.

This contest has pitted two notable incumbent political players from the region namely Riggy G & one Ndindi.

“We are Africans and Africa is our Business” as Ndindi’s clarion goes, seems to have shown him that the “political business is not his to meddle in”. This has been demonstrated by Riggy G’s capacity to muzzle, scuttle and maybe in the near future suppress his contending opinion on his current position.

Riggy G has consolidated Kinship and reached out to other notable Mt Kenya leadership that is not in the Government side, unlike Ndindi whose model seems to align with po-

litical resource reach only within the KK allegiance.

Riggy G’s strategy solidifies his current foothold as the disliked but cannot be ignored No. 2

His approach of everyone in Mt Kenya is resource will work well with all the proponents outside the KK government, and in his favour too in the end and this will also depend on what his eyes will have set on as the price.

Ndindi has demonstrated naivety, and lack of forethought. The outcome may have shown that he was on a lone ranger but may have believed he was addressing calls from the very top.

What if it’s not the case?

Or what if it indeed was the case?

Riggy G is Riggy G. Ndindi has a political future that he must craft and strategize on how to actualize on how own. No pegging on WSR or KK but on his philosophical and



Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro and Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

political belief.

His mouthpieces in the senator Murang’a and his counterpart Gatanga

MP raises eyebrows these are first timers and political

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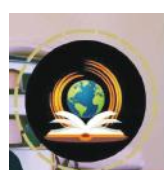
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Group 3

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

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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



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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Only a few months after lifting the Spanish title, Barcelona coach Xavi Hernandez dramatically announced he would walk away from the club at the end of the season.

From Title Triumph To Stepping Down, How Xavi's Barca Dream Soured



Barcelona's Spanish coach Xavi looks on before the start of the Spanish league football match between FC Barcelona and Villarreal CF at the Estadi Olimpik Lluís Companys in Barcelona on January 27, 2024. (Photo by LLUIS GENE / AFP).

By AFP

Only a few months after lifting the Spanish title, Barcelona coach Xavi Hernandez dramatically announced he would walk away from the club at the end of the season.

The 44-year-old, who excelled in Barcelona's midfield during 17 years as a player, described the job as his "dream" in the years before he was appointed in November 2021.

After a 5-3 collapse against Villarreal on Saturday which left the champions 10 points adrift of league leaders Real Madrid, Xavi said coaching Barcelona was a "cruel and unpleasant" experience.

Real Madrid thrashed Barcelona 4-1 earlier in January to win the Spanish Super Cup and Athletic Bilbao hammered the Catalans 4-2 on Wednesday to eliminate them from the Copa del Rey, paving the way for Xavi's decision.

Xavi took over in one of the toughest moments of Barcelona's history, a few months after their greatest ever player Lionel Messi left, with the club in dire economic straits.

The coach, who won 25 trophies

with Barcelona as a player in 767 appearances, led the team from ninth in the table to second in his first season at the helm, securing Champions League qualification. Xavi followed that by winning the Spanish Super Cup in January 2023 and then Barcelona's first league title since 2019, with his project gathering speed.

Humiliating consecutive group stage Champions League exits blotted his copybook, but Barca appeared to be improving after largely dismal spells under Quique Setien and Ronald Koeman.

Despite winning La Liga, some media and supporters grumbled that the team was not playing good football.

Xavi, the symbol of Barcelona's possession game as a player under Pep Guardiola, was expected by supporters to deliver that kind of dominant football - and he insisted it was his aim.

Yet Barcelona won the title on the basis of their superb defence, conceding just 20 times in 38 La Liga matches. This season they have already let in 29 in 21 games.

The collapse of that defensive strength and worsening performances have led Xavi to walk

away, he says to change a "negative dynamic" around the team he loves.

Defensive woes

Several factors have played into Barcelona's struggles at the back this season.

Perhaps stung by criticism of his team's dutiful but drab performances, Xavi brought in full-back Joao Cancelo on loan to play a more attacking brand of football.

Last season the defence featured three centre-backs - Jules Kounde, playing on the right, Ronald Araujo and Andreas Christensen, with Alejandro Balde at left-back.

This season Xavi started with Balde and Cancelo and two centre-backs, foregoing stability for attacking thrust on the flanks.

Kounde had also tired of playing at right-back, often telling media he would prefer to play in the middle.

Veteran holding midfielder Sergio Busquets departed at the end of last season, leaving a yawning chasm in the pivot role he made his own for 18 years.

"We have to find that player if we want to compete well next

season - it's the key," said Xavi in May.

However Barcelona could not afford their prime targets and settled for former La Masia player Oriol Romeu, signed cheaply from neighbours Girona.

Romeu struggled and Xavi dropped him, playing with an even more attacking line-up without a natural defensive midfielder.

Tenacious box-to-box player Gavi suffered a cruciate ligament injury in November, further damaging the team's capacity in that regard.

"We are playing with Pedri, (Ilkay) Gundogan and Frenkie (de Jong)," said Xavi last week.

"Before we had Busquets and Gavi ... Busquets steals 20 to 30 balls for you, Gavi steals 20 to 30 balls."

Another injury to first-choice goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen, vital last season, has contributed to the sharp increase in goals conceded.

Inaki Pena, standing in for the German, shipped 31 goals in 15 games.

Barcelona have let in three goals this season within the first minute of matches, with concentration lacking.

In attack the team have struggled too -- Joao Felix has not convinced, while Robert Lewandowski, 35, looks his age.

Despite Xavi's intentions, the team's performances have only sparkled on a handful of occasions across his two-year stint.

"We're lacking in both boxes," Xavi has said on various occasions, as excuses piled up along with points dropped.

Xavi left as a hero after winning the treble in his final season as a player in 2015.

Barring a miracle in La Liga or an unlikely Champions League charge, his departure as coach will be far less triumphant.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Virgil van Dijk said the news of Jurgen Klopp's departure from Liverpool at the end of the season was "hard to take", but the Reds' captain is hoping to send his manager out on a high.

Van Dijk Desperate To Give Klopp A Fitting Finale At Liverpool



Premier League - Liverpool v Leicester City - Anfield, Liverpool, Britain - December 30, 2022 Liverpool's Virgil van Dijk in action REUTERS/Carl Recine

By AFP

Virgil van Dijk said the news of Jurgen Klopp's departure from Liverpool at the end of the season was "hard to take", but the Reds' captain is hoping to send his manager out on a high.

Liverpool are five points clear at the top of the Premier League and in the running for three more trophies in the League Cup, FA Cup and Europa League.

Klopp announced his shock decision to step down on Friday, explaining that he no longer has the energy to keep going after nearly nine years in charge at Anfield.

"It's a hard one to take, because the manager means so much for us, to me, to the club, to the whole

Premier League I think," said Van Dijk, who was brought to Liverpool by Klopp for a then world record £75 million fee for a defender in 2018.

"But he made the decision for him and his family. It was always going to be a tough one and it was definitely the case."

Liverpool host Norwich in the FA Cup fourth round on Sunday at what is sure to be an emotionally-charged Anfield in the first match since the news broke.

Klopp's men this week also reached the League Cup final, where they will face Chelsea next month, and are the favourites for the Europa League having already qualified for the last 16.

"We have a lot of targets still to

achieve this year and why not finish the season on a high and together with celebrations for the boss as well?" Van Dijk said.

"Let's make the rest of the season a special one so he can have the farewell that he definitely deserves."

Liverpool are keen to avoid the fate suffered by Manchester United in 2001/02 when the Red Devils struggled after Alex Ferguson announced his intention to retire, only for the Scot to later change his mind and stay on at Old Trafford for another decade.

Klopp insisted there will be no change of heart on his decision and Van Dijk believes it could give his players extra motivation in what remains of the campaign

"It will maybe even give you an extra boost to do that extra (bit) or maybe enjoy it a little bit even more together," added the Dutchman.

"And make the last part of the season, the last bit of the manager's time at the club, the best time he's ever had. That's what we strive for and that's why it's business as usual."

SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Nameless Smallpox



By: Jumanboyeva Firdavskhan
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- When I told them this in the open, my sister-in-law fought that you are trying to embarrass us (repentance, shame, why should I embarrass them, what they did was done by their brothers). I fell to the ground.
- Why did this happen? 18 years of my life flashed before my eyes. Couldn't I finish my education and get a good job and get married? Then I wouldn't be a drug addict? What did I do against my parents?
- When I was lying under the cold snow, I screamed at the top of my voice when they locked the gate. No, my voice didn't come out at all. What should I do? when is the sadness?



Smallpox.

Now this girl, who faced eight springs, was dragged by the darkness into winter. Maybe she was to blame for everything. Could she blame someone for her actions in the world? Could she escape from the end of her fate? I don't want to condemn the two people by writing the story. That's why the names of these two people were kept secret. Because in the story, not the names, but the conclusion that can be drawn from it is important. My story was written from the language of the girl who endured all the suffering.

When I went to college, it was very meaningful, classmates, friends - we were like a family with them. Suddenly my life took a sharp turn. I liked this turn very much. When I came back from school, a boy in the car asked me my name. I shyly said nameless flower. That's all started on the day. Meetings started two or three times a week. These meetings became more and more frequent and became daily. He gave wonderful gifts that the 18-year-old girl liked very much. I fell in love with him more and more. it was a burden. It seemed that everything, even the autumn tree, which was shedding its barks, seemed beautiful to my eyes.

Opposition started from my parents

and brother. We went against everyone and celebrated our wedding together.

All my friends came to our wedding... But the groom's friends were very few...

I didn't pay attention to it because it wasn't important to me. The wedding also happened.

I am the bride. Fate is so crazy. When did the person I love change so much? I'm surprised.

Instead of the gifts I receive every day, I slapped myself, how hard it is. I have to endure everything.

It's been 2 weeks since our wedding and I haven't heard a single good word from anyone. One day I suddenly felt dizzy. My mother-in-law and my husband took care of me until I got better. That day I ran away to my house, but it was useless. "It was so horrible. My husband came and took away. As a punishment for running away, Ikki blinded me. That day I understood why my husband has few friends at the wedding. They didn't even want to visit the drug addict friend.

When I told them this in the open, my sister-in-law fought that you are trying to embarrass us (repentance, shame, why should I embarrass them, what they did was done by

their brothers). I fell to the ground. Why did this happen? 18 years of my life flashed before my eyes. Couldn't I finish my education and get a good job and get married? Then I wouldn't be a drug addict? What did I do against my parents? When I was lying under the cold snow, I screamed at the top of my voice when they locked the gate. No, my voice didn't come out at all. What should I do? When is the sadness? No, I don't give up, the place where I ran away is heavy... my breath... I started to get short of breath... my eyes were closed in the embrace of the white snow.

Unscrupulous husband

Even though I was holding my breath, I could feel the sound of the crows around me on the ground like ice. This silence was broken by the loud opening of the gate. My life partner who gave me everything, my mother who gave me my love came in. My sister, who did not know what to do when she saw me, started to think of all kinds of excuses, because I fell from her hard blow. It was my sister who didn't hear me shouting.

Why did they inflict such pain on her? What was the fault of the poor

girl, did she love me? I don't know...

Everything is fate. As soon as we appear in our mother's womb, our destiny is written. Nothing can change that except prayer.

I don't want to blame this little girl for not blessing her mother. I don't want to condemn Kaysidur's actions. I would beg mothers to be patient and not throw your daughters into fire. They also have the right to live, they have the right to breathe and enjoy the world. Don't separate them from this happiness too soon. Money Don't call the state a single word without opening it.

My beautiful sisters. Don't trust your young life to a fool. May you reach such milestones that only the best can come to you.

Don't trample on your feet.

Be proud but not arrogant.

Be thankful, don't be ungrateful.

Be smart, don't be stupid.

Learn, practice.

When you want to choose a person, consider that he has knowledge of the world and religion.

"Because the more knowledge a person has, the more soft his heart is"

A beautiful proverb of the Uzbek people

"There is no deer lying on the mountain of faith", so don't start your life with every person you meet.

A person who appears may not be what he appears to be.

This story is written based on real events. To write information was received from a close friend and neighbor.

Jumanboyeva Firdavskhan was born on September 30, 2005 in the Farhana region of the Republic of Uzbekistan. She became a student of the Faculty of Pedagogical Institute "Uzbek language". During his first year, she participated in many competitions (in the Essay Contest) and took the first place. Awarded with Certificate of India, New Delhi (The role of folklorisms in the story "Tasgkelinchak" by Isajon Sultan) was conducted.

At the moment, she is teaching in a private kindergarten (many students).