



Embracing Prosperity: Rekindling Mt. Kenya Heritage For Economic Flourish Under Mt. Kenya's Watchful Eye

As the morning sun casts its golden rays upon the majestic slopes of Mt. Kenya, a sense of reverence fills the air—a palpable reminder of the rich cultural heritage that lies nestled within the heart of the Mt. Kenya people.

Page 18

THANK YOU FOR ADVERTISING WITH US
For any news you would wish us to publish,
email us: news@mountkenyentimes.co.ke
For Adverts & Sponsorship
email us: ads@mountkenyentimes.co.ke

The MT. KENYA TIMES

Creative Rewards

Daily ePAPER

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

No. 01003 www.mountkenyentimes.co.ke

[f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [themtkenyentimes](#)



News>>Blockchain Association Of Kenya Meet With Nigerian High Commission To Plea For Release Of Detained Kenyan In Nigeria

P. 8. The detainee; Nadeem Anjarwalla, a dual citizen of Kenya and Britain has been detained without charge in Nigeria



News>>Kenya To Collaborate With Global Partners In Ensuring Ethical Use Of AI

P. 12. Information, Communication Technology and the Digital Economy PS, Eng. John Tanui has reiterated Kenya's commitment in ensuring the responsible and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)



News>> Kenya and South Korea Forge Maritime Partnership: Opportunities Abound for Kenyan Seafarers

P. 16 In a landmark move aimed at bolstering maritime opportunities and strengthening bilateral relations

Don't Hide Alcoholism Addicts - Gachagua

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has urged families to stop hiding their alcohol-addicted kin as he pushed for concerted efforts to end illicit brews and drug abuse.

The Deputy President appealed to such families to speak out and called on the religious leaders to disclose to the public whenever one of their faithful succumb to the effects of alcohol and drug abuse.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

STORY ON PAGE 9

Tree Nursery Attendants Ask Government To Engage Them In The Tree Planting Programme

By: Bernard Munyao and Tabitha Irungu

[@themtkenyentimes](#)

Tree nursery attendants in Murang'a have called upon the government to fully engage them in the national programme on tree planting. The attendants who spoke to journalists observed that the government

could provide them with incentives to help them propagate more seedlings to support the tree planting programme.

The county government is currently

STORY ON PAGE 13

A tree nursery



GST MARKETING
"CONNECTING END-USER'S WITH SOURCE"

connect



T
+254 700 161 866
+254 705 215 262
For Advert Email: ads@mtkenyentimes.co.ke

Government Groups Artisanal Miners, Targeting Value Addition

By: Anne Sabuni
@themtkenyatimes



Principal Secretary in the State Department for Mining Elijah Mwangi addressing the media yesterday.

Worth Noting:

- “We are calling upon anyone dealing, mining or exploiting minerals to have mineral rights, permits and licenses. The biggest threat to this sector is illegal mining that denies the government revenue, while invading licensed areas,” said Mwangi, who noted that the mining police unit had been launched to help enforce the law.
- The PS noted that the Artisanal Miners had the potential of helping the government fetch up to 10 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from the current one per cent, if the potential of these artisanal miners was exploited fully, urging the miners to also pay royalties.

The government will redeploy minerals’ testing laboratory services to regions across the country to help small scale miners test their products before sale, even as they joined cooperatives to keep away exploiters.

Principal Secretary in the State Department for Mining Elijah Mwangi noted that eight laboratories had been procured to be redeployed across the country, as a way of cushioning the artisanal miners against exploitation and having them get value for their minerals.

He noted that the laboratory service was a way of having the miners ascertain the quality of their commodity before selling, to avert being exploited by buyers, who demanded lower prices as a result of non-verification of the content of their products.

“We are calling upon anyone dealing, mining or exploiting minerals to have mineral rights, permits and licenses. The biggest threat to this sector is illegal mining that denies the government revenue, while invading licensed areas,” said Mwangi, who noted that the mining police unit had been launched to help en-

force the law.

The PS noted that the Artisanal Miners had the potential of helping the government fetch up to 10 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from the current one per cent, if the potential of these artisanal miners was exploited fully, urging the miners to also pay royalties.

“We want to ensure that they aggregate their commodities and negotiate for better prices, as we work towards decriminalizing their operations by licensing them and giving them documentation that will serve as collateral for loans and asset financing.

“We want to bring more investors into the sector to add value to our strategic minerals. We have so far identified one for Fluorspar exploitation in Elgeyo Marakwet as well as granite and gold in the Western region.

“If we continue exporting raw ore and minerals we may not grow. We therefore have a policy in place to ensure in-country mineral processing that will ensure all gold will be value-added locally as we account for every production within the country,” added Mwangi, noting that

plans were underway to get value addition investors for copper and iron ore.

The PS spoke in Nakuru yesterday when he launched the Rift Valley Regional sensitization exercise for the artisanal cooperative’s leaders.

The leaders will be capacity built and sensitized on the various laws and policies, with an Artisanal Mining Committee to be established to act as a bridge between the miners and the government.

The country has about one million artisanal miners that the government targets to group in cooperatives, for bargaining power as well as self-regulation. So far 206 cooperatives have been formed with 200 more expected to be brought on board.

The PS noted that 970 mineral occurrences were identified across the country with 14 strategic minerals such as copper, chromite, coltan and layer earth. Others include 56 construction and industry minerals such as granite and gypsum; with the government targeting more.

“With the right intervention, we are targeting Sh118 billion investment to this industry that will employ up to 26, 000

people. The Artisanals will be able to grow their revenue from Sh600 per head to around Sh1, 600 per head, daily,” added Mwangi.

Alice Apua, a Gold Miner from Napuslup Mining and Marketing Cooperative Society in Turkana County, lauded the move to have them grouped, noting that the cooperatives had enhanced their market reach, with revenue streams expected to go up.

Apua, who decried lack of modernized equipment to increase their productivity, noted that the crude equipment they employed only served to fetch little, as hard rocks were difficult to crack.

“Artisanal Miners do not have a cover against accidents and losses. It is our hope that this move will open us to have insurance covers as well as collateral for loans,” added Apua, Chair to the group based at Noiman Location.

The miner, who added that the group of 50 members had been mining since 1982, decried discrimination against women miners.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times

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

Group Executive Chairman
M. Danson

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

Facebook: facebook.com/themtkenyatimes, **Instagram:** instagram.com/themtkenyatimes/, **Twitter:** twitter.com/themtkenyatimes
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/the-mt-kenya-times/>

Tea Farmers To Elect New Leaders By June - Tea Board Chairman

By: Paul Mwangi
@themkenyentimes

Tea farmers are scheduled to have elections to elect new office holders before the end of June speaking to Journalist in Nyeri, Tea Board of Kenya chairman Jacob Kamau Kahiui said there will be countrywide elections of Tea Factories directors before the end of June and the government is doing all it can to ensure farmers practice fair and free elections.

He spoke after meeting with board members of Chinga Tea Factory in Othaya who are having leadership wrangles in the factory where two groups are fighting over leadership issues.

He noted that there has been physical fight in Chinga factory which led the chairman to summon factory directors to resolve the differences but unfortunately, it bore no fruits.

A section of directors had planned a meeting illegally and unlawful at the factory to ouster the current office holders and bring in new directors.

The national chairman termed it as illegal saying there was even a court order stopping the meeting.

“it’s a shame how people are elected to office to represent the interests of farmers but end up bringing their own selfish interests on board and they end up fighting one another,” he noted.

The Tea Board of Kenya chairman advised farmers to elect people with dignity who will represent their interests and not those driven by selfish and self gain.

He pointed out that there are 11 court cases in the Tea sector which has taken 3 years and the Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has asked for their withdrawal as they were frustrating tea reforms, saying they are hindering realisation of higher benefits for farmers.

“Court cases have frustrated reforms



Tea Board of Kenya chairman Jacob Kamau Kahiui (second left) accompanied by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua during opening of Tea Board of Kenya Headquarters in Nairobi recently..

in the tea sector. I call upon stakeholders who genuinely mean well to withdraw the cases and allow these reforms to be implemented fully for the benefit of the Kenyan farmer.” Kamau lamented.

The chairman said that Chinga Factory has been doing well in terms of sales and reaching a margin of 3.25 US dollars per kg.

“Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) and factory farmers signed

a management agreement dropping commission charged to farmers by the Agency from 2.5% to 1.5% citing the government is geared towards ensuring farmers get rewarded for their hard work.



NEWS IN BRIEF



The Ogiek Peoples' Development Program, Executive Director Mr Daniel Kobei takes partners and visitors through the Ogiek community's traditional artefacts during a pre-launch tour of the Ogiek Cultural Centre at Nkareta in Narok County yesterday. The community has been predominantly hunter-gatherers for centuries but its culture is facing extinction due to disruptions caused by frequent evictions by the government from their ancestral forest land. The cultural center will serve as an education and preservation hub on the community's culture, language, arts, customs and other areas of interest. Photo/Suleiman Mbatiah



For the past few weeks, temperatures in Meru County have been soaring, leaving residents sweating profusely, disrupting normal activities. Vendors and traders in markets have not been spared by the heat, some of whom have been forced to halt their movements, and market traders leave their stalls to seek shelter from nearby shop corridors. According to the County Director of Meteorological Services Justin Murithi, the county recorded the highest temperatures of up to 34°C in the past few weeks. He further explained that this heat is an aftermath of the El Nino rains adding that from April the temperatures are expected to subside with the onset of the rainy season. "There is a lot of moisture present from the past rains of October to January thus there is wetness which enhances evaporation bringing water vapour into the atmospheric environment. With this sun heating, a greenhouse effect is enhanced which is a warming element." "When there is a local influx of moisture in the atmosphere, then the sensation of temperature will be higher," Mr Murithi said. In the picture are sacks of potatoes at Gakoromone market in the county which have started to rot due to the prevailing heatwave in the area.



Nearly 760 acres of land has been reclaimed for agriculture from the domination of the *Prosopis Juliflora* and *Prosopis chilensis* (Mathenge). The County Government and the implementing partner, USAID, visited the Elelea Irrigation Scheme in Katilia Ward, Turkana East, to strengthen cross-county knowledge exchange and integration activity.

Elelea Scheme was picked from other projects as an avenue to integrate programs with other county priorities, after agreeing on strategic areas for improvement. The Chair of the Partnership for Resilience and Economic Growth (PREG), who is also the Field Director of USAID NAWIRI, Gabriel Ekuwam, said that the Elelea Irrigation Scheme was strategically picked among other projects supported by NAWIRI in Turkana East. "The Irrigation Scheme provides a cross-sectoral platform, to learn and identify opportunities for leveraging, on what other partners are doing. This is geared towards eliminating duplication. We also jointly monitor the implementation progress of the USAID programmes with the County Government. USAID NAWIRI, has supported farmers to reclaim land for more than 1,200 households and enable them be food secure as well as fight malnutrition in the area," Ekuwam said.



Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Cabinet Secretary Soiapan Tuya has reiterated the need to conserve the environment by planting trees. Tuya challenged every Kenyan to grow at least five tree seedlings in their localities this year, owing to the favourable weather, as one way to mitigate the effects of climate change and better the environment. "It is the will of God for man to conserve the environment. When God created man, according to the holy book, He placed him in the garden of Eden that was full of trees. This shows that God is interested in the conservation of the environment," she said. The CS spoke on Sunday in Trans Mara West Sub County, Narok County during an Interdenominational prayer meeting and homecoming thanksgiving service for Tourism Principal Secretary John Ololua. The prayer meeting led by Apostle William Kimani of Kingdom Seekers was attended by President William Ruto and First Lady Rachael Ruto. Ms Tuya, who also hails from Narok County commended the residents of Trans Mara for planting over 30,000 tree seedlings in various schools within the sub county, to mark the day.



The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission of Kenya (EACC) conducted a six-day governance training for the Turkana Public Service Board members and a section of the secretariat. Acting Chair of the Board, Dr Pauline Akiru, said that the training is expected to expose the Board to strategies of promoting and adoption to ethical standards in the public service, and working institutions mandated to promote adherence, to provision of Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya on Leadership and Integrity. Dr Akiru noted that the training is coming at a time when the Board is processing forms submitted by the County staff in regard to Declaration of Income, Assets and Liabilities (DIALS), it is expected that the Board is equipped with skills to handle the process more effectively. During the training, the EACC North Rift Regional Manager, Charles Rasugu, emphasized the need for customization of existing governance policies, for implementation in the County. Mr. Rasugu urged the Board to be more proactive in combating cases of corruption, through training County Staff.

NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS



The Mount Kenya Times

+254 724 439 949, +254 720 918 828, +254 721 103 040, +254 713 318 438

website: <https://mountkenyatimes.co.ke>

Senate Committee Scrutinizes County Fund Management In Laikipia And Bungoma

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyaintimes

Worth Noting:

- After dealing with Irungu, the committee turned to his Bungoma counterpart Kenneth Lusaka where the focus centred around the Auditor-General's reports on the County's Education Support Scheme Fund, the County Youth and Women Empowerment Fund, and the County Disaster Management Emergency Fund for the same fiscal period.

- The committee's scrutiny led to several notable recommendations for Governor Lusaka, emphasizing the importance of effective budget implementation monitoring, accurate financial record-keeping, ensuring the qualifications of staff in finance roles, and regularizing the establishment of the Bungoma County Youth and Empowerment Fund.



Bungoma county Governor Kenneth Lusaka taking oath before being grilled by the Senate Committee yesterday



Laikipia County governor Joshua Irungu taking oath before he appeared before the Senate Committee yesterday.

The Senate Committee on County Public Investments and Special Funds yesterday grilled two county governors over Auditor General's report.

The first to meet the Vihiga Senator Godfrey Osoti led team was Laikipia Governor Joshua Irungu who was tasked to respond on three county funds: the Laikipia County Bursary Fund, the Laikipia County Emergency Fund, and the Laikipia County Assets Leasing Fund, covering the fiscal period of 2020-2022.

After a thorough review, the committee issued recommendations to governor Irungu aimed at enhancing transparency and accountability in fund management.

These recommendations included maintaining fund administrative costs within legal thresholds, ensuring the

timely submission of audit documents, and regularizing the establishment of the Laikipia County Leasing Fund in accordance with the Public Finance Management (County Governments) Regulations, 2015.

After dealing with Irungu, the committee turned to his Bungoma counterpart Kenneth Lusaka where the focus centred around the Auditor-General's reports on the County's Education Support Scheme Fund, the County Youth and Women Empowerment Fund, and the County Disaster Management Emergency Fund for the same fiscal period.

The committee's scrutiny led to several notable recommendations for Governor Lusaka, emphasizing the importance of effective budget implementation monitoring, accurate fi-

nancial record-keeping, ensuring the qualifications of staff in finance roles, and regularizing the establishment of the Bungoma County Youth and Empowerment Fund.

Moreover, the committee highlighted discrepancies in scholarships awarded by the Bungoma Education Fund and inconsistencies in supporting documentation. As a result, they resolved to expunge those records and directed the governor to submit a task force report on the fund's management within seven days. Additionally, the Auditor-General will commence a forensic audit within 60 days.

Similar concerns were raised regarding the Bungoma County Disaster Management Emergency Fund, prompting the committee to request a task force report for verification.

Since both the Education and Emergency Funds are under investigation by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), the committee requested a status update within 14 days.

At the end, the committee directed Governor Lusaka to ensure that all Fund Administrators submit quarterly financial reports to the Office of the Controller of Budget as mandated by the Public Finance Management Act, 2012.

A reschedule was made to continue the consideration of the Bungoma County Disaster Management Emergency Fund at a later date.

The

MT. KENYA TIMES

Where Investors Get Returns

To advertise in Mt. Kenya Times read by discerning Kenyan professionals and the business community contact our exclusive **UK & Europe** Advertising and Marketing representatives.



ADLINK INTERNATIONAL (1989) MEDIA GROUP
16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0AF
Phone: 0330 606 1438 (44 330 606 1438)
Email: media@adlinkinternational.com
www.adlinkinternational.com
Contact: Mr Shamlal Puri



NGA'RISHA JIJI (MERU EDITION 1)



6TH, APRIL 2024

MEETING POINT

Time:
8:00 am to 11:00am

* Greenwood Mall.

DONT BE AN APRIL FOOL PLANT A TREE AND MAKE IT COOL

THEME:

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Encouraging individuals and communities to minimize waste by adopting practices such as reducing consumption, reusing materials, and recycling.

SPONSORS:



contacts: 0721386677 / 0719602698

Blockchain Association Of Kenya Meet With Nigerian High Commission To Plea For Release Of Detained Kenyan In Nigeria

By: MKT Correspondent

@themtkenyatimes

The Blockchain Association of Kenya yesterday met with representatives from the Nigerian High Commission in Kenya where they called for the release of their member languishing in the North African country jail.

The detainee, Nadeem Anjarwalla, a dual citizen of Kenya and Britain has been detained without charge in Nigeria with his American colleague since February 26th 2024.

“The Blockchain Association of Kenya (BAK) is deeply troubled by the recent arrest of Nadeem Anjarwalla, a prominent community member of our association, and a fellow Binance colleague in Nigeria. This unfortunate incident occurred subsequent to a visit to Nigeria three weeks ago with a colleague, upon an invitation for discussions with the government regarding the ban on their website,” read part of the press statement released yesterday.

According to reports, Anjarwalla and his colleague, Tigran Gambaryan, were detained by the office of the



Nadeem Anjarwalla in a past photo.

National Security Adviser (NSA). This abrupt detention raises grave concerns about the treatment of individuals engaging in constructive dialogue with governmental authorities.

The statement further said, “Anjarwalla, as an esteemed member of BAK and a Binance executive, has been a fervent advocate for responsible engagement with governmental agencies in Kenya, Africa and globally. His commitment to fostering positive relationships and constructive

dialogue between the blockchain industry and regulatory bodies is commendable”.

It added, “the arbitrary detention of Nadeem Anjarwalla and his colleague not only undermines principles of transparency, due process, and respect for human rights but also jeopardizes the advancement of blockchain technology and innovation in our region”.

The team which was led by among others, lobbyist Hez Gikang’a called



Nadeem Anjarwalla, Sub-Saharan Africa Binance Chief Executive Officer making a presentation during the Blockchain Association of Kenya (BAK) 2023 Digital Assets Policy Safari (DAPS). Photo/Courtesy..

for the immediate release of Anjarwalla and his colleague and implored upon the relevant authorities to ensure the safety and well-being of two. “We stand in unwavering solidarity with Nadeem Anjarwalla, his fellow executives, and their families, and we call for their prompt release and safe return to their home countries,” they stated.

The team met with Dr Victory Jaja, the Head of Consular at the Nairobi High Commission who they also pre-

sented a letter signed by his brother Nabil.

In the letter, Nabil cited their frustration following the development.

The letter noted that the detainee, though has British citizenship has been living in Nairobi with his wife and his young son, whose birthday is coming up this week.

Murang’a Government Urged To Invest In Extension Services And Research

By: Purity Mugo and Anjilwa

Francis

@themtkenyatimes

Murangá county government has been urged to invest in extension services, research and innovation programs to ensure farmers are equipped with the necessary skills and resources to thrive in their farming activities.

In a report on farm inputs subsidy policy 2022- 2032, which was tabled by the chairperson of Committee on Implementation, Hilary Muchoki, the Members of County Assembly said that the county government in partnership with the stakeholders needs to establish strong extension networks to support farmers in accessing the latest information and technology.

The committee observed that extension networks provide training on the best practices for farming, access to credit and financial services and assistance with market development and they will enable farmers to bene-



Murang’a County Assembly in a past session

fit fully from the county’s mango and milk subsidy program.

“Farmers are faced with technological challenges as most of them still use old technologies which are not sufficient enough to meet market de-

mands,” he said,

The chairman stated that the government should put more efforts towards ensuring that the farmers are also equipped with the skills to identify and control pest and diseases effec-

tively and sustainably.

He said that subsidy program has some challenges that include missing beneficiary names and incorrectly beneficiary names resulting in poor quality information on the number of

beneficiaries targeted in the villages.

“The requirements for identification documents made some of the most vulnerable groups to be excluded from access to the subsidy,” he stated. Seconding the motion, Chefman Njoroge, MCA Kahumbu ward, however noted that the county government needs to put measures in place to ensure accountability from the farmers by ensuring real-time monitoring and keeping records of estimates of each farmer’s production ability to avoid fraud.

The report also recommended that the county should improve roads and transportation networks to enable mango and milk farmers take their produce to the market promptly.

The report recommends that the county government put in place structures that will create a level playing field for dairy farmers and establish structures and policies to enable them access ready market for their products.

Do Not Hide Alcoholism Addicts, DP Gachagua Urges Families, Clergy

By: DPCS



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua during the interview..

Worth Noting:

- “My elder brother Jackson Reriani was an alcoholic. I tried to talk to him to stop alcohol abuse and even take him to hospital but he would relapse and go back to alcohol. After we won the 2022 elections, he took alcohol to celebrate the victory. He died,” said the DP.
- The Deputy President said many families in the country have suffered the brunt of alcoholism menace and drug abuse.
- Giving his personal experience, the Deputy President said the death of his brother hit him hard as he was left without a sibling to talk with.
- “When we talk about alcoholism and fighting the menace, it is not politics. We are speaking while experiencing so much pain in our hearts. We know what alcohol abuse has done to us, our neighbours and friends,” he continued.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has urged families to stop hiding their alcohol-addicted kin as he pushed for concerted efforts to end illicit brews and drug abuse.

The Deputy President appealed to such families to speak out and called on the religious leaders to disclose to the public whenever one of their faithful succumb to the effects of alcohol and drug abuse.

Speaking during an interview at Inooro TV’s vernacular programme Kiririmbi on Sunday night, Mr Gachagua delved into his family’s experience of losing his brother to alcohol.

He emotionally narrated the life and death of his brother Jackson Reriani, who he said died of alcohol abuse in September 2022.

“My elder brother Jackson Reriani was an alcoholic. I tried to talk to him to stop alcohol abuse and even take him to hospital but he would relapse and go back to alcohol. After we won the 2022 elections, he took alcohol to celebrate the victory. He died,” said the DP.

The Deputy President said many families in the country have suffered the brunt of alcoholism menace and drug abuse.

Giving his personal experience, the Deputy President said the death of his brother hit him hard as he was left without a sibling to talk with.

“When we talk about alcoholism and fighting the menace, it is not politics. We are speaking while

experiencing so much pain in our hearts. We know what alcohol abuse has done to us, our neighbours and friends,” he continued.

During the interview, the Deputy President highlighted the ravages of alcoholism on families and pressed on families and the clergy to stop hiding information concerning alcohol and drug addicts in the pretext of saving the family’s face.

According to data from the National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA), one in every five families in Kenya has a relative suffering from physical and emotional health problems resulting from alcohol.

The Deputy President stated that the bottom line of the ongoing na-

tionwide crackdown on illicit brews and drug abuse is to save families and generations and turn the youth into builders of the country’s economy.

“We must tackle alcoholism. To combat the proliferation of illicit brews, stringent measures will be put in place to monitor alcohol production and distribution. By enforcing strict regulations and conducting regular inspections, authorities will ensure that only licensed manufacturers produce alcohol, thereby reducing the availability of harmful and counterfeit products in the market,” he said.

He also commended county assemblies that have enacted new legislations related to Alcoholic Drinks and

Control.

For instance, in Mt Kenya region Nyandarua, Nyeri and Tharaka-Nithi counties have since passed and assented into law Alcoholic Drinks and Control Acts.

Kirinyaga, Meru, Nakuru and Laikipia counties are at advanced stages of enacting similar laws.

He further called on the Judiciary to prioritize public interest and safety when handling legal disputes filed by manufacturers, distributors and sellers of second-generation brews.

The Deputy President asked the judicial officers to refrain from issuing orders that inadvertently perpetuate the circulation of harmful alcoholic drinks and substance abuse.



Impact Your Outside From Within Pt 1



By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

It is good to understand the spiritual principles in life. Life is spiritual. Each one of us strives to attain progressive change on the outside. A story is told of a man who tried to change a country, but failed, tried to change a county, he failed, tried to change a sub county, he failed, tried to change his family, but failed. When time had gone by, he got a revelation: " if I had changed myself, I could have changed my family, then my sub county, to my county, and even the country.

Proverbs 27:19 states, " As in water face (answereth) to face, so the heart of man to man. This is an example that shows when you look at water in a pool or river, it mirrors yourself. Whatever you see on the outside of

your life, is what is inside your heart. What we do, when we see a problem/defect in a mirror, you go back to yourself, and aim to bring the change inside, and this will result into being more impactful on the outside.

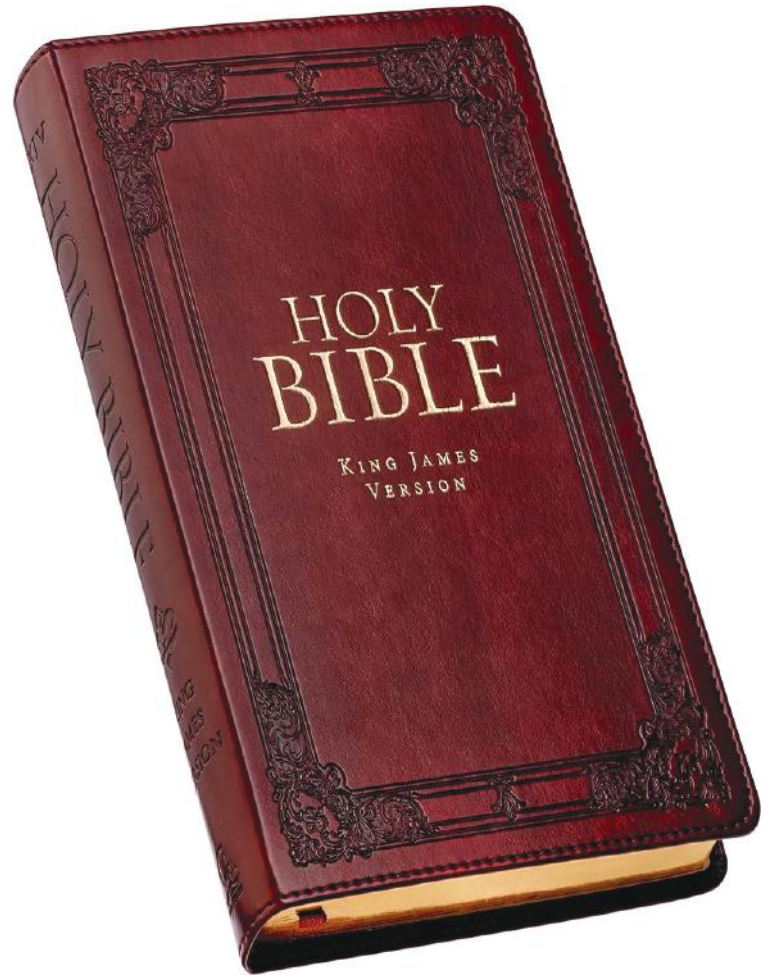
Another example is given in the Scripture in Matthew 23:25 " Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisees! FIRST CLEAN THE INSIDE OF THE CUP AND DISH, AND THEN THE OUTSIDE ALSO WILL BE CLEAN. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. 28 Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness."

The power for them to become righteous or do what is right was not in the law, Jesus Christ came to give this power: right standing with God/ righteousness. Clean the inside, and the outside will automatically in the

outside. There are some religious people today who suffer the same, they desire change in their finances, marriage and life, but they do it the wrong way!

Evangelist Eric Musa:

(My message continuously: The best decision in this earthly life is to receive Christ Jesus as your personal Saviour: Believe and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit: AMEN). As it is written; "NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2". For prayers, devotion; to support Evangelism contact Ev. Eric Musa on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember; God Loves you unconditionally, perfectly and forever.



Islam Is A School, We Are Students



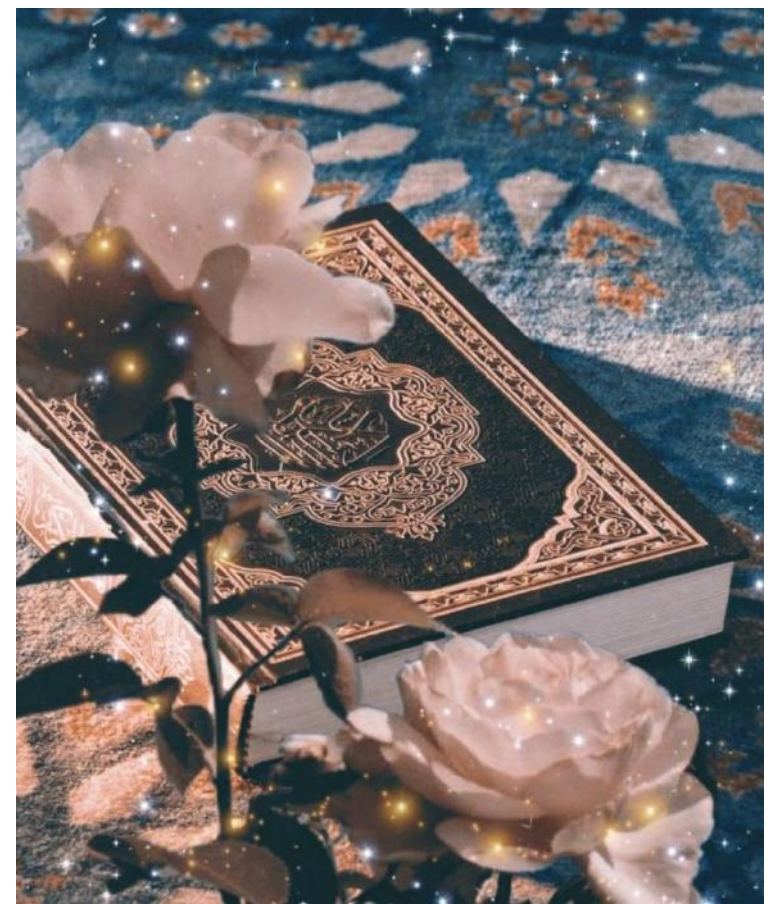
By: Kholturayeva Ugilyov Urol
@themtkenyatimes

ably in the holy book of Islam - "Holy Qur'an". If I give information about the Holy Qur'an, it consists of 30 parts, 114 verses, and 6236 chapters. The Qur'an is the word of God that was revealed to the prophet Muhammad during the years 610-632. There are many narrations about Muslims and Islam, as well as written in hadiths. It is written in one narration : Before Islam had spread widely, many people did not recognize it, they condemned it. Once our prophet Muhammad Mustafa (s.a.w) met the Jews. Jews condemn Islam religion to Muhammad (s.a.w) and say that he should not believe in it, otherwise it will be bad for him. They did not know that the key to the door of Paradise was written "Paradise is for the Muslims". When the Jews met Muhammad (s.a.w) on the highway, there was an argument. Then our Prophet told them that the key to the door of Paradise is written "Paradise belongs to Muslims". The Jews did not know this, so they did not believe what Muhammad (s.a.w) said. But their captain knew it. They went to the leader of the Jews and told him what our prophet had said and asked if it was true or false. Then the captain told them the truth and agreed with the opinion of our Prophet

Muhammad (s.a.w). Surprised by this, the Jews accepted Islam after that day and began to believe. The freshness of our beautiful Islamic religion cannot be described.

Our last prophet on earth, Muhammad Mustafu Sallallahu Alayhi Vassallam, promoted the idea of believing in Islam, revealed the Qur'an, and worried about the entrance of our Ummah to Paradise. We should try to be an ummah worthy of him. Dears, be faithful.

[Kholturayeva Ugilyov daughter of Urol]



If we consider Islam as a school, then we, the slaves, are students of this school. Muhammad (s.a.w) is our teacher. Life is given for us just as a test. Whether people go to heaven or hell, life is given to determine just that. Allah - examiner, the tester of all of us. In Islam, Allah is described in such a way that he is the only brilliant God on Earth - he is unique, he is perfect, he is beautiful, he is fair. Doomsday - exam day, the day of results, the day when the page of a person's life is summed up ! Heaven - the best gift. Hell, on the other hand, is an abyss, fire, heat...
These things are written understand-

Is Ndindi Nyoro A Political Tourist?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandong@gmail.com



Worth Noting:

- A few days earlier, a friend of mine had told me that the Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro was poised to become the President of this country.
- Hon Ndindi will one day become the President of Kenya. While citing his credentials, he further stated that he was the best-suited to succeed President Ruto in 2032.
- When I referred him to the remarks that the President had made few days earlier during which he asked the leaders to stop engaging in early and premature succession politics, he said. This did not amount to reprimanding Ndindi. In fact, he said the Kenya Kwanza government will continue to mentor upcoming youthful leaders.

A story appearing in the current issue of a weekly newspaper alleges that Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro is President William Ruto-era political tourist.

This story is ill-advised and made in bad faith. I'm persuaded to believe it had been originated and cooked by the well-known critics of the MP who felt threatened by his growing popularity across the country. In light of his sterling performance on matters of development and good governance in his Kiharu constituency, Ndindi Nyoro had been cutting the teeth of a national leader. He had lately become a darling of elected national and local leaders in all corners of the country.

They were inviting him to commission and launch various development projects and attend prayers and thanksgiving ceremonies.

The weekly newspaper's story came in the wake of the warm and spectacular reception he was accorded during the prayers organized by the Nairobi Business community.

The story was also published one week before he officiated a high public lecture at Tom Mboya Social Hall.

I was there when he arrived at CBD and I witnessed how he was received.

The song of Ndindi Nyoro is our son, Ndindi Nyoro is our son rent the air.

The women who led the chorus burst into ululations. The MP was among the leaders who spoke at this event. His speech resonated well with those present.

This again showed that Ndindi Nyoro's star was shining across the country.

In other parts of the country, he had received similar receptions. One can therefore understand why his opponents particularly in Mount Kenya region felt threatened.

A few days earlier, a friend of mine had told me that the Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro was poised to become the President of this country.

Hon Ndindi will one day become the President of Kenya. While citing his credentials, he further stated that he was the best-suited to succeed President Ruto in 2032.

When I referred him to the remarks that the President had made few days earlier during which he asked the leaders to stop engaging in early and premature succession politics, he said. This did not amount to reprimanding Ndindi. Infact, he said the Kenya Kwanza government will continue to mentor upcoming youthful leaders.

The President spoke at a time when the supremacy battle pitting Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Ndindi had gone a notch higher.

Yes, we agree with our beloved President that this is the time of delivering on promises each leader made to electorates during the campaigns.

Come 2027 polls, Kenyans will judge them based on the work they have done.

But looking at Ndindi's track record in Kiharu, he is far much ahead of them.

Earlier, I had written an article that



Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro .

goes.

The supremacy battle for Mount Kenya kingpin had taken a new turn when Ndindi hosted twice dozens of members of parliament drawn from different parts of the country.

This was during the launch of Kiharu Masomo Bora Initiatives.

The first meeting was attended by 15 MPs and the number rose to more than 20 MPs in the second one.

The MPs were reading from the same script. God loves you the people of Murang'a because He has given you a great leader in Ndindi Nyoro. He bears the qualities of person poised to become the President of Kenya.

Apart from being youthful and well-educated on matters of good governance and civil rights, he is a development conscious and has never been implicated in corruption.

He also believes in building a united and cohesive nation of Kenya.

In light of this, we want to reiterate he is the best suited to succeed President William Ruto in 2032.

Meanwhile, we fully support the candidature of Ndindi in the race to succeed former President Uhuru Kenyatta as Mount Kenya region kingpin.

Though Ndindi always steered clear of the debate and instead focussed on development agenda for his Kiharu constituency, DP allies were following and monitoring his activities very closely.

The pronouncements in the second

meeting rattled them to a point of launching a fierce fightback.

The first strategy saw Gachagua allies dragging the name of President Ruto by claiming he had a hand in Ndindi's heightened development activities in Kiharu.

They would not mention the President by his name. They would only talk about a hidden powerful hand being behind Ndindi. The widely held view was that they were referring to the President.

For Gachagua team, the second strategy was to escalate the matter to State House.

This left no doubt they felt the threat posed by Ndindi is real and cannot be taken for granted.

Many believed that this is what prompted the President to wade into this matter.

First, he set the record straight that he has not taken side. We all know both Gachagua and Ndindi were his close allies. He also took this opportunity to caution the leaders against engaging in early succession politics.

This time, our focus is to deliver on what we promised Kenyans during the campaigns.

I urge you to refrain from engaging in activities designed to divide and polarize our country.

Earlier on, during a working tour of Western Kenya, the President gave a similar advise.

Senator Bonny Khalwale had intro-

duced the debate of Ruto succession. He had told Gachagua to forget ever becoming the President of Kenya You are unfit to lead this nation. President Ruto will pass the baton to ANC leader Musalia Mudavadi in 2032.

So, Dr Ruto was responding to these claims. He told Khalwale. We have no time for sideshows. We are here to do development.

At this juncture, allow me to focus on the two grounds cited by those opposed to Ndindi Nyoro's bid to take the mantle of the Mount Kenya kingpin.

One, that he is too young. Two, he has no experience. In my view, the two arguments do not make any sense.

If you are able to meet the expectations of the electorate, it means you have experience. The age also does not matter. A young person can do better than an old man. Ndindi is in this category.

The opinion polls conducted in recent past rated him as best performer in the country.

He has so far done a lot for the people of Kiharu.

Ndindi has also been honoring invitations from elected leaders drawn from different parts of the country. He would join them as a chief guest to launch the projects similar to those he had pioneered in Kiharu.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a Writer and Political Analyst based in Nairobi

Kenya To Collaborate With Global Partners In Ensuring Ethical Use Of AI

By: Rachael Kilonzo
 @themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- “In order to safeguard democracy in the age of AI, we must prioritize transparency, accountability and inclusivity. Policymakers must enact robust regulations to ensure ethical development and deployment of AI systems, coupled with effective oversight mechanisms,” said Tanui.
- “While the rise of AI and Digital technologies presents unprecedented opportunities for economic growth and innovation, it also brings forth complex challenges that necessitate global co-operation and commitment,” added Tanui.
- The PS noted that the Kenyan government is actively empowering its citizens to seize these opportunities through comprehensive training and awareness programs aimed at equipping them with essential digital skills and expertise vital for active participation in the digital and knowledge-based economy.



Eng. John Tanui..

Information, Communication Technology and the Digital Economy PS, Eng. John Tanui has reiterated Kenya’s commitment in ensuring the responsible and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the betterment of humanity, upholding cherished freedoms, ethics and democratic values.

Speaking yesterday while giving his address during the opening ceremony of the Ministerial Conference on Artificial Intelligence/Digital Technologies and Democracy in Seoul, South Korea, where he represented Information, Communications and the Digital Economy Cabinet Secretary Mr. Eliud Owalo, Tanui noted that Kenya stands ready to collaborate with global partners in building strong frameworks for Artificial Intelligence. The Keynote Speaker was the United States of America Secretary of State, Mr. Antony J. Blinken.

Eng. Tanui noted that Automation and AI tools have notably enhanced service delivery, facilitated improved access to credit for previously marginalized individuals through initiatives such as the “Hustler Fund,” in addition to streamlining access to agricultural inputs through technology leading to increased national agricul-

tural output.

He, however, noted, while AI holds the promise of enhancing democracy by improving access to information, decision-making processes and transparency, it also poses significant challenges such as the concentration of power, erosion of privacy, acute increase of inequalities, the proliferation of technology-driven misinformation and disinformation.

“In order to safeguard democracy in the age of AI, we must prioritize transparency, accountability and inclusivity. Policymakers must enact robust regulations to ensure ethical development and deployment of AI systems, coupled with effective oversight mechanisms,” said Tanui.

“While the rise of AI and Digital technologies presents unprecedented opportunities for economic growth and innovation, it also brings forth complex challenges that necessitate global co-operation and commitment,” added Tanui.

The PS noted that the Kenyan government is actively empowering its citizens to seize these opportunities through comprehensive training and awareness programs aimed at equip-

ping them with essential digital skills and expertise vital for active participation in the digital and knowledge-based economy.

He further noted that the country is bolstering connectivity nationwide by constructing a 100,000 km Digital Superhighway and establishing Digital Hubs in 1,250 Wards, which will serve as epicenters of training, innovation and digital employment opportunities.

“Moreover, the digitization of government services has revolutionized citizen engagement by enabling convenient access to essential services. As of now, we have over 15, 000 government services available online for our citizens,” said Tanui.

“At this point, I thank the government and people of South Korea for support in establishment of Kenya Advance Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) at Konza Technopolis, 60 Kilometers from our Capital City of Nairobi. This institution will indeed play a key role in growth of technology and knowledge economy in Kenya and the entire Africa continent,” added Tanui.

Tanui further noted that the Ministerial Conference on Artificial Intelligence/Digital Technologies and

Democracy is a timely and important event in the dynamic landscape of today’s digital world, given that the world is witnessing the unprecedented rise of the digital space, offering vast opportunities and emerging as a pivotal driver of economic growth.

“Data from various sources underscore the transformative potential of the Digital Economy. For example, projections by the World Bank suggest that digital technologies could add a staggering \$2.6 trillion to global economic output by 2025.

“This remarkable growth trajectory is fueled by the emergence of groundbreaking technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, block chain, robotics and the Internet of Things (IoT), which hold promise in addressing pressing global challenges like climate change, need for a circular economy and realization of sustainable technologies,” added Tanui.

Blinken appealed for collective work to build a more resilient information environment, digital tech and democracy, where he called on democracies to lead the world in AI innovation, setting the norms, standards and rules by which AI is used in an effort to ensure the world reaps technology’s extraordinary opportunities, but also protects people from harm.

He underscored the crucial role and tremendous power that AI can play to drive development, improve people’s lives and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals by the year 2030.

“AI could accelerate progress 80 per cent of the goal, from improving agricultural productivity, combating hunger, preventing outbreak of disease to accelerating our clean energy transition. It creates jobs and protects our planet at the same time.

“Kenya, for instance, has deployed a new AI-enabled bot that enables women and girls to access comprehensive and accurate reproductive health information,” added Blinken.

In attendance during the conference that is being co-hosted by H.E. Maria Gabriela Sommerfeld, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ecuador (Co-Host) is H.E. Vera Jourova, Vice-President for Values and Transparency, European Commission; H.E. Tiit Riisalo, Minister of Economic Affairs and Information Technology, Estonia; Hon. Dr. Mamadou Tangara, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Co-operation and Gambians Abroad, Gambia, among other dignitaries from across the world.

Tree Nursery Attendants Ask Government To Engage Them In The Tree Planting Programme

By: Our Reporter
 @themkenyatimes

Contd from page 1

implementing a programme targeting to plant more than 10 million seedlings in a period of five years as a way to mitigate climate change.

The programme thus needs steady supply of seedlings to residents with the attendants' claiming locals were shunning from purchasing seedlings due to increased prices.

They noted most seedlings were going for more than Sh50 per piece, an amount they said make customers shy away from buying the seedlings.

One of the attendants, Peter Maina, explained that the high price is occasioned by lack of some materials needed to propagate the seedlings such as polythene papers.

"We used to purchase polythene papers to plant seedlings at Sh10 per piece but currently, the amount has gone up to more than Sh20. Those coming to buy our seedlings are few and we call upon the government through the ministry of environment

to buy seedlings from us and distribute to residents to plant," stated Maina.

Another attendant, Jane Mwangi said that as the onset of long rains draws near, plans should be made to ensure locals have enough seedlings to plant in their farms.

Currently, the government relies on tree nurseries owned by Kenya Forest Service which the attendants claim could not be enough to be distributed to many parts of the country.

"Here in Murang'a, we have a number of tree nursery attendants and also some groups have ventured in propagating seedlings. We hope the government will consider us and purchase seedlings we have to support the programme of tree planting," added Mwangi.

She continued "if we are also supported with some incentives which can help us get manure and water for the seedlings, prices can come down and many people will be encouraged to purchase and plant the seedlings."

Mwangi said seedlings of common varieties of trees being planted in Murang'a, were selling at not less than



A tree nursery

Sh100.

"The Sh100 price is quite expensive, especially for one who needs many seedlings. The returns we are raising from seedlings have come down, that is why we are appealing for support from the government," said another tree nursery attendant, Grace Wambui.

The attendants further urged the

county government of Murang'a to assist them with piped water to help in nurturing the nurseries.

They noted that they depended on water from local streams which was not enough especially during dry seasons.

"With various water projects being implemented by the county government of Murang'a, they can also

consider providing untreated water to help in growing the seedlings. The water can be tapped at upstream and be distributed to areas the nurseries are located," remarked Wambui.

LAND FOR SALE

BEST Offer

GOTYOU
GOT YOUR BACK

AGRICULTURAL LAND FOR SALE

GITHABAI AREA
SOUTH KINANGOP

- Next to a public school
- Convinient Rainfall pattern

Land Size:
6 ACRES

Call for Site Visit:

Hotline
+254 720 918 828 / +254 733 540 110

Email
ads@mountkenyatimes.co.ke

Address
South Kinangop

PRICE:

KSHS. 1.8M PER ACRE

10.8M FOR SIX ACRES

A Little Help

As I crossed the river,
A little girl was crying,
"Tell me, what happened?"
She kept crying.

Her ball fell into the water,
The girl didn't stop crying.
The ball was flowing,
But I couldn't take the ball.

I gave her my ball,
And I took her home.
Helping the little girl
I felt happy myself.

Shonazarova Parizod Ravshanbek's daughter from Uzbekistan. She was born on December 22, 2005 in Khorezm region, Khanka district. Presently, she studies at 41-school in Khanka.



Muhammad Yusuf Is My Favourite Poet



example, we have the poet as proof of this. We can show the poem called "Ulug'imsan Vatanim" and this poem is valuable for us. Each word of the poem embodies the characteristics of our people. The poem has been set to music, and when we hear this song, the feeling of Motherland in each of us grows stronger.

Under the motto "Ulug'imsan Vatanim" in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Exhibition of Culture and Art of Uzbekistan and the Writers' Union of Uzbekistan, a literary event dedicated to the memory of Muhammad Yusuf is held every year. An artistic evening is organized. This event is dedicated to the life and creative work of the people's poet of Uzbekistan Muhammad Yusuf. Muhammad Yusuf is a creator who can share the pain and joy of the Uzbek people. Each of his poems has a special feeling, a special freshness.

ANNOTATION: In this article, thoughts are expressed about the poet Muhammad Yusuf, who is not forgotten in the memories of the Uzbek people and is still in the mind and heart of every person. A number of information about Muhammad Yusuf's life and creative activity have been given.

KEY WORDS: Muhammad Yusuf, My country, poet, poem, creative activity, creative examples.

Spring is a season of awakening and renewal, which brings good mood to everyone. The freshness of this season inspires every human heart, including the season of inspiration of our poets and poetesses. Many of our poets and scholars were born in spring. For example, Muhammad Yusuf, the beloved poet of the readers, the poet of our nation, was born in the spring, on 26th April, in Andijan, a peaceful city, now flourishing. Muhammad Yusuf was his pseudonym, his real name was Yusupov Muhammadjon. During his life, he occupied a deep place in the hearts of the Uzbek people. Although it has been 20 years since his death, he has not left the memory of the people. His poems, works, examples of creativity in general still live in the hearts of the people.

How many years pass, the stars are the dust of tears.

Good and bad people pass, Kindness remains, love remains.

What cute and cute lines. There is a whole world of meaning behind these four heart-shaking lines. Our poet Muhammad Yusuf, who sang about love and love, thought about serving his country wholeheartedly with every breath. For this, the poet wrote immortal poems that would be pleasing to his people. In any case, he sang about the country, freedom, love, and affection. He burned for his country. With this, he proved that he loves his country. His poetry is a creation that drank water from pure springs. For this reason, his poems about homeland, emigration, and love will not leave anyone indifferent. Therefore, the poet's poetry, which is typical for all mothers, fathers, lovers, children, is understandable and understandable. A bright star of honest human feelings shines in his works.

In many of the poet's poems, feelings such as loving the motherland, being worthy of it, and honoring the motherland are clearly visible. For

There is no person who did not listen to the poet's poems with pleasure and excitement when the poet's words were turned into a melody. Poems of our poet are loved for their simple, fluent, simplicity and harmony with the folk art. The flourishing period of Muhammad Yusuf's work corresponds to the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century, that is, the period of the new independence of Uzbekistan. His short but bright life can be explained by the following opinion of Pushkin: "In his poems, he involuntarily confessed to the joy of poetry. The more we talk about Muhammad Yusuf, the less we talk about his work. He was interested in the work of the poet. For a person, months and years are not enough to describe him. The language is too weak to analyze his work. I am also very interested in the poet's work, even Muhammad Yusuf is one of my favorite poets. I read his poems with pleasure. His poems, in general, Muhammad Yusuf's creations give me an upbeat mood and inspiration. After reading his poems, I want to write such poems as well. The poet is loved not only by me, but by the entire Uzbek people, the whole Uzbek. The first President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, I.A. Karimov, who duly assessed his contribution to the development of literature, awarded Muhammad Yusuf with the Order of "Friendship" and honored him with the honor of "Uzbek People's Poet". In addition, after his death, one of the streets of Tashkent city and Marhamat district, where he was born and raised, as well as a children's library in Andijan city and an art school in Marhamat district were named after Muhammad Yusuf in memory of the poet. Muhammad Yusuf's memory lives forever in hearts. Muhammad Yusuf is a beloved poet.

Ergasheva Madina daughter of Kahramon was born in 2005 in Kitab district, Kashkadarya region of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Currently, she is a student of Shahrizabz State Pedagogical Institute, majoring in English. Achievements: researcher of the "Academy of Development and Research" and "Academy of Virtue". Holder of "Young researcher" and "For Contribution to Evolution and Development" badges. Owner of "New Renaissance Youth" almanacs.

My Parents' Prayers Always Hold Me



My head is sad when bowed down by pain and sorrow,
Although it seems unsalted, my soup is sweet.

I don't need rich worlds
my parents' prayers always hold me

Almighty God hears us all,
God bless you
Wait for us, the Makkatullah we are waiting for!
my parents' prayers always hold me

I lament in my heart,
If it arrives, I pray to God.
Sounds of victory come to me,
my parents' prayers always hold me

Even though I cry, my destiny tests,
Even if my loved ones have eyes
Sometimes I don't fit in this world,
my parents' prayers always hold me

Even if my enemies laugh at me
Even if the nails touch my feet
Hear Mohigul's cry today
my parents' prayers always hold me

Azimova Mohiguloy Qudratjon was born on February 1, 2007 in Izboskan district of Andijan region. Currently, she is a 10th grade student of the specialized school of Izboskan district of Andijan region under the system of the Agency of Specialized Educational Institutions. member, ambassador of the "Global Education Ambassador" organization at the Wisdom University of Africa Nigeria. The aspiring young poetess participated in many contests, received honorable mentions, took part in creative meetings, and came to the attention of creative people. "The most active young artist" nomination.

DO YOU WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?

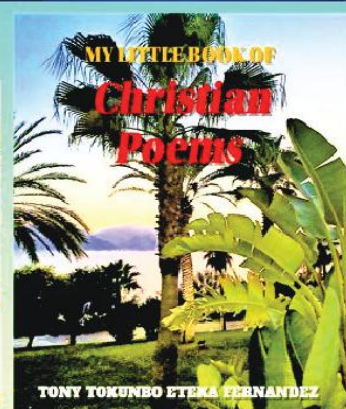
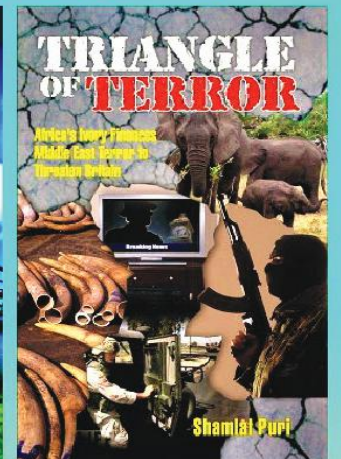
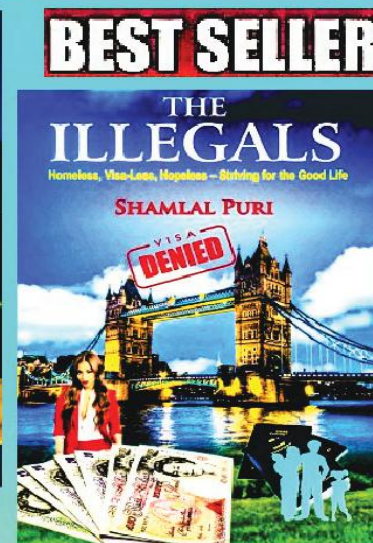
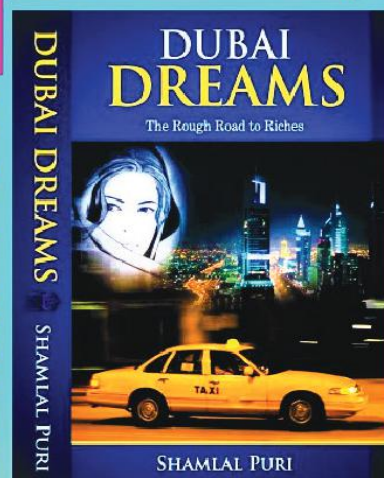
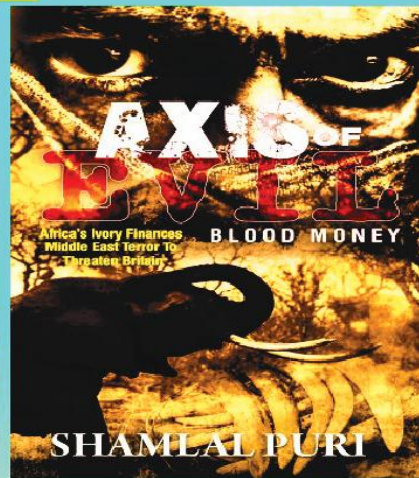
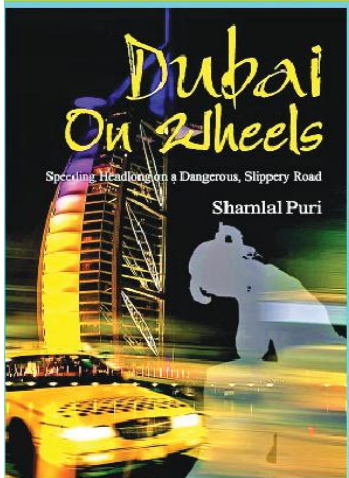
ARE YOU A WRITER OR CORPORATE?

Let Professional Editors and Authors turn your story into a Dream Book.

THRILLERS - FICTION - FACTION - BIOGRAPHIES - TRAVELOGUES - HUMOUR- COFFEE TABLE - BROCHURES

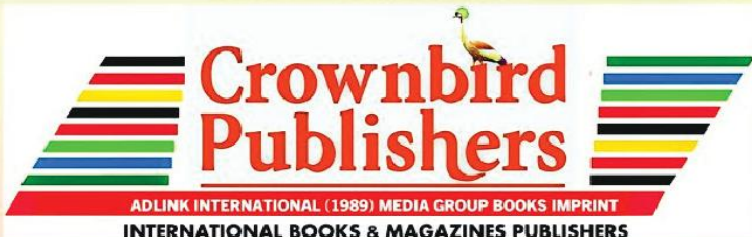
London-based contract Publishers for independent and self-publish authors.

We offer one-stop top notch Editing, Expert Design, Proof Reading, Book Covers, Artwork, Digital, Litho Printing, E-Books, Corporate Brochures and UK ISBN number. Reasonable costs. We print and deliver books. Authors retain 100% sales profits.



The Crownbird Publishers logo and imprint owned by Adlink International (1989) Media Group London

Copies of some books available for sale: hard copy/digital. Contact us: media@adlinkinternational.com Email Subject: Crownbird Books



ADLINK INTERNATIONAL (1989) MEDIA GROUP
Books Division
16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0AF (UK)
Tel: 44 330 606 1438
Email: media@adlinkinternational.com
www.adlinkinternational.com

BUSINESS

Kenya and South Korea Forge Maritime Partnership: Opportunities Abound for Kenyan Seafarers

By: Cynthia Masibo and Wendy Keziah
 @themtkenyentimes

In a landmark move aimed at bolstering maritime opportunities and strengthening bilateral relations, Kenya and South Korea have embarked on a collaborative journey that promises a wealth of prospects for Kenyan seafarers. The recent press briefing held by the State Department for Shipping highlighted the significant strides made during the visit of a Kenyan delegation to South Korea.

At the forefront of discussions was the establishment of a Trusted Kenyan Seafarer Brand, signaling Kenya's commitment to fostering a robust maritime workforce capable of meeting global standards. The delegation, led by the Principal Secretary, engaged with key maritime stakeholders in South Korea, advocating for the employment of Kenyan seafarers in shipping companies worldwide.

Central to the agenda was the pursuit of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the mutual recognition of Certificates of Competency (COC). This crucial agreement would facilitate the seamless integration of Kenyan seafarers into Korean-flagged ships, opening doors to new avenues of employment. With Kenya already complying with International Maritime Organization (IMO) standards and boasting a coveted position on the IMO White List, the stage is set for enhanced cooperation between the two nations.

The signing of a finalized MOU between the Korea Institute of Maritime and Fisheries Technology (KIMFT) and the Bandari Maritime Academy (BMA) marked a significant milestone. This partnership will facilitate knowledge and technology transfer, bolstering the training of Kenyan seafarers and equipping them with the skills necessary to excel in the maritime industry.

Key areas of cooperation outlined during the briefing include capacity building initiatives supported by the Korean Official Development Assistance Programme. This encompasses the modernization of maritime education and training facilities, as well as providing onboard training opportunities and employment prospects to Kenyan students in Korean shipping companies. The support of the Korean government is instrumental in realizing these initiatives and expanding the pool of Kenyan seafarers in the global maritime workforce.

Additionally, efforts are underway to facilitate the employment of Kenyan



Shipping and Maritime Affairs Principal secretary Geoffrey Kaituko when he addressed the press on March 18, 2024..

ratings, such as sailors and wipers, in Korean shipping companies. The Korea Shipowners Association (KSA) has shown interest in employing Kenyan seafarers, with preparations underway for fostering programs tailored to their needs. Collaboration between the KSA and the Kenyan Maritime Education and Training (MET) institutions will be pivotal in ensuring the success of these programs.

As the maritime sector continues to evolve, opportunities abound for Kenyan youth to chart a course towards a promising career on the high seas. Embracing the maritime industry not only offers lucrative employment prospects but also plays a vital role in driving economic growth and national development.

In conclusion, the Kenya-South Korea maritime partnership heralds a new era of cooperation, underpinned by mutual benefit and shared objectives. By harnessing the potential of the maritime sector, Kenya stands poised to make significant strides in harnessing its maritime potential and empowering its youth to seize the myriad opportunities that lie ahead.



Kenya's Principal Secretary for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Geoffrey Kaituko and Korean Vice Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Song Myung-dal at the Sejong Government Complex on March 12, 2024. (Photo: PS Fishing)

Worth Noting:

- The signing of a finalized MOU between the Korea Institute of Maritime and Fisheries Technology (KIMFT) and the Bandari Maritime Academy (BMA) marked a significant milestone. This partnership will facilitate knowledge and technology transfer, bolstering the training of Kenyan seafarers and equipping them with the skills necessary to excel in the maritime industry.
- Key areas of cooperation outlined during the briefing include capacity building initiatives supported by the Korean Official Development Assistance Programme. This encompasses the modernization of maritime education and training facilities, as well as providing onboard training opportunities and employment prospects to Kenyan students in Korean shipping companies. The support of the Korean government is instrumental in realizing these initiatives and expanding the pool of Kenyan seafarers in the global maritime workforce.



OLDONYO SABUK NATIONAL PARK



Ultimate Panoramic Experience

Embracing Prosperity: Rekindling Mt. Kenya Heritage For Economic Flourish Under Mt. Kenya's Watchful Eye



By: Erick Kamau Kahura
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- At the heart of our economic revitalization efforts is a deep reverence for the spiritual significance of our cultural heritage. For centuries, our ancestors have looked to Mt. Kenya as a sacred symbol of divine protection and guidance. They have sought solace in its shadow and inspiration in its grandeur, believing that the mountain is a bridge between the earthly realm and the realm of the spirits.
- In this sacred landscape, we find the keys to unlocking the hidden treasures of our cultural heritage. Through rituals and ceremonies that honor the spirits of our ancestors, we can tap into the spiritual energy that permeates the land and infuse our economic endeavors with divine blessings.

As the morning sun casts its golden rays upon the majestic slopes of Mt. Kenya, a sense of reverence fills the air—a palpable reminder of the rich cultural heritage that lies nestled within the heart of the Mt. Kenya people. For centuries, our ancestors have drawn strength from the towering presence of this sacred mountain, finding solace in its shadow and inspiration in its grandeur. Today, as we stand on the threshold of a new era, it is time to heed the call of our forefathers and reclaim our heritage as a catalyst for economic prosperity.

As a native son of the Mt. Kenya community, I have witnessed firsthand the power of our ancestral traditions to shape our collective destiny. From the ancient rituals performed on the slopes of our mountain to the timeless stories passed down through generations, our cultural heritage is the foundation upon which our identity is built. Yet, in the hustle and bustle of modern life, we have sometimes lost sight of the deep spiritual connection that binds us to our land and our ancestors.

But now, as we stand at the threshold of a new era, it is time to reclaim our heritage and harness its transformative power for economic flourish.

Under the watchful eye of Mt. Kenya, we have the opportunity to breathe new life into age-old traditions and forge a path to prosperity that honors the wisdom of the past while embracing the opportunities of the future.

At the heart of our economic revitalization efforts is a deep reverence for the spiritual significance of our cultural heritage. For centuries, our ancestors have looked to Mt. Kenya as a sacred symbol of divine protection and guidance. They have sought solace in its shadow and inspiration in its grandeur, believing that the mountain is a bridge between the earthly realm and the realm of the spirits.

In this sacred landscape, we find the keys to unlocking the hidden treasures of our cultural heritage. Through rituals and ceremonies that honor the spirits of our ancestors, we can tap into the spiritual energy that permeates the land and infuse our economic endeavors with divine blessings. By invoking the ancient wisdom of our forefathers and seeking their guidance in all that we do, we can ensure that our efforts are guided by a higher purpose and aligned with the natural rhythms of the universe.

But spiritual renewal alone is not enough to bring about economic

prosperity. We must also take practical steps to leverage our cultural heritage as a driver of economic growth and development. This means investing in initiatives that promote cultural tourism, artisanal craftsmanship, and sustainable agriculture. It means creating opportunities for our people to share their gifts and talents with the world and to be rewarded for their contributions to our community.

One such initiative is the establishment of cultural heritage centers that serve as hubs for cultural exchange and economic activity. These centers would showcase the rich tapestry of our traditions through interactive exhibits, workshops, and performances, attracting visitors from near and far and providing a platform for local artisans and entrepreneurs to showcase their talents.

Additionally, we must look to our traditional agricultural practices as a source of inspiration for sustainable development. For centuries, our ancestors have cultivated the land with care and reverence, following ancient rituals and ceremonies to ensure a bountiful harvest. By embracing these time-honored methods and incorporating modern innovations, we can build a thriving agricultural sec-

tor that nourishes our bodies, sustains our communities, and protects our environment.

Furthermore, we must recognize the invaluable role that our cultural heritage plays in shaping our sense of identity and belonging. By celebrating our traditions through cultural festivals, music and dance performances, and storytelling sessions, we can foster a sense of pride and unity within our communities. This, in turn, can create a fertile ground for social cohesion and collective action, laying the foundation for a more prosperous and resilient society.

In closing, the path to economic prosperity lies not only in the material resources of the land but also in the spiritual riches of our cultural heritage. By embracing the wisdom of our ancestors, honoring the spirits of our mountain, and harnessing the transformative power of our traditions, we can create a future where prosperity flourishes under the watchful eye of Mt. Kenya. As we stand united under the watchful eye of Mt. Kenya, there is no limit to what we can achieve.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dust - Laden Dreams

“I cannot sit down and watch my kids not go to school” Laments Rose Anyango. As the evening descends upon Kitere village, a golden hue blankets the landscape, casting long shadows that stretch across the rugged terrain. The sky, painted with hues of orange and purple, slowly transitions from the brilliance of the setting sun to the soft glow of twilight.

In the heart of the village, along the dusty roadside, the hustle and bustle of activity persists even as the day wanes. Some villagers, undeterred by the fading light, diligently set up their small businesses along the thoroughfare. Colorful makeshift stalls adorned with handcrafted wares and freshly harvested produce line the path, each vying for the attention of passing travelers.

Amidst the flurry of activity, students, their weary faces illuminated by the soft glow of street lamps, trudge wearily homeward, their satchels heavy with the weight of

knowledge. Their laughter and chatter mingle with the ambient sounds of the village.

The air is thick with the rhythmic clangor of an ore crushing machine, its mechanical symphony echoing through the village, a dense cloud of dust rises like a spectral veil, shrouding the landscape in a hazy, golden ambiance. Amidst it, a group of women works diligently, their silhouettes blurred by the fine particles suspended in the air. They wear weathered clothing, each piece bearing the story of countless hours spent in the pursuit of livelihood. Beads of sweat glisten on their brows, painting a stark contrast against the dusty film that adheres to their skin.

This is where we meet Rose, a 42 year old who is busy trying to filter the sand from the ore before washing. Her long skirt is now dyed with sand making it look more brownish from the previous color which I presumed to be black. Her long eyelashes are covered with sand, which

produces light dust as she tries to blink. She wipes off the dust with the back of her hand which gives us a brief view of her short nails which have changed their color and elegance due to continuous toiling in the sand.

“This is the only job that was easy to find and didn’t require qualifications,” says Rose, who has been working at the mining site for two years now. To provide for her family and ensure her children have their basic needs met, she had to step out of her comfort zone as a housewife because her husband’s hand-to-mouth job couldn’t sustain them.

Despite the challenge of not having protective gear, many women and men in Kitere, Kamagambo constituency, Migori county still immerse themselves in the tedious gold mining industry. Unfortunately, this exposes them to illnesses due to the dust and mercury they encounter.

Esther, one of Rose’s colleagues, mentions that mercury is crucial in

the gold mining industry. However, the protective gear needed to handle chemicals like mercury is expensive for them to afford, and employers don’t provide it for their workers.

Dr. Martin Ochola emphasizes that women not only work long hours for poor pay, but they are also regularly exposed to harsh physical mining conditions, affecting their health and safety.

“Women in the area are also exposed to waterborne diseases as they are surrounded by contaminated stagnant water in abandoned mining pits. This exposes them to diseases like pneumonia. Furthermore, women in gold mining face numerous health risks such as skin diseases, chest pains, and prolonged coughing. Gold mining involves the use of toxic chemicals like mercury to extract gold from the ore, posing significant health risks to women responsible for processing the ore. Exposure to mercury can cause severe health problems such as birth

defects, developmental delays, and neurological damage.” Remarks the Doctor.

“Every day they complain of chest pains, back pains, flu, and endless sickness, and sometimes it is disheartening to see them work so hard despite their pain, just to provide for their families,” notes Delfield Otieno, a gold miner at the site. He adds that employers do not provide any medical cover, and in case of illness, they have to pay for their treatment, causing many to neglect their health while torn between seeking medication and providing for their family.

As the saying goes, a mother can never neglect her children. Rose’s biggest dream is to see her children study and achieve their dreams. She asserts that she will not stop until all her six children have received a proper education.

Sharon Owino - Rongo University

Email Us: news@mountkenyatimes.co.ke

University Survival Tactics With Climate Change And

Drought

By **Shadrack Apima**

Scarcity of water can have an impact on daily life. However, many universities are struggling with inadequate water because of the unpredictable climate change which has taken a new shape and it’s the topic of the day worldwide.

In Rongo University, this has been a crucial information whereas it affects mostly students who reside outside the university (non-residents). The students have faced many problems because they have to walk long distances or dig into their pockets for them to get water which will sustain them.

Daisy, a student who resides in Safe-stay just a few kilometres from River Kuja. “It has been a challenge to me because I cannot go to fetch water instead I pay a bodaboda person to bring me water to my hostel,” she explains. She says that the drought has affected her daily routine and thus she gets late to school late because of water.

Peter, one of the student explains how the drought issue has been a challenge to him. He has to go for some distance so that he fetches water from a nearby spring. He says, “the distance is a bit far but steep while coming back and anyone who is not cautious might fall and get injured.” He explained that the spring water is considered clean and safe to drink because of their culture that perceives spring water is clean and in most cases people stay some distance away from the spring.

The effects of the drought are not only personal but also affecting the welfare of other students especially the ones residing outside the university premises. This has to change the criteria of how students should conduct themselves and how to use water more sparingly.

“Personally, the water is not clean, I have to treat it with water guard so that I can consume. I fetch the water from R. Kuja even though it is a long distance from my hostel.” Says Margret. She explains how

the drought has affected her studies because of the scorching sun which does not allow a person to walk to class mostly during the day. She sometimes misses class because of her health conditions which does not favour hot temperatures. The time taken for preparation is more compared to the rainy season where she takes a shorter time and arrives to class early.

“The school management is aware of the issue and has taken steps which will help other students tackle the drought problem in hostels,” says the Dean of Students, Asuga. He further explained how the university has allowed students to fetch water from the school which has helped students who reside near the school. This has reduced the drought problem in hostels that doesn’t have water completely. He already made arrangements and talked to the security personnel to allow the students to fetch water without any disturbance.

“In a group of ten students, two of

them suffer from health problems prone to water conditions.” Says the school nurse. The school clinic has played a major role in helping students who face different health challenges. It has been a vital facility within the school premises that has made it easy for the comrades to visit in anytime of the day. The services offered are exemplary that makes the school clinic to be considered at most cases when students are the weather. The personnel working in the clinic are ever present and ready to listen to students’ problem no matter how minor or serious the injury or the problem can be.

Some of the effects caused by the water include: diarrhoea, cholera, typhoid, which is caused when water is not treated well especially in consumption purposes such as drinking and cooking. The negative effects can cause death. Diarrhoea in most cases has caused death in some areas which is said to be dangerous among other diseases caused by water.

Globally, the climate change issue

has caused a big effect for example; in India the hot temperatures has surpassed 120 degrees which has led to closure of schools, land fires and a crop crisis. The heat wave in India has killed people reducing the population rate leading to losses. This has also made it impossible to export food for relief to other countries which is caused by the heat wave. Farmers have got many losses of poor yield from the crops grown. Wheat export was banned due to the heat wave and the national government of India had to ensure that the country has got enough for her people to eat.

The climate change and drought issue has been a challenge not only in Rongo University but also worldwide which the governments should consider and take firm actions which will make citizens benefit and make the country grow regardless of the challenges being faced.

Konza Technopolis Development Authority Enhances Road Infrastructure With Asphalt Reinforcement Grids At Konza - Mombasa Highway Junction

By: Our Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Konza Technopolis, one of the key flagship projects under Kenya's Vision 2030 National Development Blueprint, has adopted an advanced civil engineering solution from Admir Technologies Kenya Limited in the ongoing development of a road linking the Technopolis to the main Nairobi-Mombasa Highway.

Speaking at the commencement of the road construction works, Admir Technologies Kenya Country Manager Eng. Anthony Irungu said Italian Construction firm ICM Maltauro had partnered with Admir to integrate an asphalt reinforcement solution.

"Asphalt reinforcement grids play a pivotal role in this endeavour by assisting in load distribution, preventing reflective cracks, and increasing the load-bearing capacity of the reinforced pavement layer. Moreover, these grids enhance the tensile strength capabilities of bituminous layers, ensuring durability and longevity," Eng. Francis Kibara, the Konza Technopolis engineer in charge of Streetscapes, said.

He added, "At Konza Technopolis, Admir Technologies is collaborating



Admir Technologies Kenya Country Manager Eng. Anthony Irungu (right) guides road construction technicians applying Asphalt reinforcement grids at Konza Technopolis

with ICM Maltauro to supply and install Hatelit C17/40 asphalt reinforcement grids."

Highlighting the significance of the day's exercise, Eng. Kibara noted that finally, Konza Technopolis has been linked to the rest of Kenya's infrastructure by the completion of the link to the Nairobi - Mombasa highway and is now more than ready for business. He described this as a significant milestone.

This solution increases the strength of the asphalt by up to 40% to en-

sure that heavy trucks and related traffic entering the Technopolis do not damage the road. Geo-synthetics are manufactured synthetic materials (made from polymers or hydrocarbon chains) used for a wide range of engineering applications.

In infrastructure development, geo-synthetics, including geocells, geogrids, and geotextiles, increase the pavement's load-bearing capacity while significantly reducing the pavement thickness. This reduces both cost and construction time.

"The innovative solution increases the load-bearing capacity on this road section outside our weight-controlled road network by spreading the wheel load through the asphalt reinforcement grid solution. This also reduces potential rutting, which would lead to pavement failure," Eng. Kibara explained.

Admir Africa is one of Africa's leading geosynthetics design, supply, and installation solution providers, with a presence in over eight countries.

Geosynthetic solutions have been technically proven and cost-effective in engineering projects such as roads, airport runways, railway lines, seaports, dams, retaining walls, reservoirs, waste landfills, stabilizing slopes, drainage, and many other applications.

The strategic partnership underscores the Konza Technopolis Development Authority's commitment to deploy innovative solutions for sustainable urban development. By leveraging Admir Technologies Kenya Limited's expertise, Konza Technopolis aims to set new standards in road infrastructure and ensure a seamless experience for residents, commuters, and visitors alike.

Dubbed the "Silicon Savannah," Konza Technopolis is poised to become a modern metropolis featuring cutting-edge facilities such as hospitals, schools, universities, light manufacturing industries, homes, and commercial spaces. The development authority implements state-of-the-art infrastructure to support this vision, including smart roads designed for safety, convenience, and longevity.

New Technology To Supply Piped Water To Residents

By: Peter Gitonga and Ezekiel Ngasike
 @themtkenyatimes

Residents in the rural areas of Turkana County are set to benefit from a new technology, that will enable them access piped water, that is safe and clean from boreholes, equipped with hand pumps.

The project has been made possible through partnership between the County Government and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The technology described as "elevated hand pump" works by raising the normal hand pump by three to four meters above the ground, fitting



it with a reservoir tank, and connecting homesteads and communal water points, to a pipeline through which water is supplied by gravity.

Prior to the technology, piped water was only possible from boreholes equipped with solar energy or con-

nected to electric power.

JICA's team Leader in Turkana, Fumiaki Murakami, said the technology provides the residents with clean and safe water, without necessarily having to walk long distances or using energy to pump water.

"We have already installed the "elevated hand pump" technology at Kawarnaparan Primary School and Nakitoeakwaan village near Kakuma," JICA's Murakami said.

The County's Director of Water Services, Paul Lotum, described the technology as a low-cost approach to upgrading hand pump-equipped boreholes, without having to rely on solar.

He urged beneficiaries of the new technology to protect the installations from misuse and vandalism, so as to serve them longer.

"As a department, we welcome innovations aimed at ensuring residents access clean and safe water for their use," Director Lotum said.

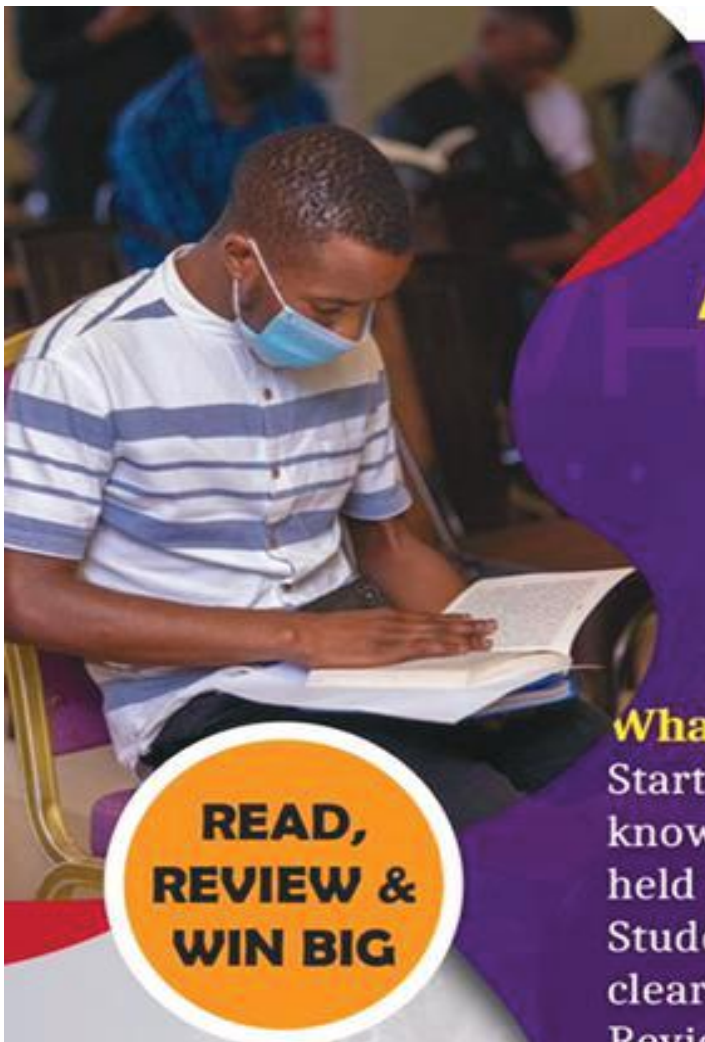
Jacob Bobei, a beneficiary of the technology at Nakitoeakwaan, ac-

knowledged the technology had saved the residents of the area from dirty water resulting from direct pumping from the water point.

"We no longer have to struggle and compete with our livestock for water access at the pump. Once the water is pumped into the reservoir tank, we access it in our taps near our homes for both human and animal use," Bobei excitedly said.

While the technology protects the hand pump from overuse and the potential for breakdowns, it also has the advantage of allowing the borehole time to recharge, thereby, increasing the water yield.

THE EL-TABLAZ ANNUAL READING CONTEST 2024



Attention, High School Students!

The El-Tablaz Books, in partnership with Read-Us Africa and Literature & English Forum – Uganda, invite you to enter their 1st annual reading contest.

What is The El-Tablaz Annual Reading Contest?

Starting this year, 2024, a reading and writing contest known as The El-Tablaz Annual Reading Contest shall be held nation-wide for high school students in Forms 1-6. Students are asked to READ and REVIEW a given book, clearly explaining how the text affected them personally. Reviews shall be judged on national level.

**READ,
REVIEW &
WIN BIG**

Winners

Ugx.200,000,
+ Gift hamper

1st Runner-up

Ugx.150,000,
+ Gift hamper

2nd Runner-up

Ugx.100,000,
+ Gift hamper

**All participants
Certificates of participation
at each level.**

How to submit:

Send your typed review and photo to theelblazannualreadingcontes@gmail.com or **WhatsApp** +256 772 674 093.

How to enter the contest:

- * Buy and read the novel, *The Spirit Whisperer* by Nassur Tab'an El-Tablaz.
- * Write a review of the given novel (at least 2 pages, typed; Times New Roman, font 12, 1.15 line spacing)
- * Take a photo clearly showing you in your school uniform reading the given novel
- * Clearly indicate your full name and school

ENTRY LEVELS

Submissions are accepted starting 1st March, 2024. Prizes will be awarded in April, 2024, in each of the three competition levels:

- Level 1: Form 1 – 2 (Submission deadline: Mar. 15, 2024)
- Level 2: Form 3 – 4 (Submission deadline: Mar. 15, 2024)
- Level 3: Form 5 – 6 (Submission deadline: Mar. 15, 2024)

Judges :

Judges will include teachers and teacher-consultants of the Literature & English Forum – Uganda from across the nation.

Kenya Prisons Land Acquired Through Fraudulent Means Will Be Reverted To Public Use Says CS Kindiki



By: Sefu Sabila

@themtkenyatimes

the government. The calls by CS Kindiki, thwarts the efforts by the speaker.

The efforts for private developers to retain their land at the Kitale Prisons farm seem to beat a dead end, after the latest sentiments by internal security CS Prof. Kithure Kindiki.

Speaking in Monday during a consultative meeting with heads of security in Trans Nzoia County, the CS said the land that is grabbed, and acquired will be reverted back to public use. This is after the prison premises town was given to the county for expansion of Kitale town.

“The Government is relocating Kitale Prison from the Town Centre to pave the way for a structured, well planned urban development of the Town. Illegally or fraudulently acquired title deeds for grabbed public land in the Town, including land be-

longing to the Kenya Prisons Service (KPS) will be revoked and the land reverted to public purposes.” CS Kindiki stated.

During his visit in February in the county, President William Ruto had said the land grabbers settled in the government’s land will be demolished to pave way for government activities.

The disputed 3,2700 acres of land brought a heated argument between the County boss George Natembeya and Senator Allan Chesang. According to the governor, the disputed land is a government land, and he has no mandate on advising the head of state.

While the peace truce led by the speaker of the national assembly Moses Wetangula on course, for land owners to be evicted in a proper manner, as well as compensation from the government. The calls by CS Kindiki, thwarts the efforts by the speaker.

The land hosts foreign investors and former political leaders including former Trans Nzoia senator Henry Ole Ndiema, Noah Wekesa and former minister Noah Wekesa. The politicians saying they acquired the land legally.

Aside from the disputed Kenya Prison’s Land, the CS said the government is still scaling the fight against



Internal security CS Prof Kithure Kindiki and heads of security during a consultative meeting at the Trans Nzoia County Commissioner's office in Kitale yesterday

production of illegal brews, further directed the security force to double efforts in search against drugs, illicit brew and substance abuse. Additionally, the CS called on crackdown of areas manufacturing, distributing and selling consumption of narcotic drugs, illicit alcohol and psychotropic substances.

Trans Nzoia County being a border county, with Uganda, the porous border of Suam, makes it easier for the flow of illegal brews and other

substances. According to the CS, the meeting including Kenya Police Service (KPS), the meeting is meant to further promote government services in the county.

Earlier last week, the CS had revoked the licenses of alcohol manufacturing companies and storage, stating that only those that meet government requirements will be given operating licenses.

“All licenses and certification permits for second-generation alcohol

and alcoholic beverage distillers and manufacturers, issued by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) and Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) stand suspended with immediate effect. All existing valid licenses will be vetted afresh within twenty-one (21) days of this directive, with premises approved to resume operations only upon receipt of fresh approval.” Prof. Kindiki said on Wednesday 6th March.

Isiolo County Embarks On Mass Rift Valley Fever Vaccination

By: Cecen Doto and Abduba Mamo

@themtkenyatimes

Isiolo County has embarked on implementing a home-grown strategy to combat spread of Rift Valley Fever which was recently reported in the neighbouring Marsabit County.

The strategy, ‘Isiolo County One Health Initiative’ brings together a team of professionals is a multi-agency of various government departments including health, water and environment, Livestock and other stakeholders who have assured livestock keepers that they will help combat the disease.

Rift Valley Fever is a disease that attacks both human beings and animals. It is transmitted to humans after consuming meat or milk from an infected animal.

Isiolo Deputy Governor Dr. James Lowassa while launching the initia-

tive yesterday disclosed that seven people succumbed to the disease in 2020 and 2021 in the county adding that the health department has since made efforts to prevent spread of the disease.

He said the results of samples taken from animals in Isiolo County indicated that they were positive of RVF but those from human beings turned negative.

Dr. Lowassa said the disease was detected in both animals and humans in Marsabit and Wajir counties and hence the need to have close surveillance, create awareness and also start vaccinating the animals to curb spread of the disease.

“We want to carry out surveillance of the disease and sensitize the residents by creating awareness about the disease as a zoonotic disease,” he said.

The Deputy Governor thanked the national government for giving the county vaccines for all the animals so



Isiolo County Deputy Governor Dr James Lowassa and other leaders while launching the vaccination programme yesterday

as to curb spread of the disease in the region.

He warned the residents of Isiolo against consuming uninspected meat

and milk stressing on the need to properly boil animal products for a long time to kill germs and any viruses before eating.

The deputy governor said Merti and Garbatula areas have already received vaccines.

Gertrude Children Hospital Urges Collaborative Efforts To Address Rising Cases Of Childhood Cancer Rates

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

Gertrude's Children's Hospital has called for collective action to fight against childhood cancer, noting that 80% of cases are treatable when detected at early stages. It is estimated that there are 3,200 new childhood cancer cases in Kenya every year the number which could be much higher because of underdiagnosis and under-reporting.

Speaking during the hospital's third annual cancer walk on Sunday 17 March, the Hospital's CEO, Dr Robert Nyarango, called for urgent investment in childhood cancer diagnosis and treatment, emphasising the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach to combating the disease.

"The fact that so many cases go without diagnosis and so many children die without accessing treatment should drive all of us to participate in initiatives that help mount a strong defence against cancer in children. We are grateful for the big turnout at the walk because it demonstrates Kenyans' concern for their children

and emphasises the importance of a coordinated fight against childhood cancer. Each individual and organisation participating in the walk has increased our ability to save lives and alleviate suffering in many families across the country. "Dr. Nyarango said

This year's walk attracted major sponsors, including Zamara, who was the title sponsor for the second year running, as well as over 2,000 participants from families, corporate entities, and government agencies.

Zamara Group CEO Sundeep Raichura reiterated Zamara's eagerness to support the walk and large community engagements that help make healthcare more accessible and affordable to everyone across the country.

"It is an honour to support such a good cause as we join efforts to alleviate unnecessary suffering by bringing lifesaving diagnosis and treatment to children who would have otherwise gone without. We are always keen on supporting such initiatives that improve the health and well-being of Kenyans," said Mr Riachura.

The Kenya Childhood Cancer Program, which was launched in 2019, supports cancer diagnosis and



Gertrude's Children's Hospital third annual cancer walk on Sunday 17 March.

treatment in children as well as the training and upskilling of healthcare workers. The program has already trained over 200 healthcare workers across the country, providing them with the skills and knowledge they need to identify cancer symptoms in children and provide lifesaving treatment.

Dr. Thomas Ngwiri, Head of Clinical Services at Gertrude's Children's Hospital, emphasized the critical need to prioritise cancer diagnosis

and treatment in Kenya.

Each year, thousands of children suffer and die from cancer due to a lack of access to diagnosis and treatment. In addition to raising funds that will go a long way toward assisting some of the most vulnerable children, the participants were able to spend the day bonding and engaging in activities with their families," said Dr Ngwiri.

Thousands of people attended the third annual Gertrude's Children's

Hospital Family Cancer Walk, which is part of the Kenya Childhood Cancer Program, which aims to reduce childhood cancer mortality. Participants were given the option of running a 13-kilometre circuit along the Southern Bypass or a shorter 5-kilometre trail.

Gertrude's Hospital first held the cancer walk in 2019 and took a two-year break at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic to resume in 2023.

KMA Questions Implementation Of The Electronic Tax Invoice Management System (eTIMS) By Doctors

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

The Medical Practitioners & Dentists community has brought to the attention of the Kenyan people the interference of the Government of Kenya to the delivery of Health Services in Kenya.

The association says the introduction of the Electronic Tax Invoice Management System (eTIMS) through the Finance Act, 2023 and in the public notice dated 07/11/2023, KRA is seeking to force Medical Practitioners to disclose patient data including patients names, sex, hospitalization and treatment details to the Kenya Government through the KRA eTIMS system. This will expose the public prejudice in employment opportunities and public service provision. We all recently read in the media how KRA used medical and pregnancy tests to deny deserving

employment to Kenyans.

The President of the Association Dr. Simon Kigondu notes:

"The implementation of the KRA eTIMS to medical services is a clear and self-evident breach of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 which stipulates that every person in Kenya is bound under the Bill of Rights in Chapter IV of the Constitution. The right to health is a fundamental human right guaranteed in the Constitution of Kenya but eTIMS is designed to cripple the provision of Medical Services in Kenya.

Article 43 (1) (a) of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care and privacy. Every person has a right to privacy which includes the right not to have the privacy of their communications infringed. The KRA eTIMS is designed to get information on the patient attended to by Doctors, their diagnosis and treatment by



Dr Simon Kigondu (left) with other KMA officials during the press briefing

becoming the communication hub between Doctors, Hospital and payers including Insurance Companies. This is an infringement of the private communications of Doctors, patients and their payers, including insurance

companies.

Section (2) of the Health Act explains that every person shall have the right to be treated with dignity, respect and have their privacy respected in accordance with the Constitu-

tion. Under Section 11 (1) the Health Act provides that health information concerning a user, including information relating to his or her health status, treatment or stay in a health facility is confidential."

The Africa Largest eCOMMERCERCE



www.gotyou.co.ke

**NOW
OPEN**

Call/Text/WhatsApp: +254 714 090 155

University Survival Tactics With Climate Change And Drought

By: Lilian Precious Simiyu
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Madam Pelesia Okuthe, a compassionate lecturer, emphasizes the challenges that some single mothers face, leading to occasional study interruptions. While offering guidance and support, she underscores the need for a more comprehensive approach to help these students cope with their unique circumstances.
- In a conversation with a former neglectful father, he points to the complexity of the issue, citing the reluctance of some young women to use contraceptives. Although acknowledging feelings of guilt, he suggests that societal expectations and financial dependence force them into denial.
- A former neglectful father shedding light on the complexities of the issue, emphasizing the societal and financial pressures faced by some young women.



Alma Sanyo, a second-year student, courageously pursuing her dreams as a single mother in the face of adversity.

In the hallowed halls of academia, a silent epidemic persists—the plight of single mothers navigating the challenges of campus life while concealing their status from judgmental eyes. The stigma attached to their circumstances forces these resilient women into the shadows, where their struggles unfold in secrecy.

Alma Sanyo, a twenty-one-year-old second-year student, shares a story echoed by many. Faced with finan-

cial hardships, she fell in love with a man on campus, only to be abandoned when she became pregnant. Enduring insults and violence, Alma chose to keep the baby, determined to pursue her dreams despite the rejection. Her tale exposes the harsh reality that forces these young mothers to conceal their predicament from families who might withdraw financial support, potentially leading to academic derailment.



Mrs. Sinaida Atieno, Guiding and Counseling Senior, providing a safe space for weekly sessions, fostering support and understanding for young mothers on campus..



Shamar Annette and Laylah Nanji, third-year students, silently carrying the weight of single motherhood, their strength unseen by unsuspecting peers..

Shamar Annette, a third-year student, and Laylah Nanji, also in her third year, share similar narratives of abandonment by their partners. These resilient women bear the weight of single motherhood in solitude, guarding their secret to preserve the support they receive from unsuspecting parents.

The hidden struggles faced by these young mothers extend beyond the campus walls. Mrs. Sinaida Atieno, the Guiding and

Counseling Senior, sheds light on the weekly sessions that provide a safe space for these women to express fears and concerns. The Dean of Students, Mr. Asuga, acknowledges the need for additional support programs beyond counseling, promising future initiatives to assist these students with their financial challenges.

Madam Pelesia Okuthe, a compassionate lecturer, emphasizes the challenges that some single mothers face, leading to occasional study interruptions. While offering guidance and support, she underscores the need for a more comprehensive approach to help these students cope with their unique circumstances.

In a conversation with a former neglectful father, he points to the complexity of the issue, citing the reluctance of some young women to use contraceptives. Although acknowledging feelings of guilt, he suggests that societal expectations

and financial dependence force them into denial.

A former neglectful father shedding light on the complexities of the issue, emphasizing the societal and financial pressures faced by some young women.

Surprisingly, many single mothers find solace in their situation. Despite the neglect from partners and the fear of parental judgment, some thrive as independent hustlers, adeptly managing their finances and applying for bursaries to secure their education.

As we peel back the layers of secrecy surrounding these unknown single mothers in campus, it becomes evident that societal perceptions must evolve. Literary journalism in education becomes a powerful tool to shed light on their stories, fostering understanding, empathy, and ultimately dismantling the barriers that force these women to conceal their struggles in the shadows. Only then can the collective voice of these resilient mothers be heard and acknowledged, breaking the silence that shrouds their hidden realities.

The power of literary journalism in education: Lilian Precious Simiyu's impactful words breaking the silence and fostering empathy for the hidden struggles of single mothers on campus

Sports >> *Kenya's Under-20 football team head coach Salim Babu says the current team should stick together and play more games as a unit, as it is the age group that will lift Kenya at the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), which the country is cohosting with Uganda and Tanzania.

SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



One For The Future: Babu Says U20 Team Preparing For AFCON '27



Harambee Stars U20 coach Salim Babu passes on instruction during a training session. PHOTO/FKF

Kenya's Under-20 football team head coach Salim Babu says the current team should stick together and play more games as a unit, as it is the age group that will lift Kenya at the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), which the country is cohosting with Uganda and Tanzania.

Babu says most of the players will be at their prime in the next three years, and having them play together for a while will be a concrete ingredient to seeing the country do well at the AFCON.

"This is the team for the future and we have to ensure that we keep them together for a good time. We have to build a good

team and having them together is the right step for us in ensuring we are competitive at the 2027 AFCON," babu told Capital Sport.

He has asked the Federation and the Government to ensure the team is maintained, and he is delighted that a good percentage of the players called up are those with whom he reached the CE-CAFA Under-18 finals with, last year.

He says ensuring they play more high friendly matches and tournaments will be key in building their confidence to step up to the senior national team.

"Previously we have had these age-grade teams but as soon as

they are done with tournaments, they disintegrate. It will be crucial for us to keep these players and ensure they play as many games as possible together. We have so many talented youngsters and we need to give them a platform," says Babu.

He adds; "These players should be able to transit from the under-20 to the Under-23 and then to the senior team and if we maintain them, we don't need to be doing trials every now and then."

The team will be heading out to Malawi this coming week for a four-nations tournament that includes the hosts, Zimbabwe and Zambia as part of build up and

preparation for future assignments.

Babu says it will be perfect exposure for them and a right place to give them experience.

"It is good for them to face some of these tough teams and get vital experience. Without such matches, it is difficult for us to know where we are as a team. I am looking forward to the tournament and hopefully we do well," stated the coach.

The team has intensified its training at the Kasarani Annex and is expected to depart for Malawi this week.

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Kylian Mbappe scored a hat-trick as Paris St-Germain thrashed Montpellier 6-2 to move 12 points clear on top of the French Ligue 1.

Mbappe Scores Thrice As Rampant PSG Move 12 Points Clear In Ligue 1



Kylian Mbappe celebrates one of his three goals against Montpellier. PHOTO/PSG/X.

Kylian Mbappe scored a hat-trick as Paris St-Germain thrashed Montpellier 6-2 to move 12 points clear on top of the French Ligue 1. Vitinha opened the scoring before Mbappe swept home his first from a tight angle. Arnaud Nordin scored for the hosts and Teji Savanier drew them level. The France striker's 50th-minute strike flew in off the crossbar and he finished his third from close range while Lee Kang-in and

Nuno Mendes were also on the scoresheet for PSG. Mbappe now has 24 league goals for the season after scoring his third hat-trick of the campaign. It has been an unusual period for the 25-year-old who has been on the bench for two of PSG's past three league games and came off at half time against Monaco where he watched the second half with his mother in the stands. His benchings followed the announcement that he has agreed to

join Real Madrid at the end of the season. Before that Mbappe has one final chance to secure European glory with PSG who will face Barcelona in the Champions League quarter-finals. He also looks set to win a fourth league title in the past five seasons, as PSG moved even further ahead of second-placed Brest, who drew 1-1 at home to Lille earlier in the day.

BBC

SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Goodness



By: Shahnoza Ochidiyeva
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- She did not know what to do. Now, when she went to the hospital yard, the woman on duty ran after her and said that a patient had called a while ago to say that they can't come because of some reasons.
- The nurse gave the woman their turn. The woman was so happy that she thanked again and again. They had to wait in the yard until noon, but the woman was grateful for that. She sat down with her son on one of the beautiful seats in the yard. She whispered songs to her son and caressed him with kisses.

The moment when the sky pours its pain on the earth. Raindrops fall in buckets. If there was a happy person who is grateful for his/her life, he/ she would have already danced under this pleasant rain. Then, he would even smile with satisfaction, looking at his wet dress. But not everyone is happy with the sensational visit of the rain, especially a woman who was standing at the old roadside station with a child in her arms. She was always worried about her child, she didn't even show that she was thinking about herself. She had been sitting here for an hour and was thinking about today's difficult day.

The city was still asleep when the bus reached the city center in the early morning. This young woman, who brought her child to the hospital, searched for a hospital on the outskirts of the city for a long time. Three or four months after the birth of her son, the child was diagnosed with an illness. Even if her son is 9 years old now, he could not walk. During these nine years, there was no hospital that the woman did not go to, no doctor that did not try to treat the baby. All the doctors gave hope and said that he would be recovered.

The woman was strong enough not to give up hope, even if she did not see any changes in her son after long treatments. When she heard about a new doctor through an acquaintance who lives in another region, she left without thinking.

The wages she was saving for his son came back to him. When she

reached the hospital, the city has already wakeup. But people wait in line for weeks, sometimes even months for this professor. Of course, the woman did not know this.

She did not know what to do. Now, when she went to the hospital yard, the woman on duty ran after her and said that a patient had called a while ago to say that they can't come because of some reasons.

The nurse gave the woman their turn. The woman was so happy that she thanked again and again. They had to wait in the yard until noon, but the woman was grateful for that. She sat down with her son on one of the beautiful seats in the yard. She whispered songs to her son and caressed him with kisses.

At that moment, she saw a couple sitting on a seat a little further away, and her heart ached. The memories of the past came back to her scratching her tongue. Her childhood that playing and laughing at school, her sweet dreams, her unusual plans after graduation, her mother's friend's son who was chosen bride for her and her beautiful life after the wedding, her happiness at the birth of her son, and her little baby's illness.

The pains that she heard, one after another passed before her eyes. Finally, the memories stopped in front of the emotionless, cold face of her husband. This face is very familiar to her. She knows him better than she knows her own name. Because he was a father who tried to treat his son more or less when he heard about his illness, but when it didn't work, he

left his son and had another family without shame!

After the past events, the woman used to face this image twenty or thirty times a day, pouring out all her pain, anger and hatred. Even now, she was angry, her heart hurt so much that tears came out of her eyes. And she talked with her husband in her imaginations:

"You have acted unscrupulously and unwillingly. You did not feel sorry for your son. How did your heart get used to leaving me alone in these difficult ways? Oh, you didn't have a heart, did you?! What kind of father have you become... You have no conscience!" At that moment, it was their turn and her anger was instantly crushed like dust on the dirt road where a heavy truck had passed by. All his pains went away again.

This time, as always, the professor examined her son for a long time. Then he gave a very beautiful hope and confidence. He followed by saying that she would prepare some documents and then she would have to stay for a week for treatment. The woman prepared all the documents and various analyzes of her son while running from here to there in a city she did not know well. It's late. She rushed into the hospital. The nurse on duty accepted the documents and said calmly that they would start the treatment from Monday.

Only then, the woman's mind was struck by the question of how they would get home at such a late hour. If it was possible to stay in the hospital now, she was ready to stay. But it is not possible.

Impossible. When the woman reached the station with a heavy bag on one shoulder and her nine-year-old disabled son in her hand, the bus had already left and there were no taxis. It's a 5-hour drive from the city till her home. She couldn't afford to hire a car. So the woman realized that she had to find a place to stay. She even knocked on several gates. They did not regret it. Then the rain started and the woman took refuge at this station. Now, while sitting at the station, she asked a true way and help from the God!

God never left him alone. He always showed a good path to this strong and kind-hearted mother. He used it now! A young couple passed by

here, having a nice conversation under an umbrella. After walking for a while, they saw the woman and came back to her. When they found out about the mother's condition, they were very sorry.

The young man took the mother's son, and the girl took her luggage and led the woman behind them. After walking for five or ten minutes, they knocked on a small gate. An old woman opened the door. She opened it and immediately invited them to go in after seeing the guests. When she saw that they were crushed in the rain, she ran in all directions. This old woman was still the grandmother of the young couple.

The young man, who was orphaned by his parents, grew up with his grandmother. She got married recently. They are such open-minded and good people that they immediately became dear to the woman and her son. A beautiful table was prepared for the guests. They had a sincere conversation. Hearing the woman's worries, the old grandmother prayed to God for healing for the boy. Hearing that the woman would return home the next day, the grandmother stubbornly persuaded her to stay here. While the woman was lying on the bed while watching the rain from the window in the warm house, she kept thanking the Allah. "All people in this world should be friends and dear to each other.

Because we are all created by the same God. We all had the same beginning and the same destination. There is no stranger in this life! There are many good people! In many worlds. She showed me another one that I created today. Thank you"- the woman thought. Her son had already fell asleep.

Mother looked at his curled eyelashes and said: "Be such this young man in the future, my dear son, people will be happy because of you!" Let those who are in dire straits hope. Get strength. Because of you, let people believe that there are many good people in the world. Let them strive to be good like you! Be good even if there are no good people around you! Love Allah! May God loves you too!"

Shahnoza Ochidiyeva
Uzbekistan