



The Interplay Between Labour Rights And Environmental Rights

The intersection of labor rights and environmental rights is not merely a coincidental overlap but rather an intricately woven tapestry of legal, ethical, and practical dimensions that profoundly influence contemporary discourse on sustainable development and social justice.

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Daily ePAPER

Friday, March 22, 2024

No. 01006 www.mountkenytimes.co.ke

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News>> Women: You Have Ability To Rid Us Off Alcoholism

P. 8. If you have been living in Kenya, you must have come across the menace that alcoholism has become.



News>> Education for PWDs Needs A Boost - Pastor Dorcas

P. 12. The visit by the spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi to a school of children with disabilities on Wednesday brought into sharp focus the lack of equipped education facilities




Business>> Mama Rachel Ruto Ground Breaks Softcare Kenya Factory Expansion

P. 16 The First Lady, Mama Rachel Ruto, has officially launched the construction of a new factory for Softcare Kenya, a manufacturer of personal products, in Athi River, Machakos County.

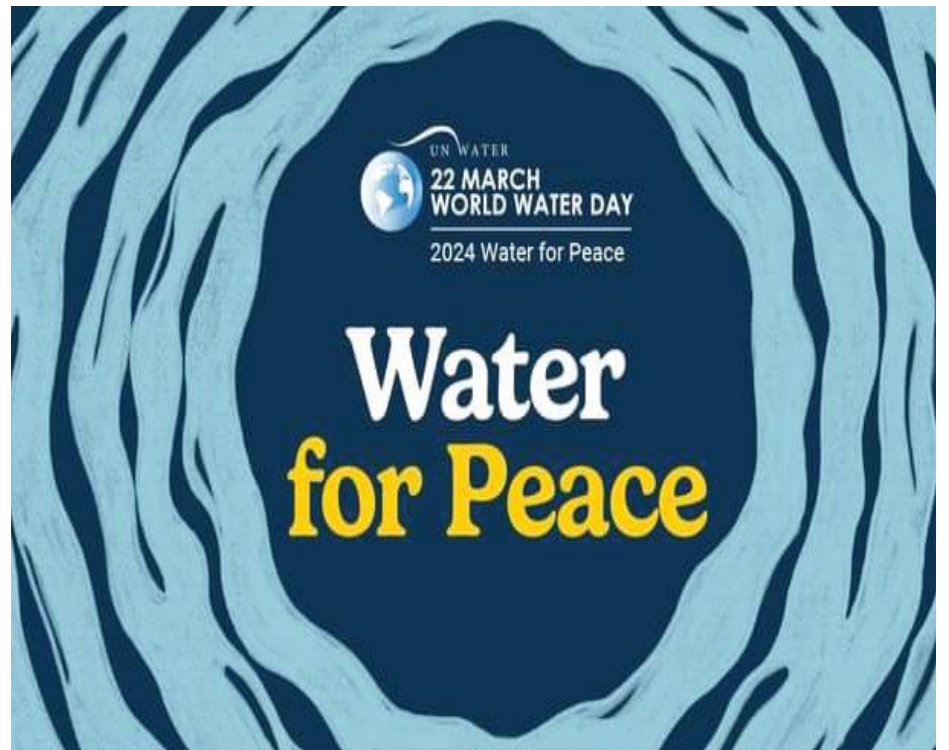
World Water Day Celebrations Cancelled Over Insecurity

The Event Was Called Off, Less Than 12 Hours To The Kick Off Time In A School In Marakwet East Constituency

 This year's World Water Day scheduled for today will not take place as planned following threats by Bandits .

The event was set to take place at Liter Secondary School in Elgeyo Marakwet County and had to be called off following attacks yesterday afternoon.

The attack occurred less than five kilometers from the venue, with word going that the bandits were planning to invade the school.



STORY ON PAGE 3

Miano To Spearhead Trade Ties Between Kenya And Tanzania As She Hosts Her Counterpart

By: Waithaka Kariuki
[@themtkenyatimes](https://twitter.com/themtkenyatimes)

Kenya and Tanzania have moved closer towards addressing key trade barriers as they also seek to explore

new opportunities that are yet to be exploited.

The discussions are being spearheaded by Trade Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano who will from tomorrow in Kisumu County host her

Tanzania counterpart Dr Ashatu Kijaji.

According to Miano, the visit by Kijaji will be timely as the two nations will also be seeking to revive

STORY ON PAGE 23

Trade Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano



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Namwamba Confident Of A Successful World Rally Championship

By: Billy Sabari and Job Muchiri
@themtkenyatimes



Cabinet Secretary for Sports Ababu Namwamba addressing journalists on the upcoming Safari Rally..

Worth Noting:

- Namwamba noted after a thorough meeting with the stakeholders responsible for planning the 2024 Edition of the World Rally Championship, he takes pride for successfully returning the Safari Rally from June to its traditional timing around the Easter season celebrations.
- “The Safari Rally had been in the shadows of the WRC calendar close to 19 years, but we have now managed to sprout it back,” The CS said and added “The rally being one of the 13 round and the only round on African soil, brings the country much pride and honor as the host”.

Kenya is set to host the World Rally Championship (WRC) 2024, that will commence, March 28th to 31st.

Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Sports and Arts, Ababu Namwamba, who kicked-off the countdown to the World Rally Championship (WRC) 2024, yesterday, at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre grounds in Nairobi, expressed confidence that Kenya will deliver a successful, fun filled and safe event.

The CS announced that the WRC Safari Rally will be flagged-off by President William Ruto at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre, and after flag off the motorcade will proceed to Kasa-

rani stadium for a short exhibition and afterwards, they will go to Service Park hotel in Naivasha for the main event.

He said the event will then be closed off at the Hells Gate, where the rally is set to end.

“We are now third in the series after rally Monte Carlo that opens and Rally Sweden, which is second in the rally log,” said Namwamba.

Namwamba noted after a thorough meeting with the stakeholders responsible for planning the 2024 Edition of the World Rally Championship, he takes pride for successfully returning the Safari Rally from June to its traditional timing around the Easter season celebrations.

“The Safari Rally had been in the shadows of the WRC calendar close to 19 years, but we have now managed to sprout it back,” The CS said and added “The rally being one of the 13 round and the only round on African soil, brings the country much pride and honor as the host”.

He applauded Nakuru County Governor Susan Kihika and her team for the support in give in organizing the rally, noting that the event has availed opportunities to the youth to generate income through social economic activities, by providing services, trade and content creation.

The WRC Safari Rally Chief Executive Officer, Charles Gacheru, who accompa-

nied Mr Namwamba to the event, reassured Kenyans that the pictures he had seen circulating online of big gully’s forming on the rally route had been taken care of.

“I have seen pictures circulating of very big gullies at Hells Gate and Geothermal. This is normal as it is only the loose soil getting washed away by the floods. We engaged the National Youth Service and they have done a great job for us there,” he stated.

Mr Gacheru also informed members of the press that all accreditation of marshalls, media staff and rally staff was ongoing on an online platform called Eventos, provided and certified by the Fédération Internationale de l’Automobile.

“Media and security personnel who want to participate in the Safari rally must be accredited by the Eventos online platform. You have to upload a picture and be accredited by a national press officer.”

All members of the public who wish to join us in the rally must review the spectator guide online at www.safarirally.ae for more information, he added.

In his remarks, Mr. Stephen Etyang, the Assistant Inspector General from the Inspector General’s office, assured WRC fans that all security agencies had been involved to ensure a successful event.

He urged all Kenyans to strictly adhere to traffic regulations as this event will take place during the festive season when accidents are rampant, and warned bus and lorry drivers against parking along the Naivasha road and in particular, Kikopey area.

Mrs Patricia Mutheu representing the Matatu industry promised her sector’s full support noting that they will adhere to all government directives while working hand in hand with the authorities for a successful safari rally.

Editor’s Desk

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

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World Water Day Celebrations Cancelled Over Insecurity

The Event Was Called Off, Less Than 12 Hours To The Kick Off Time In A School In Marakwet East

Constituency

By: MKT Correspondent

[@themkenyentimes](#)

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The event was set to take place at Liter Secondary School in Elgeyo Marakwet County and had to be called off following attacks yesterday afternoon.

The attack occurred less than five kilometers from the venue, with word going that the bandits were planning to invade the school.

Advance teams sent by various stakeholders hurriedly left the venue with most of them abandoning their wares.

First Lady Mama Rachel Ruto was scheduled to preside over the ceremony.

Last night, while attending a dinner that usually precedes the event, Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Cabinet Secretary Zachariah Njeru told hun-

dreds of stakeholders that it was not possible to travel to the venue due to insecurity.

Njeru told the stakeholders who had gathered at EKA hotel in Eldoret Town that intelligence report indicated that it was not safe to travel to the venue, about 130 kilometers away.

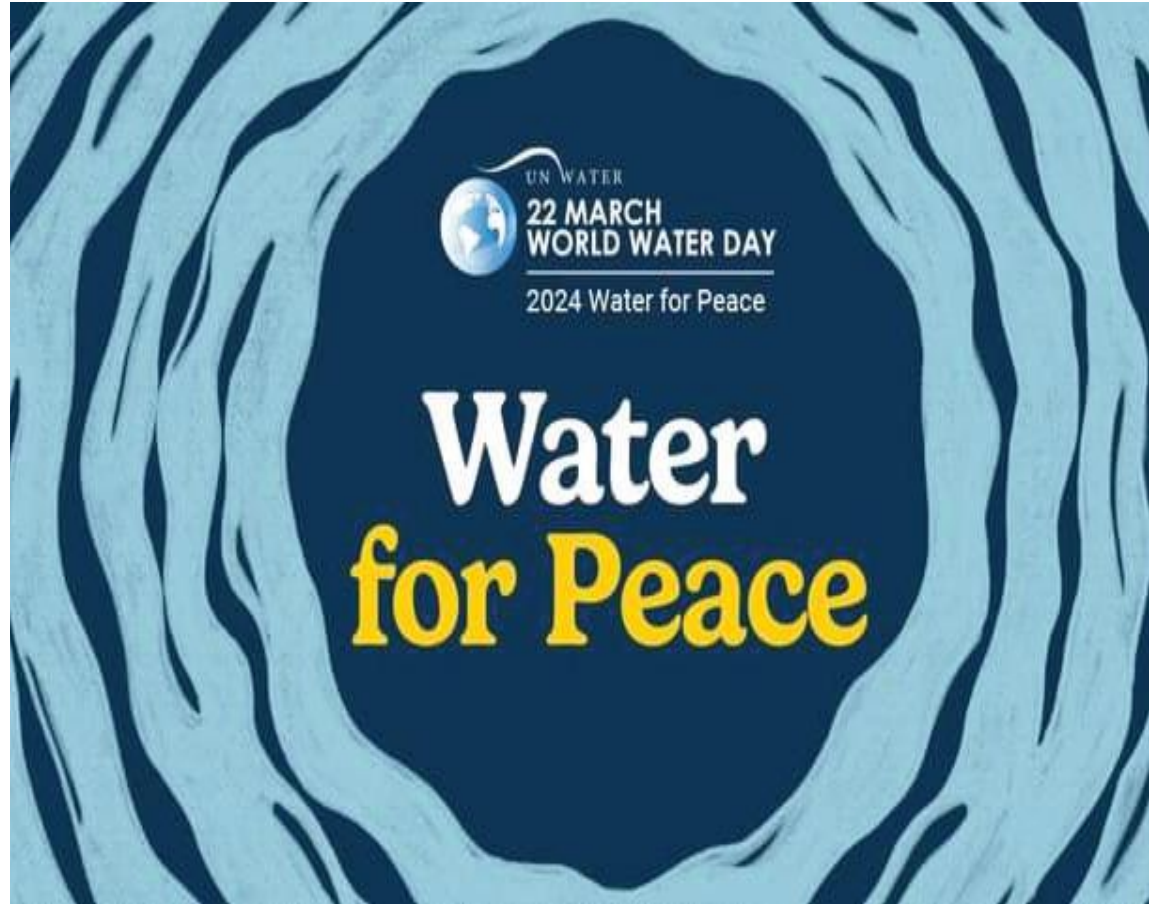
"The situation there is dire. There were attacks in the afternoon and those bandits are said to have vowed to attack tomorrow (today). We have therefore decided not to hold there," the stakeholders were told.

Instead, the stakeholders were told that they would visit a project near Iten town, the county headquarters and later some areas in Uasin Gishu County.

The First Lady did not attend the dinner where she was a key speaker. However, her daughter Charlene graced the occasion.

Ironically, this year's event them was "Water For Peace", but lack of peace worked against it.

Last year, the event that is celebrated on March 22 every year took place in Maralal, Samburu County.



Residents Call For Urgent Action As Sewage Pollutes Tudor Beach

By: MKT Correspondent

[@themkenyentimes](#)

Residents of Tudor in Mvita Sub-county have raised alarm over the pollution of beach line by domestic sewage discharge, thus risking contamination and disease outbreak.

The issue has been aggravated by the proliferation of new skyscrapers in recent years, overwhelming the existing capacity of sewage infrastructure.

The once pristine beach is now contaminated, posing serious health and environmental risks to human, aquatic lives and plants.

Khelef Khalifa, the Director of Muslim for Human Rights (MUHURI), urged the County Government of Mombasa, to address the pollution issue affecting the residents who have lived in the area for eons.

Khalifa criticized the developers of new buildings in the area for not adopting environmentally friendly waste disposal such as bio-digesters, which filter out contaminants from

wastewater resulting in sewage being disposed of directly onto the beaches. "Remedial action ought to be taken and I suggest that the County government should consider blocking outlets that are conduits of sewage, particularly those utilized during rainy seasons," said Khalifa.

The director further highlighted the significant risk posed to the health of residents, as well as visitors to the area, including hotels, schools and a Catholic Church, along the route of the sewage flow.

Sammy Mohamed, the chairman of the Tudor Youth Group, which focuses on maintaining a clean environment, mangrove conservation and lifesaving efforts, said the sewage has devastating effects on the mangroves.

Mohamed emphasized the vital role mangroves play in providing a pleasant aroma and serving as habitats for fish, but due to the destruction of the mangroves, fish populations have significantly reduced.



NEWS IN BRIEF



Siwakom Odochao from the indigenous Karen tribe in Thailand purchases artefacts from the Maasai and Ogiek community during a cross-cultural exchange program at the Ogiek Cultural Center in Nkareta, Narok County yesterday. The forum brought together representatives from various minority indigenous tribes from across the world to deliberate on how to preserve their respective culture, language, arts, customs and other areas of interest. Photo/Suleiman Mbatiah

Nandi County has received Sh116 million Equalization Fund to unlock development in marginalized Sub Locations in the area. The money allocated to Tinderet and Nandi Hills Sub Counties is earmarked for roads, water, electricity and dispensaries to bring the benefiting Sub Locations at par with the others in the County. Nandi County Commissioner (CC) Caroline Nzuli said all the projects in the three sectors were identified through a thorough public participation process adding that once executed, they would open up the affected areas. "We followed the law and engaged the residents through public participation to identify the projects," she said. Speaking at Tinderet Sub County headquarters during a handing over ceremony for the sites to contractors, Nzuli said the contractors have 21 days to complete the projects asking them to stick to the contractual agreements to ensure that the work is completed as scheduled. She asked the contractors to deliver high quality work to ensure there is value for money adding that no variations would be allowed. Nandi County Executive Committee Member (CECM) in charge of Finance Hilary Serem said the projects would be supervised by a joint committee between the National and County governments.



Principal Secretary Higher Education and Research Dr. Beatrice Inyangala consoles Miriam Mwende, a Kenyatta University Student accident victim, at Avenue Hospital Nairobi Wednesday. Mwende was among the 18 patients who were brought to the hospital in critical conditions after being involved in an accident along Nairobi-Mombasa highway near Maungu shopping center en route to Mombasa for an educational tour. Hospital authorities said only one patient was in bad condition while the other 17 are in stable condition. The accident has already claimed 11 lives.



Principal Secretary, State Department for Basic Education Belio Kipsang addressing members of press at Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development on Wednesday, during the donation of Sanitary towels. The 171,000 packets of sanitary towels donated by The United State Agency for International Development (USAID) will be distributed to both Primary and Junior Secondary Schools countrywide and will enhance hygiene for school going vulnerable girls and at the same time bring equal opportunity in education for both genders. He is flanked by among others, Consul General United States Embassy Nairobi, Ms Debora Miller

NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS



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Pastor Dorcas Launches Free Medical Camp Targeting Addicts In Kitale

By: OSDP

Worth Noting:

- She urged the youth to shun from alcoholism, drugs and substance abuse which she says have derailed many of the youth in the country from achieving their goals and dreams. She however said she is ready to embrace them as their mother regardless of their status.

- “Like other parts of the country, alcohol, drug, and substance abuse has derailed our youth from becoming the best version of themselves. Our future fathers, pastors, and leaders are in the gutter,” she said.



Pastor Dorcas Rigathi engaging some of the youngsters targeted for rehabilitation

The Spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi launched a 2-day free medical camp targeting those in alcoholism, drugs and substance abuse in Trans Nzoia County.

Speaking at the Kapsonga grounds when she launched the camp, Pastor Dorcas said it will help in identification of those who require rehabilitation from various forms of drug abuse. “Our main goal is to screen for addictions and place my boy children, who are willing to undergo rehabilitation,

under inpatient, outpatient or community-based rehabilitation,” she said.

Hundreds of youths from across the county turned up for the camp as well as the general public.

She urged the youth to shun from alcoholism, drugs and substance abuse which she says have derailed many of the youth in the country from achieving their goals and dreams. She however said she is ready to embrace them as their mother regardless of their status.

“Like other parts of the country, alcohol, drug, and substance abuse has derailed our youth from becoming the best version of themselves. Our future fathers, pastors, and leaders are in the gutter,” she said.

She also expressed concerns over rising cases of teen pregnancies in the region, something she says must be addressed. She said such cases have also contributed to an increase in cases of HIV/Aids infections and Gender based violence.

“We SAY NO to teen marriages and pregnancies. The economic survey 2022 reported that 9.7 percent of females in TransNzoia County have ever BEEN married by age 15-19 years. Some of these pregnancies are by older men or young boys who we need to grow to be greater men,” she said.

Between January and May 2022, adolescents aged 10-19 accounted for 30 per cent of all new antenatal care (ANC) attendances in Endebess Sub-County. In Saboti, the Sub-County contributed to 25 per cent of the total 2,622 adolescent pregnancies.

Trans Nzoia Senator Allan Chesang said the program is a well thought initiative that will help many youth who have already been hooked into drugs and substance abuse to pick up their pieces and validate their dreams.

Trans Nzoia County Commissioner Gideon Oyagi welcomed the program which he said has had a positive impact in many parts of the country.

Pastor Dorcas has organized such medical camps in other parts of the country targeting the boychild in various parts of the country.

She has so far organized them in Nairobi which targeted those in the mata-tu sector, Kilifi County, Embu, Kisii, Kiambu, Mombasa, Bomet, Narok among other counties.

From the camps men who are identified for rehabilitation are always taken for rehabilitation programs under her office.

There are different cohorts of men undergoing rehabilitation in Timau, Nyeri, Kiambu, Bomet, Mombasa among other parts of the country.

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Women: You Have Ability To Rid Us Off Alcoholism



By: Ann Mikia
@themkenyatimes



Ann Mathu

Worth Noting:

- This was the reason that led Mary Ngethe, who is in charge of health programs with Central Kenya Development Network (CKDN), to come up with the Webinar to explore solutions to the alcoholism problem in the Mt. Kenya region.
- The CKDN recently held a webinar on the role of women in helping men caught up in the deadly web that alcoholism is. Reeling from the shocking incident in Kirinyaga, CKDN was well aware of the deadly onslaught that alcohol has visited on families in the central Kenya region. Shocking statistics bares it all; lives of the young and old alike have been lost, it has disabled families and devastated the lives of survivors, especially men, a number of whom have been reduced to zombies dotting the landscape.

If you have been living in Kenya, you must have come across the menace that alcoholism has become.

In the rural areas of the Mt. Kenya region, young men in their most productive ages will be found in the shopping centers looking inebriated at the crack of dawn.

One is left wondering if they slept at the drinking dens or went for what they call 'kutoa (removing) lock' loosely translated to mean 'unlocking' the previous day's hangover which happens to addicts who can hardly do anything before imbibing a tot of the tippie due to withdrawal symptoms.

Unfortunately, long gone are the days when all women were homemakers and took care of everything including their habitually drunk spouses.

Today, probably challenged by the saying that 'what a man can do a woman can do better', a good number of our sisters and mothers drink just as much as or even more than men do.

In the recent sad incident in Kirinyaga county, where more than 20 people lost their lives to illicit toxic brew, at least four of the fatalities were women.

A few other women, among them a grandmother lost their sight as a result of consuming the drink laced with ethanol.

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Ambassador Stephen Ndung'u Karau is one of the founding directors of the CKDN.

At the online meeting held on International Women's day last Friday, he congratulated women because of their nurturing role in the society and called on them to help in the fight against alcoholism that has ravaged the Mt. Kenya region.

He asked women to ensure good nutritious meals to their spouses and children struggling with alcoholism before and after rehabilitation.

Dr. Michael Mugo who is the acting Chief Executive Officer of CKDN observed that though some women have been blamed for making the killer brew, they could play a significant role in education and stigma reduction.

"Prevention has to start early in life and women are the majority teachers at the young age and can play an important role in nurturing a society of non-drunkards at that point," he said.

He said that women can dissuade this menace of alcohol abuse. The caregivers can start it off by talking to their children at an early age. They can also create a conducive environment for alcoholics undergoing

rehabilitation by reducing stigma.

He said that women play a bigger role in care giving and feeding other family members and ensuring good nutrition is important for such family members.

Meet Ann Mathu, a recovering alcoholic now 18 years sober, and founder of "Sober Again Outreach Program. She works as a recovery coach for alcoholics in Murang'a County. Ann has authored a book 'Sober Again' where she shares her personal experience in alcoholism-the good, the bad and the ugly and how she managed to get out of the killer drink alive. In the online meeting, Ann said she abused alcohol for more than two decades.

"I started drinking at the age of ten years. I learned it from my dad who used to drink; and alcohol was also readily available around us," she said.

The drinking continued to a point where she would sneak alcohol to school. She was a bright girl who was studying at the famous Bishop Gatimu Ngandu Girls in Nyeri County.

Discipline and performance go hand in hand.

And because of her drinking, she never scored good grades to enable her pursue university education even as nearly all her classmates made it to campus. She enrolled at the then Kenya Polytechnic where besides studying got engaged in some extra curricula activities such as beauty competition.

She made good money that further pushed her into more drinking.

Fate is never kind, and she became pregnant forcing her to drop out of college. Ann's life kept deteriorating when she did not have money and found herself indulging in second-generation alcohol whose content may be questionable.

She wasted her youth and led a very miserable life.

An old friend got her out of a drinking den to a rehabilitation center where she decided she had enough of drinking and was driven by the joy of sobriety. She has remained sober for 18 years to date and is near celebrating her 60th birthday soon.

Caroline Gathii is a founder and Chief Executive Officer of 'First Idea Consulting Limited.'

She focused on how women empowerment leads to reduction or elimination of alcohol and drug abuse and contributes towards a prosperous wealthy and healthy community.

She attributes her stable life to her mum who was a teacher and had a great influence on her life.

"You can become anything you want to be by having your own money and doing something about any situation you may find yourself in", her mother used to tell her.

Caroline identifies her mother as the best role model and mentor she

has ever had in her life. Her mother insisted that a man will respect any woman if she had her own money. This background prepared Caroline for her future even at the point when her husband became a drunkard who lived a carefree life.

She sorted all the bills and paid school fees for their children. She attributed her success to her mother.

Caroline has passed on all the lessons from her mum to her children. She concurs with Dr. Mugo that women have a role in shaping the future of their children and encouraging them to soldier on with life.

She advises women and girls to always seek solutions to any challenges they may encounter without pitying themselves and indulging in alcoholism; this can only cause more problems.

She talked about some of the local initiatives that are empowering women at the grassroots. She cited the "Thogithi Handmade Community" in Laikipia which gives women a forum to earn some income.

Members of this group are women between the ages of 44-73 years.

Another initiative she discussed was the "Ushanga Kenya" which was started in 2017 for the pastoralists women, majority of whom do not own much. It has a membership of 100,000 who earn an income on their own to meet personal needs.

They have a website which makes it easier for them to sell their products online, locally and internationally. They are using local resources to spur economic activity.

Their website has stories of how the "Ushanga Kenya" initiative has turned into a game changer enabling them to smoothly send their children to school.

There are many income-generating activities that women can engage in to meet their needs and support their families.

Caroline's message to women and men alike is that opportunity has no gender as each gender can thrive in any business. Referring to the bible, she quoted Luke 9:1-2 which says; "When Jesus had called the twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick."

She believes women have the ability to help the society heal from ills such as alcoholism and should utilize this God-given ability to benefit all in society.

The author; Ann Mikia is a professional associate of CKDN, and an accredited solutions journalism trainer who has many years of experience in training health journalists. annmikia@gmail.com

Government To Work With Religious Leaders In Fight Against Alcoholism, Drug Abuse - Gachagua

By: DPCS

The government will involve the Church and Religious leaders in the ongoing nationwide crackdown on illicit brews and drug abuse, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has said.

Speaking yesterday, Gachagua stated that the task requires concerted effort.

The Deputy President also appealed to families not to hide their alcohol-addicted kin adding that the multi-agency crackdown will be intensified.

He said the government will kick off the engagement with religious leaders on their involvement in the war against the illicit alcohol menace, drugs and substance abuse.

“We need you and your participation, the government cannot win this war alone. Soon we will start engagements with spiritual leaders to deliberate on how we can win the war. The role of the Church is key to the sanity of this nation,” he told the Clergy.

He stated that illegal alcoholic drinks, drugs and substance abuse posed a serious problem with overwhelming effects on the social and economic development of the nation.

“Almost every family is affected by alcoholism and has suffered the brunt of the menace. We urge families to speak out,” said the Deputy President

at Kangurwe village, Mukurwe-ini Constituency, Nyeri County during the burial of Joseph Mwangi Muiga (Dereva), 83, a father of Embakasi Central MP Benjamin Gathiru Mejja Donk’s father.

“We have agreed with President William Ruto and Interior Cabinet Secretary Prof Kithure Kindiki that the government has to save the country from destruction by illegal alcohol drinks and drugs. The stringent measures deployed by the government in the crackdown are to restore the building of the economy and save generation,” he stated.

He added that the havoc caused by illicit brews and drug abuse is borne by families whose loved ones have suffered illnesses, reduced income and family breakages.

The Deputy President was joined by over 50 political leaders including Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, area MP John Kaguchia, Nyeri deputy governor David Kinaniri, Senators Wahome Wamatinga (Nyeri), Eddy Oketch (Migori) and Edwin Sifuna (Nairobi), Jubilee Party Leader Sabina Chege and EALA member Kanini Kega.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and other mourners in Mukurwe-ini during the burial of Mzee Joseph Mwangi Muiga, a father to Embakasi Central MP Benjamin Gathiru MejjaDonk yesterday.

He asked Governor Sakaja to continue working with all leaders for the development of the capital city.

“The Mt Kenya people voted for you as a man. Work with them and protect their businesses. If there are any changes, engage the people before affecting the changes. Mt Kenya people are dependable, cultivate good relationships with them and be with them. They are not complicated,” he told the governor.

Members of Parliament Wambugu Wainaina (Othaya), Mary Wamaua (Maragua), Babu Owino (Embakasi East), Mark Mwenje (Embakasi West), Njuguna Kiara-ho (Ol Kalou), George Gachagua (Ndaragwa), Amos Mwago (Starehe), Mugambi Rindikiri (Buuri), James Gakuya (Embakasi North), Githua Wamacukuru (Kabete) and Phelix Jalang’o (Lang’ata) as well as former MPs led by Charles Jaguar Kanyi (Starehe) and several MCAs among other leaders were also present.

The leaders praised the Deputy President for leading the war on the illegal brews, the reforms in the agricultural sector and for uniting Mt Kenya leaders.

“Though I belong to the Jubilee Party, I support your efforts in uniting Mt Kenya region. We must have a unity of purpose so that we can develop. We are happy with your work,” said Starehe MP Amos Mwago.

The Deputy President conveyed



Embakasi Central MP Benjamin Gathiru MejjaDonk addressing mourners in his Mukurwe-ini home yesterday.

President William Ruto’s condolences to the family and eulogised Mr Muiga as an industrious hard-working man.

“Losing a parent is not an easy thing. We feel your pain and we pray to God to comfort you. Muiga was

an industrious man, who supported others and assisted other people to rise in business and built a good family foundation,” he said.

Mr Gachagua commended Muiga for mentoring and involving his children in his businesses.

Worth Noting:

- “We need you and your participation, the government cannot win this war alone. Soon we will start engagements with spiritual leaders to deliberate on how we can win the war. The role of the Church is key to the sanity of this nation,” he told the Clergy.
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Impact Your Outside From Within Pt 4



By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

I want to let you know, “God is NOT LIMITED, but the limitation you have is the power at work within you.” If you desire the greatness of God, you should depend on the deposit YOU HAVE ALLOWED God to make in your life! Consider Luke 17: 20-21 “Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, “The kingdom of God does not come with observation; 21 nor will they say, ‘See here!’ or ‘See there!’ For indeed, THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU.” The Israelites, amongst them being the Pharisees expected a military liberator (“ messiah”) who would liberate them from the oppression from other nations, that is why they rejected

Christ Jesus: they could not understand Him, and the kind of liberation He had brought!

In Corinthians 4:20 “For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.” This in essence means we have a measure of God’s power within us, and we live in a world with powers. So, what will determine if you will overpower these powers of the world, is the MAGNITUDE OF THE POWER OF GOD in you. Those with the greatest magnitude of the power of God within them, go through this life OVERCOMING obstacles, limitations, mountains, and so forth. Consider Acts 10: 38 “ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH POWER, Who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, FOR GOD WAS WITH HIM.” There is a change you can bring within you, that can transform the outside in mighty way.

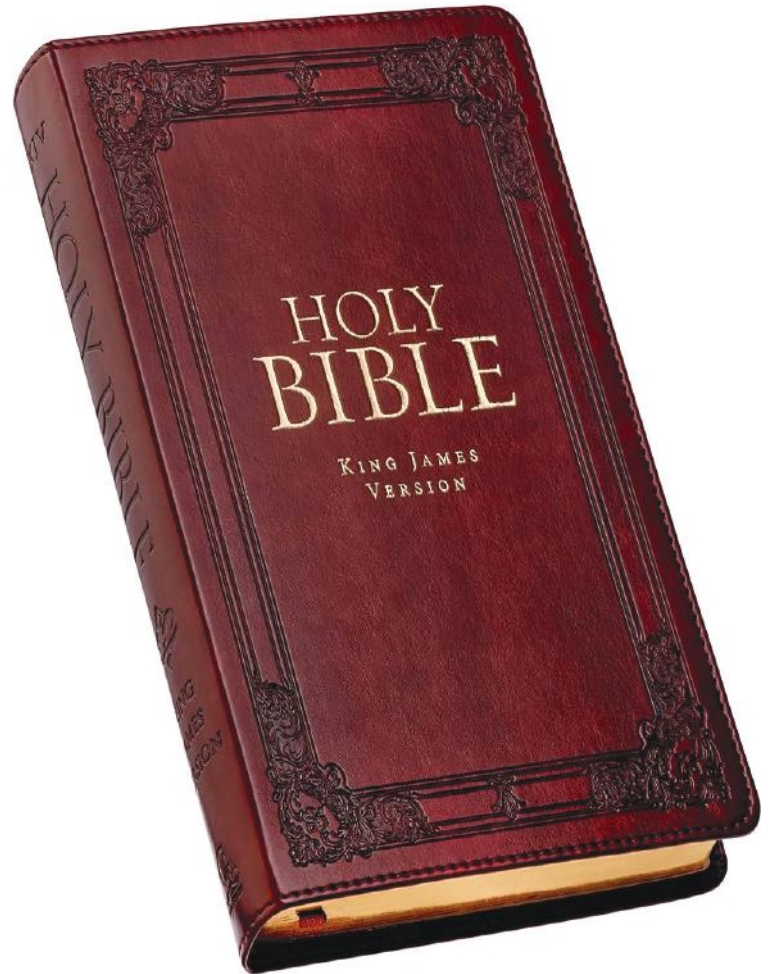
Another example is Isaiah(Chapter 1-6) who had not so a successful ministry at first. But we see him later saying “in the year king Uzziah died, I saw the Lord,” We see God engag-

ing him, and let him know what was the problem: his tongue. We see God touching him with tongs of fire, sanctifying/ purifying him from within; and he was transformed into a mighty prophet we know to this day. The secret today: “ the change starts from within, and you are going to see the change from without.”

HALELUJAH. GLORY BE TO GOD FOREVER.

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.



The Unique Islam



By: Kholturayeva Ugilyov Urol
@themtkenyatimes

The religion of Islam is a set of divine religious laws published by God through Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W). This religious culture, collected in many sacred books, developed over 1400 years. The religion of Islam teaches a person to believe in Allah, his laws and the prophet Muhammad (S.A.V), and by doing so, serve to achieve happiness in this world and in the hereafter . The main sources of Islam are three: Quran, Sunnah and hadith. The Qur’an is God’s divine .

Words of Muhammad (S.A.W) are a pillar for every Muslim and the foundation of Islam. Sunnah refers to actions developed based on the life and sayings

of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W). Hadiths are statements about the sayings and deeds of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).

The religion of Islam, as described, consists of basic actions such as faith, prayer, fasting, zakat and giving. Through these actions, a person gets closer to Allah and gets rid of darkness, evil and destruction. The religion of Islam includes indicators that are against human health, goodness and respect. The teachings of Islam influence people’s outlook and behavior. In Islam, we are taught to respect everything created by Allah .

That is why issues such as respect for the environment, animal rights, and people’s respect for each other are included in the teachings of Islam. Therefore, the influence of the religion of Islam on believers is very wide. Teachings of Islam help to develop the moral, spiritual and behavior of believers and help people to perform well in social relations, environmental problems and other areas...

It is a religious system based on the Qur’an and the Prophet’s words and actions, which were revealed to Muhammad (S.A.W). Islam offers teachings to believers to ensure the happiness of this world and the hereafter, to support the

moral and spiritual perfection of people, and to ensure the peace of society.

The life of the Islamic religion is to believe in Allah, the prophets It consists of basic teachings such as praying to angels, destiny, the afterlife, prayer, fasting, zakat, pilgrimage, and other prayers. The future role of Islam for society and humanity is very important, and Muslims play an important role in important development directions in the world continues to play.

Currently, it is known that there are 4 ancient copies of Mushaf in the Islamic world. One of them is the original copy kept in Madina, and in Islamic sources it is mentioned with the name “Imam”. The second copy is in the Kaaba, the third copy it is stored in the Egyptian National Library in Cairo. The fourth one is preserved in the Museum of the History of the Peoples of Uzbekistan in Tashkent, and in early 1989 it was transferred to the Religious Office of the Muslims of Uzbekistan ... We must respect Islam and , most importantly , we must be able to feel it!

[Kholturayeva Ugilyov daughter of Urol]



The Petitioners Challenging The New Affordable Housing Bill Stands No Chance Of Winning Their Case



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



I have read the grounds cited by the petitioners challenging the newly enacted New Affordable Housing Bill.

This comes just a few days after President William Ruto signed the Bill into law.

These grounds are not new. They had been factored in similar cases filed earlier but the petitioners failed to convince the judges.

Consequently, the courts ruled in favor of the counter-suits filed by the government of Kenya.

The same courts will hear the new petitions. The judges are always guided by the law, constitution.

So, you would not expect them to contradict their earlier rulings.

The petitioners want Kenyans to believe that the affordable housing project is a function of the county governments.

But those who understands the law would disagree. The petitioners are taking Kenyans for a ride.

The function of housing is a shared responsibility between the national government and counties. This new law have addressed this issue.

After the president discharged his constitutional mandate and signed the new Affordable Housing Bill into law, one of the mainstream print media houses published a story titled 'Ruto has his way'.

I'm sure many would agree with me that this headline was totally misleading.

It is the people of Kenya who had won but not President William Ruto.

Let me explain why? The plan to rollout affordable housing was one of the key highlights of Kenya Kwanza manifesto.

During the campaigns, Dr William Ruto, the coalition's presidential candidate, minced no word in assuring Kenyans that he would implement this plan to the letter and spirit.

If Kenyans were opposed to this plan one would not have expected them to elect Dr William Ruto.

The new Bill had been enacted by parliament as required by the law. The State had earlier scored big after it managed to convince the benches of the High Court and Court of Appeal to struck out the petitions filed by those opposed to the Housing plan.

This had demonstrated the commitment of President William Ruto to walk the talk. His fidelity to the constitution has up to date remained beyond reproach.

As law making body, parliament kicked off the process by conducting public participation. After collecting and collating the views of the public, the relevant house committees drafted the bill. The bill later sailed through. Of 199 members present,

141 voted in support of the bill while 66 rejected it.

As required by the law, the bill have since been forwarded to the Senate for concurrence. It is now a new law after the President assented to it

I had earlier written an opinion piece in this column. These were my observations.

Just like his predecessors, President William Ruto is leaving nothing to chance in building and unveiling his legacy projects.

There is no doubt that the affordable housing plan is his signature legacy project.

One can therefore understand why the president would not take it lightly the initial move by the high court to suspend the implementation of the plan

He stated that this was the work of my political opponents. They are hellbent on sabotaging and derailing my development agenda.

The corrupt judicial officers were helping them to have thier way after bribing and compromising them.

Their machinations are bound to fail.

A few days later, the President held a meeting with Chief Justice Martha Koome and Speaker of national assembly Moses Wetangula. The Speaker joined them later.

Sources indicated that the President took unprecedented move when he declassified some intelligence reports which he shared with CJ. He disclosed that corrupt judges were working hand in hand with corrupt and rogue lawyers.

As the CJ, the buck stops with you. The people of Kenya expects you to tame members of your team. The corrupt riddled judges must be shown the door.

On his part, the President assured the CJ of his commitment to eradicate corruption in the executive.

The three-judge bench of Court of Appeal had earlier ruled in favor of an application filed by Treasury Cabinet Secretary Njuguna Ndungu.

The bench had upheld the High Court order allowing the government to continue collecting the housing levy until an appeal is heard and determined.

The matter is still pending in court. So, the change of heart by the bench was bound to raise queries. Was the decision based on law or it was an escalation of the ongoing war. What has changed?

It is worth noting that when the two bulls fight, it is the grass that suffers. So, in this case, it is the people of Kenya.

The earlier decision of the court of appeal was yet another setback to Senator Okiya Omtata and other activists who had moved to court seek-

ing to stop the government from collecting the housing levy. This is until their case is heard and determined.

The petitioners' key prayers was. The court should declare the levy unconstitutional and illegal.

They would not however convince the judges that they had a strong and watertight case. This is because the case was not anchored on the provisions of the constitution and other written laws of Kenya that were relevant and well grounded.

I had earlier listened to President William Ruto's interview when he hosted journalists from different media houses at State House Nairobi. The President minced no word in responding to all the issues and questions raised.

One of the journalist told him. You rode to power on a platform of promising to respect and uphold the constitution and other laws of the land but today you are doing the opposite.

He cited the housing levy. The court declared this law unconstitutional but we have been hearing you maintaining that the levy is there to stay.

The President told him. What you are saying is not true. I have been walking the talk in terms of respecting the constitution and decisions of the courts.

On housing levy, you the people of the media are to blame for misinterpreting that ruling. The problem of unconstitutional was indeed created by you.

That is not what the bench of the three judges stated. The bench only took issue with what they termed as discriminative aspects of the law.

This is because it is only employed people whose salaries were being subjected to a deduction of 1.5 per cent.

The Judges heard our prayers and allowed the government to continue collecting the levy until January next year. This will give you an opportunity to review and align this law. You would not have expected the judges to do this if the housing levy is unconstitutional.

When the judges delivered the ruling, President William Ruto stated. We believe in the rule of law. So, my government will fully comply with the orders issued.

We will take the necessary steps to ensure this law is aligned. Dr Ruto reiterated this during interview. He said that the majority leader Kimani Ichungwah have already drafted the bill and presented it to parliament.

The president further stated. The housing plan is a noble idea whose time has come. As I speak, It has created 120,000 jobs. The job opportunities are set to increase to 200,000 and 500,000 in coming days.

The mega project resonated very well with Ruto's concept of bottom up economic model. It is designed to address two main challenges: joblessness and lack of decent houses.

The President announced that 250,000 affordable housing units will be constructed in the first phase.

At one point during a visit to Busia county, he told the 'hustlers'.

The housing project is being op-

posed by those employed who received a payslip every month.

They do not want 1.5 per cent to be deducted from thier salaries.

The same case applies to the top leaders of the Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Opposition coalition.

Each one pockets a pension of more than 1 million from the National Treasury every month.

These are the same personalities who say they love you and were ready to die for you. Really, do they?

When they oppose a deduction of 1.5 percent from thier payslips, what message are they sending?

They don't care. They want you to continue being poor and to live in a state of desperation and hopelessness.

At the time, the Affordable Housing Plan was one of the proposals contained in the controversial Finance Bill 2023.

The 'Hustlers' (those without a payslips) had been excluded. The judges now say this is discriminatory.

President Ruto has been reiterating the affordable housing plan is a game-changer. For the first time in our history, the sons and daughters of the hustlers will own decent houses.

This will elevate them to the class of the wealthier and rich families.

Initially Ruto's critics wanted Kenyans to believe that he was forcing the levy down their throat.

I totally disagree. The president had no legal mandate to pass this proposal into law. This power is exercised by parliament.

For starters, the government is made up of three main arms: parliament, executive and Judiciary.

Though each is independent, the law requires them to always embrace the principle of interdependence and complementarity.

Majorly, the role of a member of Parliament is three pronged: Legislation, oversight and representation.

The President was in fore front of drumming support for Finance Bill 2023. Does this amount to overstepping his legal mandate? No.

I would have expected Raila to be the last person to oppose this proposal. Why? During the campaigns, the house plan proposal stood out as one of his main election pledges.

If elected President, I will rollout a massive affordable housing plan. Majority of our people, who migrated to urban centers, were living in poor and highly deplorable conditions in slums. 'My government' will build decent houses for them. This is a commitment I have given to you.

Raila would add: A huge chunk of money to build these houses will come from our pockets. He would single out those employed, civil servants, state officers and other workers. The Government will deduct 1.5 per cent from the payslip of each. President Ruto's administration is collecting the same amount.

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

Worth Noting:

- The function of housing is a shared responsibility between the national government and counties. This new law have addressed this issue.
- After the president discharged his constitutional mandate and signed the new Affordable Housing Bill into law, one of the mainstream print media houses published a story titled 'Ruto has his way'.
- I'm sure many would agree with me that this headline was totally misleading.
- It is the people of Kenya who had won but not President William Ruto.
- Let me explain why? The plan to rollout affordable housing was one of the key highlights of Kenya Kwanza manifesto.

Education for PWDs Needs A Boost - Pastor Dorcas

By: OSDP

Worth Noting:

- Pastor Dorcas called on Kenyans to show compassion to those with disabilities.
- “For far too long, people who are differently abled have been looked down upon, forgotten and neglected and sometimes hidden from the public. However, Disability is not inability. We must treat those with disability like we would like to be treated. We must also teach our children to dignify and care for those with disabilities. Let us pass on these life-changing values of compassion and care to the next generation,” she said.
- Senator Allan Chesang proposed the establishment of an ICT hub specially installed to cater for the diverse needs of those with disabilities. He said with the right training, those with disabilities could do great things in information technology and innovation.



The spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi speaks to a child in a wheelchair when she visited those with disabilities at the Precious Kids Centre in Kiminini Constituency in TransNzoia County. Photo/OSDP.

The visit by the spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi to a school of children with disabilities on Wednesday brought into sharp focus the lack of equipped education facilities for those with disabilities in TransNzoia County.

This was during a meeting of those with disabilities at the Precious Kids Centre in Waumini, Kiminini Constituency with 115 children in boarding facilities and 20 who are day scholar learners, and also others from the community with disability attended the event. During the event, 300 children were assessed for disability. There were 205 with physical disabilities, 30 mental disability, 40 autism, 22 Down syndrome, and 10 other chronic diseases.

Pastor Dorcas advocated for schools for those with disabilities to have the right infrastructure to suit their special needs, and also a higher capitation.

“The schools for those with disabilities need higher capitation allocation because the utility of the learners is higher than other children. They also

need the right infrastructure and facilities to suit their needs while in school,” said Pastor Dorcas.

Pastor Dorcas called on Kenyans to show compassion to those with disabilities.

“For far too long, people who are differently abled have been looked down upon, forgotten and neglected and sometimes hidden from the public. However, Disability is not inability. We must treat those with disability like we would like to be treated. We must also teach our children to dignify and care for those with disabilities. Let us pass on these life-changing values of compassion and care to the next generation,” she said.

Senator Allan Chesang proposed the establishment of an ICT hub specially installed to cater for the diverse needs of those with disabilities. He said with the right training, those with disabilities could do great things in information technology and innovation.

Area MCA Lusweti Furaha also decried the lack of a secondary school for those with disabilities in the area,

and the minimal allocation for the education of those with disabilities. TransNzoia Woman Representative Lillian Siyoi agreed with the MCA saying the money allocated to those with disabilities was smaller in comparison to their need. She also called on government to consider allocating a stipend for caregivers of those with disabilities.

“We need to recognize the work done by the caregivers of children with disabilities and allocate them a stipend. Most of them are single mothers whose fathers of their children took off because they bore a child with disability. Others are also disabled mothers,” said MP Siyoi.

“TransNzoia needs a vocational centre that can accommodate those with intellectual disability, physical disability and other disabilities after their initial learning so for their skills advancement,” said Director of Disabilities in the County Pamela Akelo. The CEC Health, Pepela Wanjala, said the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) Report indicated the County had 19,000 PWDs, but

only 12,000 were registered according to data in their possession. “We have a plan to do assessment across TransNzoia County and ensure the gap of 7,000 unregistered is filled,” said Mr Wanjala.

Present were the Special Olympics Kenya TransNzoia Team of those with intellectual disabilities led by Rhoda Keitany and National Chairman Thuo Cege, and pupils of ‘Mito-to Vocation for the Visually Impaired Centre’.

The visually impaired pupils presented a song that said, “Opportunity is what I need but not sympathy. The blind in Kenya need opportunity but not sympathy.”

Over 32,000 Students Benefit From Conservancy Bursary

By: Abduba Mamo
@themkenyentimes

Ten conservancies have awarded education bursaries to over 32,000 students from four Northern Kenyan counties.

The Northern Rangeland trust Chief Executive officer Mr. Tom Paul Lalampa said that 65 percent of local people in four counties incurred enormous loss from livestock rearing after drought ravaged their animals last year owing to drought hence the need for support of bright students from poor families in the region.

Speaking at Kambi Garba Catholic mission while presiding over a graduation ceremony of 300 'Jua kali' artisans from Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu and Laikipia courtesy of 'Ufugaji bora Mashinani' programme, Mr. Lalampa said that the herders got trained on how to improve local herds with foreign breeds with view to boost production.

He added that since the start of the

program three years ago the livelihood of the pastoralist communities had changed with application of the modern technologies. The programme has effectively reduced conflicts among local herdsmen, with youth planning events to combat cattle rustling and banditry along highways.

Mr. Lalampa said that the new technologies have created 1,400 jobs and local residents have incomes from various economic activities and also reduced incidents of school dropout and early marriages.

The NRT CEO said that the organization had spent over Sh.800 million in supporting business opportunities for women and youth groups through funding them and educating them on proper management of their trades.

NRT chairman Dr. Kevit Desai said that some 6,000 people had been trained in the business trends with an objective to reduce dependency rate by 30 percent and increase income at household level.

Dr. Desai, former Principal Secretary, stated that the government implemented Technical and Vocational



Some of the beneficiaries.

Education and Training (TVET) programs to equip youth with technical skills for national development.

Hence, The 300 TVET graduates will enhance their living standards by earning income from mobile phone repair, motorbike repair, and livestock

treatment.

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Causes Of Stuttering In Children



By: Zairova Marhabo Yahya

Abstract: This article talks about stuttering in children, its causes, ways to eliminate it, and methods of treatment, some comments are made.

Key words: Stuttering, children, speech therapy, speech apparatus, higher nervous system, stagnation.

Stuttering is a violation of the rhythm and tone of speech as a result of the contraction of the muscles of the speech apparatus. In ancient times, stuttering was considered to be a disease associated with the accumulation of moisture in the brain (Hippocrates) or an incorrect relationship between the parts of the articulatory apparatus (Aristotle). Galen, Celsus and Ibn Sina recognized that during stuttering, there may be a disorder in the central or peripheral (external) parts of the speech apparatus.

According to some authors, it is appropriate to interpret the mechanism of stuttering in early-aged children from the point of view of reactive neurosis and developmental neurosis (V.N. Myasishev, 1960). Reactive neurosis in development is understood as a disorder of higher nervous activity. During the period of developing neurosis, pathological stereotypes gradually occur in unfavorable environmental conditions – excessive anger, depression, and weakness. Developmental stuttering appears in the early years of the child, when the “physiological language of the child” is caught, in the process of transition to speech forms with complex phrases.

In childhood, stutterers have sleep disturbances, startles during eye contact, dull, restless, superficial sleep, and night terrors. Older stutterers try to associate these experiences with a speech disorder. The idea that it is broken causes persistent behavior in connection with persistent mood disorders.

N. M. Asatiani, V.G. Kazakov (1967, 1970) and others consider stuttering as a different type of pathological group in their research.

They divide stuttering into 4 groups: residual appearance of central nervous system organic disorders of various genesis; neurotic impairments; psychopathies; Schizophrenia with slow progression.

The child stops more on vowel sounds before saying some words. While saying words and sentences, he is caught by force without realizing it. In addition, they also have internal stuttering. At such a time, the child knows what to say, but cannot say it.

Is speech disorder congenital?

It can be congenital or acquired. It occurs mainly in children aged 2 to 5 years. At the same time, this problem is diagnosed three times more often in boys than in girls.

What can cause the disease?

Genetic predisposition plays an important role in the development of stuttering. However,

women's lack of attention to their health during pregnancy, especially not being fully treated for viral diseases such as flu and colds, taking various drugs arbitrarily, and eating the child's brain during childbirth also cause stuttering in them, it can.

Also:

- severe infectious and endocrine diseases after the birth of the child until the age of three;
- intense fear;
- loud quarrelling of parents in front of their young child;
- physical and mental stress;
- various brain injuries and others also cause this problem.

In addition, strict control in the family and excessive demands on children can also cause them to stutter.

What should be considered to prevent the disease?

Children should not be overburdened with mental burdens, do not memorize long poems, and do not force them to pronounce difficult words and syllables. Even forcing children to learn foreign languages leads to speech disorders.

Long-term practice shows that group, team speech therapy training with stuttering children has justified its positive side. Training with a team creates conditions for all children to work actively. The demands of an individual approach do not mean that the individual is pitted against the team. Perhaps, it is possible to organize team work knowing the capabilities of each child. An individual approach to speech therapy is a deep study of each stuttering child before and during speech therapy, choosing correctional and pedagogical work taking into account their psychological characteristics and speech abilities. The age of the stutterer determines the forms of didactic material and logopedic work. Psychophysical characteristics of pre-school and school-age children, teenagers and adults from a speech therapist, “Education and education in kindergarten” program and game activities; secondly, it requires taking into account the school program and educational activities, and thirdly, various labor activities. Compilation of the speech therapy group is carried out by choosing children of the same age for the group, taking into account the age of stutterers. The presence of stutterers of different ages in the group makes it necessary to use special methods in logopedic work, and in order to eliminate stuttering, it is necessary to change the intensity of the content of pedagogical work. For example, in preschool children, speech exercises in the form of games, educational activities take the main place, and medical treatment takes a lesser place. On the contrary, in adolescents and adults, the main attention is paid to medical treatment means, i.e. psychotherapy (suggestive method) and less pedagogical work. Introduction of the principle of individual approach in logopedic work with stutterers is important in primary and dynamic learning of children (in the course of training).

Jizzakh Pedagogical University named after Abdulla Qodiri, Pedagogy Psychology (deaf pedagogy) 2nd course student
Zairova is the daughter of Marhabo Yahya

Women In Constant Search!



When a person is born, he is formed and matured as a result of the upbringing he received in his home and family. Harmony and peace in the family depend more on the woman. If a woman studies, she will raise well-educated, educated and knowledgeable children. It is not easy to raise children who will contribute to society and the development of the country. For him, the mother herself should be educated, have religious and secular knowledge, be attentive in the process of education, prepare her child for the future. Today, we are glad that we have women who are not only raising their children to be knowledgeable and intelligent, but who continue to search even after the age of fifty, acquire new knowledge and receive awards as a result.

One of our women is our sister Sultanova Shirin, who works as a teacher at school No. 54 of Beruni district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Our hero was interested in art, singing and writing poems from a young age. His poems are regularly published in newspapers and magazines of the district and the republic. From 1986 to the present, more than 60 articles and 30 poems have been published in international and republican newspapers and magazines. Currently, he is teaching fine arts.

Sultanova Shirin on October 20, 2020 in Uzbekistan in connection with the 31st anniversary of the law “On the State Language” and the Uzbek language holiday on October 21 in the Republican contest “Raise my mother tongue”. For winning the first place in the district with the poem “Ona tilim”, Beruniy was awarded

with an honorary certificate and gifts by the district governor. One of the most important achievements of Shirin Sultanova is that on October 1, 2010, she was awarded the badge of the Republic of Karakalpakstan “Excellence of Public Education”.

Recently, he took part in the international forum “Owner of the Golden Pen-2024” held in Samarkand and was awarded with a statuette, a collection of creative works, a certificate and a certificate. The event took place around the festive table in the “Samarkand Palace” restaurant.

The knowledge and thinking of a person who is in search and development grows and gets his place in society. As the number of educated and intelligent women increases, the growing young generation will grow up to be educated, advanced, intelligent. Women in constant search and action are contributing to the development of our society and our country.

Tuliyeva Sarvinoz
Uzbekistan.

Born on November 8, 1999.

Graduated from Alisher Navoi Tashkent State University of Uzbek Language and Literature (2023).

The winner of the state award named after Zulfia (2019).

Participant of the Zomin workshop of young artists (2019)

She is the author of the poetry books “Song of Peace”, “I am a Girl of Truth”, “Morning Poem”. Author of the creative collection “Nurli Izlar”. About 100 creative works have been published in republican and foreign newspapers and magazines.

His creative works and articles have been published in Russia, Turkey, Germany, USA, Kenya, Great Britain.

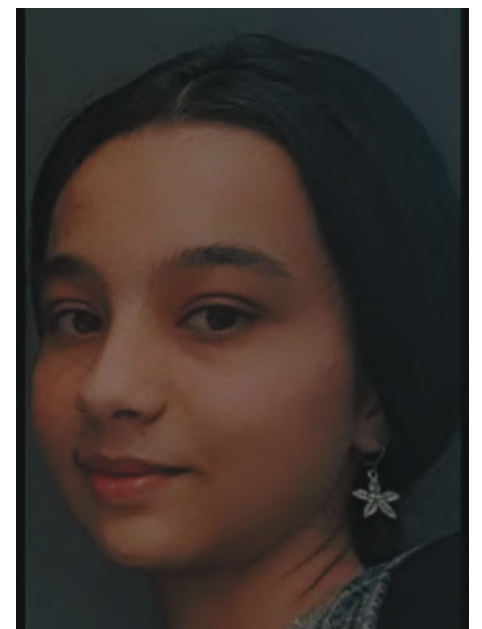
Teacher of native language and literature at Shaikhontohur District Vocational School, Tashkent.

Mom ❤️

Your infinite love like the rays of the sun,
Your words are as sweet as honey.
Your heart is as soft as cotton,
Mommy, you are my wealth.

Your health is my happiness,
Your presence is a great blessing.
It is necessary for me to receive your prayers,
Mommy, you are my wealth.

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



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Mama Rachel Ruto Ground Breaks Softcare Kenya Factory Expansion

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes

The First Lady, Mama Rachel Ruto, has officially launched the construction of a new factory for Softcare Kenya, a manufacturer of personal products, in Athi River, Machakos County.

The expansion aims to triple the production of their softcare brands, double job opportunities, and embrace sustainable production practices, including solar energy.

The First Lady commended the directors of Sunda Group for their investments in manufacturing in Kenya, particularly through their Softcare brand of personal care products and the Twyford brand of flooring tiles.

Mama Rachel Ruto further cited the Sunda Group's dedication to empow-



The First Lady, Mama Rachel Ruto officially launched the construction of a new factory for Softcare Kenya, a manufacturer of personal products, in Athi River, Machakos County.

ering women, with the majority of the workforce in the factory being

female, setting an example for other industries to follow.

The First Lady encouraged organisations in Kenya to be intentional about

gender equity in all spheres of life, giving equal opportunities for women to be uplifted.

She noted, "The growth of the manufacturing sector creates numerous employment and trade opportunities for women. It was a privilege to officially break ground for the construction of the new Softcare factory line in Athi River.

The expansion of the factory promises to further amplify this success by tripling production and doubling job opportunities while embracing sustainable production practices, including solar power. The commitment to uplifting women sets a commendable example for other industries to follow.

I extend heartfelt gratitude to the directors of Sunda Group for the investments in manufacturing, particularly through their Softcare brand of personal care products and the Twyford brand of flooring tiles."

Opportunities For SMES: The Inua Biashara Program Seeks To Transform Lives Of Small Businesses In Kenya

By: John Waithaka
@themkenyatimes

The Inua Biashara Program was launched yesterday at Zetech University Technology Park Mang'u Campus, an upcoming business reality TV program that marks a significant initiative designed to allow entrepreneurs in Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises to pitch their businesses and get financial support while addressing the challenges they face and providing them with a platform for growth and development.

The Inua Biashara Program is a project formed by a consortium of Zetech University, Safaricom PLC, KCB Bank, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Homeboyz PLC, Umbrella TV, Dynamics Marketing Solutions Co. Ltd., and Yali Kenya.

Small and Micro enterprises popularly known as SMEs are the engines of growth, vital to most economies. "Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) are the backbone of the African economy, accounting for the majority of businesses and providing employment opportunities to millions of people.

However, MSMEs in Africa face several challenges that limit their



Zetech University Vice Chancellor and Chair to the consortium, Prof. Njenga Munene

growth and development. These challenges include; inadequate infrastructure, lack of technology and innovation, weak regulatory frameworks, limited access to markets, and limited access to finance." Zetech University Vice Chancellor and Chair to the consortium, Prof. Njenga Munene noted. Prof. Njenga further reiterated that Inua Biashara program is a platform that does not just empower the individual business, but a program that will level the playing field, empowering SMEs, and that Zetech University

will be at the forefront to offer the necessary financial literacy.

Entrepreneurs in small businesses and start-ups, through this program, will get the opportunity to pitch their business, while sourcing finances, market linkages providing access to a wider market, business networks, government services, investors, and sourcing raw materials.

The Inua Biashara partners and stakeholders will help in sponsoring the program. The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Chief Executive Officer Pharmacy and Poisons Board Fred Siyoi makes a presentation

will coordinate the consortium and assist in inviting entrepreneurs and financiers through the Mastercard Jiinue Fund, Safaricom will market program and take part in vetting the entrepreneurs, KCB Bank and Yali Kenya plays a part in offering financial support and advice to entrepreneurs through the Jiajiri Program, Dynamics Marketing Ltd. will on-board sponsors and bring in investors to support entrepreneurs.

MSMEs, SMEs, and Startups can register their business for the Inua Biashara Program on the Inua Biashara Platform, on the Inua Biashara website. "After registering on the application form and submitting, the vetting committee then sits and combs through all the applications; 20 to

30 of the best applications are then picked to come and pitch in person to the panel; afterward, 16 applicants go live on the TV show and express their business needs to the panel, who will then respond with the offer they see fit to the Inua Bashara Program." Mr Dan Miano, from the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, explained.

He further noted that the program is set to be aired on TV countrywide on Sundays from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm on Umbrella TV, Homeboyz TV, NTV, YouTube TV, and other interested stations.

The program is set to officially kick on TV on the 28th of April 2024.



OLDONYO SABUK NATIONAL PARK



Ultimate Panoramic Experience

The Interplay Between Labour Rights And Environmental Rights



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themtkenyatimes



Labour Rights And Environmental Rights.

Worth Noting:

Despite the challenges, the intersection of labor rights and environmental rights also presents significant opportunities for synergy and mutual reinforcement. By adopting an integrated approach to sustainable development that promotes green and inclusive economies, governments and businesses can create pathways for decent work while simultaneously safeguarding the environment and promoting social equity.

Initiatives such as green jobs programs, renewable energy investments, and sustainable agriculture practices not only contribute to environmental sustainability but also generate employment opportunities, improve working conditions, and enhance resilience to environmental shocks.

Moreover, fostering a culture of corporate social responsibility and accountability can incentivize businesses to adopt environmentally sustainable practices and uphold labor standards throughout their supply chains, thereby promoting a more just and sustainable global economy.

The intersection of labor rights and environmental rights is not merely a coincidental overlap but rather an intricately woven tapestry of legal, ethical, and practical dimensions that profoundly influence contemporary discourse on sustainable development and social justice. At its core, this nexus embodies the recognition that human well-being is intimately tied to the health of the planet and the conditions under which individuals engage in productive activities. Labor rights, encompassing fair wages, safe working conditions, and the freedom of association, are inseparable from environmental rights, which demand the preservation of ecosystems, biodiversity, and a clean and healthy environment. Thus, any meaningful exploration of sustainable development must grapple with the interplay between these two fundamental rights.

This article endeavors to critically examine the link between labor rights and environmental rights, recognizing the complex implications, multifaceted challenges, and untapped opportunities inherent in addressing this intersection. One key implication is the recognition that environmental degradation often disproportionately impacts vulnerable communities and marginalized workers, exacerbating social inequalities and perpetuating cycles of poverty. For instance, industries that pollute the environment or degrade natural resources may simultaneously compromise the health and livelihoods of nearby communities and workers, infringing upon their right to a safe and healthy environment as well as their right to dignified work. Therefore, a holistic approach to sustainable development must seek to address the interconnected vulnerabilities of both human communities and the natural environment.

However, addressing the nexus between labor and environmental protections is not without its challenges. One significant challenge lies in reconciling competing interests and priorities, particularly in contexts where economic development may be perceived as being at odds with environmental conservation or labor rights. Striking a balance between economic imperatives, such as job cre-

ation and industrial growth, and environmental sustainability requires innovative policy solutions and collaborative efforts among diverse stakeholders, including governments, businesses, civil society organizations, and international institutions. Moreover, ensuring meaningful participation and representation of affected communities in decision-making processes is essential for fostering inclusive and equitable outcomes that respect both labor and environmental rights.

Despite the challenges, the intersection of labor rights and environmental rights also presents significant opportunities for synergy and mutual reinforcement. By adopting an integrated approach to sustainable development that promotes green and inclusive economies, governments and businesses can create pathways for decent work while simultaneously safeguarding the environment and promoting social equity. Initiatives such as green jobs programs, renewable energy investments, and sustainable agriculture practices not only contribute to environmental sustainability but also generate employment opportunities, improve working conditions, and enhance resilience to environmental shocks. Moreover, fostering a culture of corporate social responsibility and accountability can incentivize businesses to adopt environmentally sustainable practices and uphold labor standards throughout their supply chains, thereby promoting a more just and sustainable global economy.

Historical Context and Evolution of Rights

The historical evolution of labour rights and environmental rights has been intertwined with the rise of industrialization, globalization, and the recognition of human dignity and environmental sustainability. From the early labor movements advocating for fair wages and safe working conditions to the emergence of environmental activism calling for the protection of ecosystems and natural resources, both sets of rights have evolved in response to societal needs and challenges.

Overlapping Concerns and Shared

Goals

Labour rights and environmental rights share common concerns and goals, such as promoting social justice, ensuring health and safety in the workplace, and preserving the natural environment for present and future generations. The exploitation of workers often occurs in environmentally hazardous industries, highlighting the interconnectedness of social and environmental injustices. Addressing these issues requires a holistic approach that considers the interdependence of labour and environmental protections.

Challenges and Conflicts

Despite the shared objectives of labour and environmental rights, conflicts and challenges can arise in practice. For example, economic pressures may lead to the prioritization of profit over worker safety or environmental conservation. Additionally, the transition to sustainable practices may impact labor markets, raising concerns about job security and livelihoods. Balancing these competing interests requires careful consideration of trade-offs and the development of policies that promote both social welfare and environmental sustainability.

Legal Frameworks and International Standards

International legal frameworks, such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions and environmental treaties like the Paris Agreement, provide guidance on upholding labour and environmental rights at the global level. These standards emphasize the importance of integrating social and environmental considerations into policy-making, fostering a more holistic approach to sustainable development. National laws and regulations play a crucial role in implementing these international standards and ensuring compliance at the local level.

Corporate Responsibility and Accountability

The role of corporations in upholding labour and environmental rights cannot be understated. Companies have a responsibility to respect human rights, including the rights of workers and the communities affected by their operations. Environmental stewardship and social responsibility are increasingly becoming core components of corporate governance, reflecting a growing recognition of the interconnectedness of business practices and societal well-being.

Innovative Solutions and Best Practices Innovative solutions and best practices are emerging to address the link between labour rights and environmental rights. Green jobs, for example, promote sustainable employment opportunities that benefit both workers and the environment. Circular economy models aim to minimize waste and maximize resource efficiency, creating a more sustainable and equitable economic system. These

approaches demonstrate the potential for synergies between labour and environmental protections.

Community Engagement and Empowerment

Community engagement and empowerment are essential components of promoting both labour and environmental rights. Meaningful participation of workers, local communities, and marginalized groups in decision-making processes can lead to more inclusive and sustainable outcomes. Empowering individuals to advocate for their rights and participate in environmental stewardship efforts strengthens the social fabric and fosters a sense of ownership over shared resources.

Education and Awareness

Education and awareness play a critical role in advancing the link between labour rights and environmental rights. Building capacity among workers, policymakers, and the public on the importance of sustainable practices, worker protections, and environmental conservation is key to fostering a culture of respect for both human dignity and ecological integrity. By raising awareness and promoting education, societies can cultivate a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of labour and environmental issues.

Policy Recommendations and Future Directions

To enhance the link between labour rights and environmental rights, policymakers should consider integrating social and environmental impact assessments into decision-making processes, promoting green technologies and sustainable practices, and fostering partnerships between government, industry, and civil society. Strengthening enforcement mechanisms, enhancing transparency, and supporting research and innovation are also crucial for advancing the dual objectives of social justice and environmental sustainability.

Conclusion: Towards a Holistic Approach

In conclusion, the link between labour rights and environmental rights underscores the need for a holistic approach to sustainable development that recognizes the interconnectedness of social, economic, and environmental systems. By promoting synergies between labour protections and environmental conservation, societies can strive towards a more equitable, resilient, and sustainable future. Embracing the complexities and challenges inherent in addressing the nexus between labour and environmental rights is essential for fostering a just and sustainable society that upholds the dignity of workers, respects the integrity of ecosystems, and promotes the well-being of present and future generations.

The Writer is a Legal Researcher and Lawyer.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protect Girls Against HIV/AIDS Pandemic

To Protect Everyone's Health, Protect Everyone's Rights.

Globally, each week, 4,000 young women aged 15-24 contract HIV, mainly due to the violation of their rights.

On this Zero Discrimination month, March every year, we reflect on a decade of advocating for everyone's rights to foster healthier communities. The correlation is undeniable: safeguarding health necessitates the protection of rights for all.

A remarkable progress has been witnessed such as the enrollment of an additional 50 million

girls in schools since 2015. Education is crucial, not just for keeping girls in school but also for providing them with vital HIV information and services, which is essential for their health and well-being.

In Kenya, our efforts in combating HIV have seen significant success, with over 1.29 million people receiving antiretroviral therapy out of the 1.38 million living with HIV. Further, between 2021 and 2022, we observed a 36% decline in new HIV infections, although there still were 22,065 new cases in 2022 alone.

Globally, each week, 4,000 young women aged

15-24 contract HIV, mainly due to the violation of their rights. Empowering girls through education significantly reduces their HIV risk. To eliminate AIDS by 2030, we must prioritize the advancement of human rights universally.

In 2023, Kenya faced 18,473 AIDS-related deaths, with women and girls disproportionately impacted. Access to prevention and treatment services remains uneven, especially for men, children, and stigmatized groups, highlighting the need for an inclusive approach.

Success in fighting AIDS correlates with the expansion of human rights and engagement of

marginalized communities in the response.

Kenya's commitment to ending AIDS by 2027 sets a precedent for achieving the global target by 2030. This political will is crucial for ensuring an inclusive fight against AIDS.

"Our goal towards Universal Health Coverage, with human rights at its core, is fundamental in our quest to end AIDS," Dr Mefhin Tschaiu, UNAIDS Country Director.

*By Collins Simiyu
RONGO UNIVERSITY*

Road Accidents In The Country

Road accidents in the country have caused immense pain to many families, leaving children orphaned, others widowed and whole families deprived of their sole breadwinners, not to forget the thousands of others left with lifelong injuries that remind them of their near brush with death.

More than Ten Kenyatta University students who were from a health tour in Mombasa died due to road accidents in Voi this week and it is said that the bus failed to break. This is a sign of unroadworthy vehicle being used on the way. At this time, it is good that the unroadworthy vehicles should not be allowed to operate.

NTSA estimates that 3,000 Kenyans die from road accidents every year – costing the country anywhere between 3-5 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). 83 percent of the fatalities were men, with individuals aged between 30-34 years being most at risk, thus robbing the country of a very productive age bracket. This can affect the county's development plan as the most energetic people who can work hard to improve living standards die and no one to replace them easily. NTSA revealed that losing control was one of the main causes of road crashes, accounting for 929 deaths. Cause not traced accounted for 575 road deaths followed by lane indisci-

pline at 491. Overtaking improperly led to 443 accidents while misjudging clearance, distance, or speed resulted in 310 deaths.

According to World health organization, road traffic injuries cause considerable economic losses to individuals, their families, and to nations as a whole. These losses arise from the cost of treatment as well as lost productivity for those killed or disabled by their injuries, and for family members who need to take time off work or school to care for the injured. Road traffic crashes cost most countries 3% of their gross domestic product.

Globally, Every year the lives of approximately

1.19 million people are cut short as a result of a road traffic crash. Between 20 and 50 million more people suffer non-fatal injuries, with many incurring a disability.

To avoid all these, drivers and road users should avoid overspeeding, ensure safety belts are used, avoid driving when drunk or drinking, follow traffic rules and regulations and also drive responsibly. Also they should not use unroadworthy vehicles to put at risk the lives of people.

*Written by Collins simiyu
RONGO UNIVERSITY student*

KAPI & MEDAK Convene For A Two-Day Workshop On Regulatory Processes

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyattimes

Kenya Association of Pharmaceutical Industry (KAPI) and the Medical Technology Industry Association of Kenya (MEDAK) have convened a workshop to help pharmaceutical players, including professionals and regulators shape best practices for post-approval processes. The workshop aims to strengthen regulatory frameworks and identify operational gaps that hinder reliable access to medicines, leading to prolonged shortages of critical medicines, and causing stress on the health systems.

The event was graced by Dr. Fred Siyoi, CEO Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), Dr. Tom Menge, CS Ministry of Health representative

(The Chief Pharmacist and Head, Directorate of Health Products and Technologies, State Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health, Kenya) with KAPI Chairperson, Dr. James Mokoro and Dr. Steven Kipkoti, Chairperson – MEDAK officially opening the workshop on Post Approval Changes.

In line with the Government's commitment towards the realization of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), reliance access to safe, effective, and quality medicines and health technologies is a critical priority. This is within the mandate of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), the government regulatory agency that receives applications from manufacturers or their representatives to register and allow for distribution and use in the country. One of the regulatory processes involved in

ascertaining the quality and safety of these products is post-approval changes, which include all changes that may happen during the lifecycle of medicine from the first registration. These include but are not limited to changes in manufacturing sites, equipment, source of raw materials or any other changes that may occur on the product lifecycle. Unless these are reviewed, evaluated, and considered satisfactory to the country's regulatory requirements, they cannot be implemented.

Training is part of the capacity-building initiatives aimed at reducing delays in processing these changes, which pose a risk, especially where manufacturers do not get approvals in time, hence affecting the supply of medicines, medical devices, and health technologies in the country. These delays result



Participants pose for a photo at the workshop

in patients not getting their medicines, medical devices, and health technologies in time-critical for their treatment. Considering global best practices, which include the use of reliance – a process where one regulator considers the review

done by another regulator from a different country to decide whether to approve such a change. Training increases knowledge to ensure such risks are effectively managed.

KSh5 Billion Lost As Ethiopian Bank's Technical Glitch Lets Customers Withdraw Millions That Isn't Theirs

By: Kenneth Gachie
@themkenyatimes

Ethiopia's largest bank is struggling to recoup millions of dollars after a glitch allowed customers to withdraw unlimited funds, according to local media reports.

More than \$40 million (about KSh5 billion) was reportedly withdrawn from the state-owned Commercial Bank of Ethiopia or transferred to other banks, as customers discovered they could withdraw more than their total balance.

Transactions were, however, halted several hours later.

Local media reported that long lines formed at cash machines across Ethiopia after the problem was discovered at the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, with people patiently waiting for hours to make withdrawals totalling into millions.

News of the weekend technical glitch was spread on social media mainly by university students, who



withdrew much of the money, said the bank's CEO, Abe Sano.

The bank has not said how much was withdrawn, but Abe told reporters that half a million transactions were made during the glitch.

A local newspaper reported that \$42 million (more than KSh5 billion) was lost.

The bank's President Abie Sano admitted to a press conference that a large portion of the cash was with-

drawn by students also urging them to return the cash.

Several universities also urged students to return cash that isn't theirs, and Sano reportedly told a press conference that anybody who returns the

money will not be criminally prosecuted.

In a post on X, the CBE confirmed the service interruption but denied that it was the result of a cyber attack. It added that its ATM services were now "fully operational."

Ethiopia's central bank, which oversees its financial sector, said in a statement that the interruption was a result of system security checks and "not an incident that endangers the bank, its customers and the entire financial system."

In an interview with the BBC's Newsday programme on Wednesday, CBE president Abe Sano said the bank would take legal action against those who do not give back the funds by the end of the week.

"There is no way that they can escape because they are digital transactions and they are our customers. We know them. They are traceable and they are legally accountable for what they did," he said.

CBE, established 82 years ago, serves over 38 million account holders.



CLARIFICATION

There have been reports in the media that KTDA CEO Wilson Muthaura is among the litigants challenging tea reforms. This information is erroneous and misleading. The CEO has never filed any case challenging the 2020 Tea Reforms.

KTDA Corporate Communications

21st March 2024

Inspiring Change By Supporting The Mental Needs Of Campus Mothers



Marion on her way to class.

By: Victor Ouko
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

I could not attend classes for two months since I had not fully recovered, at times some lecturers threatened that I would retake the course due to prolonged absenteeism.

I was at times forced to introduce my child to bottle milk at a tender age because I could attend part time classes for long hours which translated to other expenses.

Many girls fall pregnant in the course of their studies and this interferes with their academics. Some are forced to retake courses whereas some fail to finish school.

As the world continues to move towards a more inclusive society, the role of women has evolved significantly. Women are now taking on more leadership roles, pursuing higher education, and even balancing the demands of motherhood with the pursuit of their education.

For many, it is a daily struggle and a challenge that they are determined to overcome but for the campus mothers, it's a way of life. Depression aside, the moment they face reality that they are soon going to become parents, everything changes so abruptly and stigma hits even harder. Things sound much worse if at all they were raised by harsh or strict parents. They gradually begin losing the courage of facing their parents or guardians and to some, the family gap starts widening. Some automatically feel like they are a disgrace to their families and the society at large.

Many a time's parents always find themselves in a critical state of joy and sorrow whenever their children qualify to join campus. For many reasons, they tend to make a series of congratulatory notes, buy gifts and even host celebrations. Relatives get notified about the success of their nephews and nieces and they even initiate them with names such as: 'daktari' or 'rubani'.

That takes the joyful part of it, forgetting that their sons and daughters can as well push them to a sorrowful end full of regrets. Rarely do they remember that they are in the realm of getting sur-

prised with poor grades or a grandchild from their children on campus.

That notwithstanding, being a campus mother is no easy feat. While most college students are worried about their grades, exams, and social lives, student parents have to juggle between academic responsibilities and parenting duties, often feeling overwhelmed and isolated.

Many university students often find themselves in the family way after conception and they begin thinking of better ways of raising their children after delivery. However, the challenges faced by parents on campus is an issue that should never be understated.

Marion, 21, a student at Rongo University narrates her painful story of how she got pregnant immediately after joining campus. For Marion, the struggle of balancing motherhood and studies was a constant battle. Marion had enrolled in a degree program after her secondary education, determined to provide a better life for her family.

However, her plans were interrupted when she unexpectedly became pregnant with her firstborn child. "I was barely 19 when I realized I had conceived. At first, I thought my periods were playing a trick on me but after two months, I decided to go for a pregnancy test so as to be sure of my weird condition.

Under close supervision of my friend, we took the self-test kit and eventually the results turned out to be positive. I felt like I could lose my mind because I had graduated into another stage in life.

That I will soon have a kid. I immediately took a shot of the results and sent it to my boyfriend who was also a student in another university. I kept checking my phone for any response, but there was none. I tried to reach out for him only to find out that he had blocked me.

He then responded to my WhatsApp message the next day and all he could say was, 'OK'. That reply was a clear indication that I was alone in this. I really couldn't understand what he meant by that, whether he had accepted the pregnancy or he could deny it. We stayed for two weeks without any communication.

He later called me and suggested, no, insisted on taking an abortion. That alone shocked more than amazed me. I fell into a depression stage for two months. All I did was to cry everyday whenever it crossed my mind that I was expectant. Rarely did I eat. I was in a dilemma, I lost weight, became an introvert and had low self-esteem. The main puzzle was how I could face my furious father with the news that he least expected," says Marion.

Marion was overjoyed to have a child, but the reality of being a student parent was overwhelming. She had to attend classes, complete assignments, and take exams while taking care of her child's needs. Marion often found herself staying up late into the night, trying to complete her coursework while her child slept. Despite her efforts, Marion's grades suffered, and she found herself struggling to keep up with her

classmates. She felt like she was failing both as a student and as a mother, and the stress and anxiety were taking a toll on her mental health.

Marion was not alone in her struggles. Across campus, other campus mothers were facing similar challenges. They too had to deal with the guilt of not being able to spend enough time with their children while trying to complete their degrees. They had to sacrifice their leisure time to meet their obligations, often feeling like they were missing out on the college experience.

Being a campus student, she tried all she could to take good care of herself and the fact that she had strict parents made her reveal her pregnancy two weeks before delivery. This becomes a challenge to most girls who stumble along their academic journey and some opt to keep off from home.

"I called my dad on the very day of delivery just to keep him informed because he had been mad at me since the day I broke the news to him. However, I developed complications after giving birth. I faced several challenges having given birth for the first time. I didn't know what to do whenever the baby cried, I was in a quandary because different people advised me differently so I couldn't take sides. I did not attend classes for two months since I had not fully recovered, at times some lecturers threatened that I would retake the course due to prolonged absenteeism because there was no daycare facility around," Marion reveals.

Through the support of her fellow campus mothers, Marion found the strength to keep going. She began to attend study groups with other student parents, sharing tips and tricks on how to balance academics and parenting. She also began to take advantage of the university's support systems, which helped to ease some of the burden of motherhood and studies.

According to Mr Benson Asugo, the Dean of students at Rongo University, "we are concerned about the academic life as well as the students' lives outside class. We don't hesitate offering solutions if our students are getting weighed down with personal and emotional issues such as health, accommodation, catering and general welfare that can interfere with their studies. However, many girls fall pregnant in the course of their studies and this interferes with their academics. Some are forced to retake courses whereas some fail to finish school but the office of the dean is primarily concerned with students' welfare from the time they enter into the university to the time they graduate," he says.

Despite these challenges, Marion was determined to pursue her studies and provide a better life for her family. She found creative ways to balance academic and parenting responsibilities, such as studying at night after her child has gone to bed or bringing her child to class with her.

"I was at times forced to introduce my child to bottle milk at a tender age because I could attend part time classes

for long hours which translated to other expenses because the kid could have diarrhea after consuming the bottle milk. This was a challenge to me because I had no money to cater for my child's hospital bills since my boyfriend had neglected his responsibility and I was forced to ask for financial aid from people who were also not willing to help back at home," remarks Marion.

Mr Tobias Maina (not his real name), a medical expert, reveals his experience with students who seek services at the school facility. "At our university clinic, we have seen the firsthand challenges faced by campus mothers. These challenges can have impacts on their health and wellbeing, both physically and mentally.

One of the most significant challenges faced by campus mothers is the lack of access to affordable childcare. This can lead to stress, anxiety, and sleep deprivation, all of which can have a negative impact on a mother's physical and mental health. Many campus mothers also struggle with financial constraints, which can make it difficult for them to access healthcare services and support systems.

Another challenge is the lack of support from family members and partners. This can lead to social isolation and feelings of loneliness, which can also have a negative impact on mental health. Additionally, the stigma associated with motherhood and education can lead to feelings of shame and inadequacy, which can also impact a mother's self-esteem and overall wellbeing," he says.

Responding to another question during the interview, Tobias had the following to say, "Universities can take several steps to better support campus mothers. For example, they can create support groups and mentorship programs for campus mothers to help them connect with other mothers facing similar challenges. Additionally, they can work to reduce the stigma associated with motherhood and education by promoting a culture of inclusivity and support for all students, regardless of their parenting status. Overall, it is essential for universities to recognize and address the unique challenges faced by campus mothers and provide the necessary support and resources to help them achieve academic success while maintaining their health and wellbeing."

As the semester drew to a close, Marion looked back at her journey with a sense of pride and accomplishment. She had overcome the challenges of motherhood and studies, proving that anything is possible with hard work and determination. While the journey was tough, the lessons she learned and the connections she made with other campus mothers were invaluable. Marion now looks forward to the future, confident that she can achieve anything she sets her mind to.

Matatu Owners Association Back Govt Crackdown To Curb Road Carnage

By: John Kariuki

@themtkenyatimes

The Public Transport sector has underscored and backed the clarion call by the Government to fight road carnage. Speaking at a press conference at Matatu Owners Association (MOA) offices, MOA CEO Patricia Mutheu said that there is a need for consultative discussions with Public Service Vehicle industry players to address concerns.

Two Cabinet Secretaries (Kipchumba Murkomen – Transport and Kithure Kindiki (interior) have ordered a crackdown on Public Service Vehicles (PSV) following the regrettable accidents that have occurred lately.

Matatu Owners Association has responded to the recent crackdowns on vehicles deemed unroadworthy which are the cause of road accidents. 1.5 million Vehicles were to undergo inspection last year but only 300,000 were inspected according to the Road Safety Association of Kenya, 1.2 million vehicles are on the road without

being inspected hence they contribute to the high rate of road accidents in the country.

“As an association, we recognize the concerns raised by the government. However, we strongly believe that collaboration and dialogue between industry players and the government are critical in tackling issues related to road safety. As a result, we ask the government to engage in joint discussions with us to develop comprehensive and long-term solutions,” said Patricia.

MOA is now calling on the government to work with different initiatives nationwide to campaign on road safety, already MOA has partnered with NTSA and the traffic department which is set to enhance sustainable safety on roads.

Additionally, MOA has launched a national campaign to maintain a commitment to road safety. The initiative involves voluntary vehicle inspection clinics, which commenced in Nairobi on March 4, 2024. The main purpose of clinics is to ensure compliance and self-regulation for safer roads.

The clinics are designed to promote compliance and self-regulation within the PSV industry. Importance of



government support to achieve success in road safety initiatives “We emphasize the importance of government support to guarantee the success of these initiatives and, eventually, improve road safety throughout the country. The crackdown, while attempting to enforce compliance, is reactive and has proven ineffective, hence our proactive measures to self-regulate through the aforementioned

road safety campaign”. She stated

Clinics will be launched in all counties including Meru, Nyeri, 2 in Nairobi and Kabete police station tomorrow. Through clinics, MOA will be able to keep in touch with its Sacco members.

MOA President Albert Karakacha urged Sacco members to be vigilant on the road following the rising cases

of road accidents. He urged the police commandant to enforce the law and collaborate with saccos.

80 percent of Kenyan drivers should pass through the National Youth Service (NYS). I urge the government to work with stakeholders and participate in these events to combat road accident menace. NTSA should regulate and enforce the law” said Karakacha

Today's Guidance

By: Dipa Sharma

Note:-Greetings, I am a professional intuitive tarot card reader.

My readings are based on both the cards and my intuition. It is a general and collective reading. Please take what resonate and leave the rest. If you have come across this reading this means there is some message for you.

Your current energy towards your partner.

You're feeling motivated to leave past issues behind and start fresh with your partner. You know there might be challenges ahead, but you're committed to overcoming them. You see potential for growth in your relationship and are ready to leave any doubts behind and take action to improve things. Some of you might be considering traveling to see your partner or receiving positive news about your relationship. There's also

a possibility that some are thinking about getting engaged, buying a house together, moving in, planning trips, or even starting a family.

Your partner's energy towards you.

Your partner is filled with love, care, and loyalty towards you. They cherish you deeply and feel incredibly supportive of you. However, despite their strong emotions, they're not expressing them openly. They perceive that their feelings are not being mirrored by you, which leaves them feeling hesitant to share. Yet, despite this, their love for you remains unwavering and unconditional.

Your mutual energies towards each other

Both of you are deeply connected, eagerly awaiting messages from one another, and find immense inspiration in each other's presence. However, some moments reveal immaturity as both struggle to release past pains and traumas. Despite this,

you're both driven by your emotions, following your hearts in the journey together. There's a sense of discovery, with each of you learning new facets about the other, eagerly anticipating a proposal that might deepen your bond even further.

What Obstacles you are facing

It seems like you're taking some time for yourself, stepping back from the busyness of the outside world to reflect and seek clarity. You're receiving guidance from within, contemplating deeply, and temporarily withdrawing from external distractions. Your main focus is on personal growth and finding a balance within yourself. You believe that strengthening your individuality is crucial for enhancing your relationship, and you're committed to this journey of self-discovery and introspection.

How to overcome this obstacles

It's time to emerge from your period of isolation and take proactive steps to nurture your relationship. Consider planning a trip together as a way

to reconnect and create new memories. Keep an optimistic and hopeful outlook regarding your relationship, as signs of success and victory are on the horizon. Recognize your position of influence and power within the relationship, and use it wisely to strengthen your bond with your partner. Take the initiative in initiating romantic gestures and openly express your feelings. Additionally, don't forget to communicate your achievements and celebrate them with your partner, as this will further solidify your connection and bring you closer together.

Message of Lord Krishna

Why do you allow yourself to be so heavily burdened? Release the shackles that bind you, and do not grant others the power to dictate your emotions. Let the fire within you burn away all the negativity that holds you back. Cease the battle against life itself and stop resisting the flow of existence. Only when you relinquish this struggle can you truly find peace

and clarity.

Relinquish the need to control every situation and accept life as it unfolds. By surrendering to the present moment, you open yourself up to receiving the solutions to all your problems. Relaxation is the key to unlocking this wisdom. So, let go of your worries, and trust in the divine plan. Embrace each moment with a sense of serenity, knowing that everything will unfold as it should.

Related numbers - 1,6,7,9,10,11,12,13

These numbers could be linked to you or your parent, such as birth dates, vehicle numbers, house numbers, or mobile numbers.

Favourable colour - Red, Gray, white, yellow and green.

Tarot, Zodiac, Astrology & Horoscopes

How will be your day today:-

Miano To Spearhead Trade Ties Between Kenya And Tanzania As She Hosts Her Counterpart

By: Waithaka Kariuki

@themtkenyatimes

Contd from page 1

trade programs that have stalled in the past.

“We are extremely grateful that for the next few days we will be hosting our Tanzania counterparts in the trade sector. The meeting will seek to strengthen our ties and friendship as neighbours,” said Miano.

The trade boss said the meeting will also culminate with signing of a communiqué.

“On Friday we will also tour Kisumu where we will interact with traders where they will explain to us their problems and give suggestions where we can improve,” she said.

The visit by Dr Kijaji comes barely two years after President William Ruto while on a visit in Tanzania stated that the two nations will be working to double trade from the current Sh90 billion so as ensure the trade and investors benefit from the relations.

Kenya’s trade with Tanzania has grown steadily in the past years in the wake of improved relations between



Trade Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano.

the two countries after years of feuds that at one point resulted in retaliatory measures such as trade bans.

The Head of State mentioned that Trade Cabinet Secretaries between the two nations alongside other officials will be having a meeting to iron out fourteen trade barriers that have stifled operations between the two states.

President Ruto outlined that the remaining barriers have locked trade between the two nations in the East

Africa region.

“The remaining fourteen or so barriers identified we should by December this year we should have concluded so as to allow our people to trade so that we can allow our people and investors to benefit,” said President Ruto.

Of the six nations that make up the EAC, Kenya is the largest investor in Tanzania and the fifth largest on the continent.

Statistics by the Central Bank of



Tanzania Trade minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji

Kenya showed the country’s exports to Tanzania jumped the highest by 46 per cent to Sh28.66 billion extending a good trade run between the pair amid ongoing elimination of non-tariff barriers.

Data by the KNBS shows that the value of Kenya’s exports to Tanzania jumped 43.39 percent to Sh45.6 billion in 2021 compared to the previous year.

Tanzania’s exports to Kenya on the other hand grew 95.3 percent last

year nearly double-to Ksh54.47 billion last year.

Retired President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Tanzanian counterpart, Samia Suluhu ended persistent strained trade ties between the two largest economies in the six-nation EAC bloc which have, for years, hindered the smooth flow of goods and services.

Tatu City Launches Tatu Woodworks And Signs A Deal With Unity Homes

By: John Kariuki

@themtkenyatimes

Tatu Woodworks, a bespoke company specializing in European-standard joinery services, has begun operations at Tatu City. With decades of international experience and deep technical expertise, the company will deliver turnkey solutions, from concept and design to joinery for homeowners, developers, architects, and interior designers.

As part of its inaugural project, Tatu Woodworks will fabricate kitchen cabinets using European standard boards for Unity One an upscale residential development by Unity Homes in Tatu City.

Speaking while launching Tatu Woodworks its General Manager



Erol Kako expressed his enthusiasm for the introduction of Tatu Woodwork in the market

“Based in the Tatu City Special Economic Zone we use modern machinery and the latest techniques to ensure the best quality services results and timelines for our clients. We are excited to work with Unity Homes

as they strive for high-quality and affordable living spaces,” said Mr. Kako

Tatu Woodworks offers custom kitchen design and installation as well as doors windows, wooden cladding, wardrobes, office fit-outs and bathroom vanities.

Unity Homes Executive Director

showed his happiness to partner with Tatu Woodworks on the Unity One project “ Our apartments have been thoughtfully designed to offer maximum comfort, convenience, and functionality. The modern and stylish kitchen has sleek appliances and ample counter space for cooking and entertaining. The kitchen cabinets from Tatu Woodworks align perfectly with our vision for creating exceptional living spaces.”

The joinery industry in Kenya has seen significant growth in recent years but faces challenges such as unqualified artisans and limited investment in modern equipment and materials. Backed by Rendeavour the owner and developer of Tatu City with operations across five countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Tatu Woodworks benefits from the latest technologies skills and facilities. Tatu Woodworks will address

the growing demand for high-quality joinery solutions in Kenya’s burgeoning real estate market including Tatu City which is already home to over 5,000 residents, more than 78 businesses, and 4,500 pupils and students in Tatu City’s schools which include Crawford International School and Nova Pioneer Primary and Secondary.

More than 75 local regional and global businesses are operational or under development in Tatu City’s business-friendly location including CCI Global, Heineken, Dormans, Copia, Cooper K-Brands, Grit Real Estate Income Group, Twiga Foods, Freight Forwarders Solutions, ADVTECH, Friendship Group and Davis & Shirtliff.

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Upgrades Set For Nakonde Border Post To Boost Zambia-Tanzania Trade

Zambia Government and TradeMark Africa Initiate a ZMK 197 million (£7.1) Million Project

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes



Zambia's Finance Minister, Situmbeko Musokotwane (right) together with TradeMark Africa CEO Dave Beer sign the Partner Support Agreement (PSA) to upgrade the Nakonde One Stop Border Post, a key trade route between Zambia and Tanzania.

Worth Noting:

- TMA CEO, David Beer, underscored the impact of efficient OSBPs on reducing trade times and costs, and enhancing regional integration. Drawing on TMA's experience in East Africa, Mr Beer expressed confidence in the project's success and its contribution to a more connected Africa, saying, "There is no denying the effect that integrated, fully operational and efficient OSBPs can have in reducing the time and cost of trade, thereby stimulating cross-border prosperity. Our experience in establishing similar border facilities across East Africa has shown us that such efforts can reduce clearance time by an average of 70%.
- It's for this reason that I am happy that we are joining forces today with the Government of Zambia and United Kingdom, in coordination with other partners, to mark this important milestone.

The Government of Zambia, represented by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, and TradeMark Africa (TMA), have entered into a Partner Support Agreement (PSA) to upgrade the Nakonde One Stop Border Post, a key trade route between Zambia and Tanzania. Funded by the UK government, the ZMK 197 million (£7.1 million) project will improve the flow of goods and people along the Dar es Salaam Corridor, promising to streamline operations and reduce cargo clearance times by more than 100% on both sides of the border. Currently, it takes more than two days to clear cargo trucks crossing the border, leading to significant delays and losses for businesses.

Zambia's Finance Minister, Situmbeko Musokotwane, and TMA's CEO, David Beer, launched the programme.

Minister Musokotwane highlighted the project's potential to upgrade infrastructure, decrease congestion, and improve trade flows across the region, saying, "This agreement paves the way for transformative interventions aimed at upgrading infrastructure at Nakonde OSBP, improve border efficiency, reduce congestion and enhance trade facilitation." He added: "By improving infrastructure at the Nakonde OSBP, we aim to enhance clearance efficiency along the Dar-es-Salaam corridor, reduce time taken to clear both cargo and passengers and ultimately

facilitate trade flows."

The Nakonde Border Post, will see improvements, including upgrade of road infrastructure within the OSBP and truck parking yard, construction of additional office buildings and warehouse, and the installation of a modern, cargo scanner. The initiative also includes the digitisation of clearance processes, and installation of smart gates aimed at cutting dwelling times for cargo trucks from the current average of 55 hours. The design reviews for Nakonde OSBP were finalised over the last one year, with support from Trade Catalyst Africa and the Tony Blair Institute that has supported the process and Government, as well as providing technical support.

TMA CEO, David Beer, underscored the impact of efficient OSBPs on reducing trade times and costs, and enhancing regional integration. Drawing on TMA's experience in East Africa, Mr Beer expressed confidence in the project's success and its contribution to a more connected Africa, saying, "There is no denying the effect that integrated, fully operational and efficient OSBPs can have in reducing the time and cost of trade, thereby stimulating cross-border prosperity. Our experience in establishing similar border facilities across East Africa has shown us that such efforts can reduce clearance time by an average of 70%. It's for this reason that I am happy that we are joining forces today with the

Government of Zambia and United Kingdom, in coordination with other partners, to mark this important milestone. The Nakonde One Stop Border Post stands as a crucial milestone on our path to a more interconnected, inclusive and thriving Africa."

British High Commissioner to Zambia Nicholas Woolley said he was delighted that the UK Government had entered a new partnership with Zambia and TradeMark Africa to upgrade the strategic trade frontier between Zambia and Tanzania: "The Nakonde/Tunduma border is one of the busiest entry/exit points for cargo in and out of Zambia, vital in facilitating international trade and the transport of essential goods such as food, fuel and fertiliser. UK support will include funding for the installation of a new cargo scanner and associated road and customs infrastructure in Nakonde, leading to quicker cargo scans and reducing time spent by lorries at the border. Increased border efficiency will enhance regional integration, attract investment, boost cross border trade, and create jobs."

In 2021 the UK funded the upgrade of the Tunduma side of the border to a One-Stop Border post including a state-of-the-art cargo scanner.

This initiative is part of TradeMark Africa's broader efforts to facilitate trade across the continent. With over 15 OSBPs established in East Africa, resulting in an average 70% re-

duction in border crossing times, per time and traffic evaluation surveys conducted on these border posts, the Nakonde project is set to deepen trade ties between Zambia and its neighbours, leveraging Zambia's strategic position as a land-linked country reliant on regional ports for its international trade.

Duncan Onyango, the Chief Executive Officer of Trade Catalyst Africa, who supported the design of the OSBP, said, "TCA's investment in Nakonde OSBP is a strategic choice because not only have borders within Africa acted as key choke points for trade, but they are also extremely expensive to develop and maintain. Long delays at the borders due to inadequate infrastructure and inefficiencies in processing both goods and passenger traffic at the borders have both resulted in significant time and cost being added to both formal and informal trade happening between African countries. The penalties are most stringent for the many landlocked countries as the time delays translate directly into higher consumer prices for food and other imported commodities."

The project enjoys the support of various stakeholders, including senior government, diplomatic, and development sector officials. Also in attendance were Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Chipoka Mulenga; Minister of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, Charles Milupi; TradeMark Africa Board Chair Amb. Erastus Mwencha; the British High Commissioner to Zambia, Nicholas Woolley; Trade Catalyst Africa CEO Duncan Onyango, Tony Blair Institute Country Director, Maria Mkandawire; the head of the Presidential Delivery Unit, Kusobile Kamwambi; World Bank Country Director for Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania and Zimbabwe Nathan Belete; various Permanent Secretaries, the Commissioner General of Zambia Revenue Authority and the Director General Roads Development Agency, among others.

With rigorous management, monitoring, and evaluation practices in place, the partnership commits to transparency, inclusivity, and sustainability throughout the project's implementation.

SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> *Kenya's women's volleyball team Malkia Strikers have punched their semifinal ticket in the African Games, after thumping hapless Gambia 3-0 at the Multi-Purpose Hall, Borteyman Sports Complex in Accra, Ghana.

Malkia Strikers Storm African Games Semis After Spanking Hapless Gambia



FILES: Malkia Strikers celebrate scoring a point against Serbia. (PHOTO/Courtesy).

Kenya's women's volleyball team Malkia Strikers have punched their semifinal ticket in the African Games, after thumping hapless Gambia 3-0 at the Multi-Purpose Hall, Borteyman Sports Complex in Accra, Ghana.

The Japheth Munala led side produced a masterclass in the first set beating the West African side 25-12 to set their pace for the easily contested tie.

Malkia showed no mercy to Gambia dominating them again

in the subsequent sets with a 25-8 and 25-10 win.

The 10-time African Champions will now face Egypt who beat Nigeria 3-0, in a do or die clash as they hunt their sixth African Games title.

While hoping to reign supreme in the continental showpiece in their quest to dedicate the gold medal to Mercy Moim who lost her husband earlier this week, Malkia Strikers have a mountain to climb over Egypt who means business this year.

Speaking before the quarter final clash, head coach Japheth Munala promised to inspire Malkia to their sixth title, in honour of their decorated captain.

"We are going to take a match at a time. It is a difficult moment because we will be missing our captain but we have give our best and win the title for her," he said.

Last year, Malkia Strikers shrugged off Egypt's resilience to thump them 3-0 in a scintillating African Cup of Nations final, winning their record tenth title.

However, with tables turning after the North African side thumped them 3-1 in the CAVB Zone V Qualifiers earlier this year, Malkia Strikers will be in for a revenge.

Citizen Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Kenyan tennis sensation Angella Okutoyi has Thursday afternoon qualified for the Paris Olympics, after clinching singles gold at the African Games in Accra, Ghana.

African Games: Impeccable Okutoyi Wins Singles Gold, Storms Paris Olympics



Angella Okutoyi celebrates a score during the African Games singles final against Egypt's Lamisa Alhusein in Accra, March 21, 2024. Photo by NOC-Kenya Media..

By Geoffrey Mwamburi

Kenyan tennis sensation Angella Okutoyi has Thursday afternoon qualified for the Paris Olympics,

after clinching singles gold at the African Games in Accra, Ghana.

Okutoyi, who in 2022 won the Wimbledon title for the doubles junior category, thrashed Egypt's

Lamis Al-Husein 6-2, 6-4 to win the African title.

The 20-year old commanded proceedings against the Egyptian ranked 562nd in the WTA singles

chart, from the start to the end - to break yet another ceiling in her beautiful story of the sport.

SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS



Sweet Harvest: Sugarcane Farming And Jaggery Making In Kitere, Migori County

By: Seth wafula
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Dr. Aoko believes in sustainable agriculture and finding a balance between tradition and innovation. "Our aim is to strike a balance between tradition and innovation. We encourage farmers to embrace scientific advancements while cherishing their cultural roots. Through training programs and workshops, we empower them with the latest practices in crop management, irrigation and organic fertilizers. "Farmers are encouraged to adopt scientific advancements while still preserving their cultural heritage. Through training programs and workshops, they learn about crop management, irrigation and organic fertilizers.
- One innovation that has become popular in Kitere is the establishment of small-scale jaggery-making units. Jaggery is a traditional sweetener made from sugarcane juice.



Mr Samuel Ochieng and his friends planting sugarcane in his farm



Jaggery making in process..

Kitere, a small village under the beautiful hills of Kitere, an area with the air filled with the sweet smell of sugarcane. The local community has a long-standing tradition of farming sugarcane and making jaggery, a type of unrefined sugar. The farmers work hard in the fields using modern techniques passed down from previous generations. Samuel Ochieng is one of the experienced sugarcane farmers in Kitere. His family has been farming sugarcane in these fertile lands for many years. Samuel says, "Farming sugarcane is not just a job for us; it's a way of life. We take pride in nurturing the soil to grow the best cane."

The presence of Rongo University in Kitere has influenced the farming practices in the area. The university's agricultural department has shared knowledge and expertise with the farmers helping them combine traditional methods with modern innovations in order to improve their farming practices. Dr. Jane Aoko, the Director of Agriculture has been instrumental in this transformation.

Dr. Aoko believes in sustainable agriculture and finding a balance between tradition and innovation. "Our aim is to strike a balance between

tradition and innovation. We encourage farmers to embrace scientific advancements while cherishing their cultural roots. Through training programs and workshops, we empower them with the latest practices in crop management, irrigation and organic fertilizers. "Farmers are encouraged to adopt scientific advancements while still preserving their cultural heritage. Through training programs and workshops, they learn about crop management, irrigation and organic fertilizers.

One innovation that has become popular in Kitere is the establishment of small-scale jaggery-making units. Jaggery is a traditional sweetener made from sugarcane juice. Beatrice Akinyi is a jaggery maker who learned the craft from her grandmother. She says, "Making jaggery is an art that has been passed down through generations. Working with sugarcane juice connects me to our community's traditions."

Making jaggery is a labor-intensive process that requires careful attention to temperature and timing. Beatrice and her team monitor the boiling juice closely to ensure the jaggery retains its unique flavor and nutritional value. The finished

jaggery blocks are packaged and sold in local markets and nearby towns Migori town, Rongo town and Awendo which acts as a source of income.

As the day comes to an end, the farmers gather to celebrate their hard work and the bountiful harvest. They share stories and pass on the wisdom of their ancestors teaching the younger generation about sustainable agriculture and the importance of preserving their heritage. In Kitere, tradition and progress go hand in hand. The farmers have embraced modern techniques while maintaining a deep respect for their cultural heritage. Through their dedication, Kitere has become a place of abundance where sugarcane fields and jaggery-making units thrive creating a sustainable future rooted in the rich soil of Migori County.

Kitere village in Migori County is a testament to the successful integration of tradition and progress in agricultural practices. The farmers of Kitere have found a balance between embracing modern techniques and preserving their cultural heritage. With the support of Rongo University's agricultural department and the guidance of Dr. Jane Aoko, the Director of Agriculture, the farmers have been able to combine traditional farming methods with scientific

advancements.

Through training programs and workshops, the farmers have gained knowledge in areas such as crop management, irrigation and the use of organic fertilizers. This integration of traditional wisdom and modern innovation has led to improved farming practices and increased agricultural productivity in the region. One notable innovation that has gained popularity in Kitere is the establishment of small-scale jaggery-making units. Jaggery production, a traditional art passed down through generations has become a source of income for the community.

The success of Kitere is not only measured in terms of economic prosperity but also in the preservation of cultural heritage and sustainable agricultural practices. The farmers take pride in their work and pass on their wisdom to the younger generation instilling in them the importance of sustainable agriculture and the value of preserving their heritage. Kitere serves as an inspiring example of how communities can embrace progress while maintaining a deep respect for their traditions. It is a place where sugarcane fields thrive, jaggery-making flourishes and a sustainable future is being built on the foundation of the rich soil of Migori County.