



Echoes Of The Kabiru: Unveiling The Spiritual Legacy Of The Gikuyu Community

In the heart of Kenya's vibrant cultural landscape, the Kabiru/Habiru/Hebrew people, known in present times as the Gikuyu community, stand out as a vibrant and resilient group with a deep connection to history and spirituality.

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Daily ePAPER

Thursday, April 11, 2024

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News>> Nakuru Farmers Reap Big In Pyrethrum Revival, Value Addition


P. 8. White dazzling petals, with yellow anthers sunken in the middle, brightened by the cool climatic conditions of Kenyan highlands that they bask in.



News>> Gender And Equality Commission In Consultative Meeting With Parliamentary Committee On Constitution And Oversight

P. 12. The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) Chairperson Dr. Joyce Mwikali met with a parliamentary commission where it highlighted the commission's hitches in the implementation of key programmes.

System Error Led To Mismatch In 2023 KCSE Results - KNEC

 The Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) has acknowledged a system error that resulted in mistakes in the printed nominal rolls for the 2023 KCSE exams.

In a meeting with the National Assembly Education Committee led by Vice-chair Malulu Ijendi on Tuesday, Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu and KNEC Chief Executive Officer Dr. David Njengere were put to task regarding Grade Discrepancies in the 2023 KCSE Examination.

2023 KCSE GRADES

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
A	825	391	1,216
A-	4,472	2,782	7,254
B+	10,370	7,708	18,078
B	19,822	16,906	36,728
B-	30,521	28,993	59,514
C+	38,888	39,455	78,343
C	44,201	48,411	92,612
C-	50,616	56,855	107,471



President William Ruto being briefed by Education CS Ezekiel Machogu and officials from the ministry on the KCSE 2023 results at State Lodge Eldoret on January 8, 2024. Image: PCS

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Kenya Driving Schools Association Attributes Upsurge In Road Accidents On Recklessness

By: Dennis Rasto

The shocking upsurge in road accidents in the country has been blamed on preventable and predictable factors with stakeholders now calling for sanity to stop road carnages.

The Kenya Driving Schools Association (KDSA) has noted with concern that over 80 per cent of accidents are caused by drivers' behaviours such as drunk driving, recklessness, speeding, overloading and use of roadworthy vehicles.

KDSA National Chairman Mr Kariuki Kamau says attitudinal shifts are also required to instill into Kenyans a culture of safe road usage which entails observing speed limits, proper vehicle maintenance and respecting other road users, including cyclists and pedestrians.

Mr Kamau indicates that as the number of vehicles increase and the physical road infrastructure gets better, enhancing safety practices will minimize the number of fatalities along the roads if everyone plays to the stipulated rules and guidelines.

Speaking to journalists in Nakuru the Chairman said that like all other countries, Kenya is supposed to halve the deaths caused by road accidents by the year 2030 in line with United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety, however the reverse is being witnessed.

According to Mr Kamau, some public service vehicle (PSV) drivers are quacks who learnt the driving skill in the streets but have never bothered to go to a driving school.

The KDSA spokesman claimed that some unscrupulous elements at National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) have been colluding with instructors from rogue driving schools to issue untrained Kenyans with driving licenses.

He cited cases of two driving schools and some unscrupulous NTSA officials who were placed under probe by the

Directorate of Criminal Investigations for running a racket that issued driving licenses to unqualified Kenyans.

"We have driving schools that are working in cahoots with NTSA officials to issue driving licenses to people who have not attended any driving lesson in exchange for money. These drivers find themselves on the road and are the ones causing the many accidents we are witnessing," said Mr Kamau.

"NTSA should stop making kneejerk declarations whenever an accident occurs. They should be the biggest strong link in the campaign to stop road carnage."

He regretted that drivers who acquire their licenses corruptly and in an unprocedural manner usually do not conform to the laid down road traffic rules to ensure their safety and that of others

"We cannot continue watching our people die. We have a duty to ensure that we and those around us are safe. Let us all rise to the occasion and say no to recklessness, impunity on our roads," Kamau stated.

He said that a significant proportion of the road accidents are a result of human error, corrupt practices by traffic police officers and indiscipline while using roads.

"We have documented cases of untrained people verified as licensed drivers bribing their way out of custody whenever they are arrested. Further, when one is found on the wrong, many traffic police officers will accept bribes to look away. All these are factors that have created an environment that fosters road accidents," the chairperson pointed out.

According to Kamau, some drivers cause accidents due to driving for long hours without taking enough rest, a blame which he heaped on the management of some PSV companies and long-distance cargo trailers.

The chairman claimed that many long-distance drivers partake in alcohol and other 'stimulants' to cover as much distance as possible on a particular day,



Cat wreckage.

as they are paid based on trips they make leading to speeding, fatigue and recklessness.

He expressed concern that boda bodas have become such a menace that in some public hospitals; special wards have been set up to cater for victims of boda boda crashes.

The causes of these accidents, according to Mr Kamau, are varied but the most common are alcohol and substance abuse and lack of discipline among riders. Oftentimes, he added, riders get off the road and ride on pavements or any accessible open space and weave dangerously between moving vehicles.

He stated that contrary to road regulations, boda boda riders often carry more than one passenger, adding that some have been observed to carry as many as five with the rider perched dangerously on the fuel tank in a manner that makes it impossible for him to have full control of the motorbike, but more especially in case of an emergency.

"The tragedy is that in their haste, boda boda passengers seem completely unaware of the risks they expose themselves to. It is rare to find passengers donning safety helmets and reflective jackets that are a mandatory requirement," he pointed out.

Mr Kamau said national crackdowns on boda bodas to ensure riders meet the requirements for doing business should be mounted regularly as opposed to the practice only when an accident occurs.

Most of the riders, he noted, have not gone through formal training and, hence do not have licences, nor are they conversant with road safety rules. This, he observed, accounts for their attitude that demonstrates scant respect not just for other road users, but life as well.

He also attributed some of the accidents to dilapidated roads, adding that most of the accidents happen as drivers and riders try to avoid hitting potholes while at high speed.

Others, he said, are due to poor maintenance of vehicles like failure to replace

worn-out tyres.

He urged Kenyans to support the re-introduction of alcoblow, to minimize many accidents that are happening on Kenyan roads.


Road accidents have killed 1,213 people in the past three months, data from the National Transport Safety Authority (NTSA) shows.

Pedestrians account for the largest number of fatalities at 445, followed by motorcyclists at 285 and passengers at 259.

According to the data captured between January and April 3, pillion (motorcycle) passengers came fourth at 103 followed by drivers (99) and pedal cyclists (24).

The deaths are an increase of 5.8 per cent from 1,146 during the same period last year. The deaths have, however, increased following the latest accidents this week on the Kericho-Nakuru and Nakuru-Eldoret highways, where 15 people died.

Editor's Desk



The Mt. Kenya Times

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

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NEWS IN BRIEF



EMBU COUNTY: Parents of Kamunyangia Primary School in Mbeere South Sub-county are preparing maize for storage for later use.

The school, in collaboration with parents, runs a successful feeding programme where food consumed by pupils is produced on the school farm, including maize, beans, and green grams. By Samuel Waititu



The Western Regional Commissioner, Irungu Macharia, has urged residents to be vigilant during the rainy season. He warned that enhanced rainfall may cause flooding in Bunyala and other areas, as predicted by the Kenya Meteorological Department. “We are appealing to our people to heed our warnings by moving to higher grounds,” he said, adding that drivers should also be careful on the roads. Macharia also warned of other disasters that can cause life loss on the roads, such as poor visibility and the drowning of children. He urged stakeholders to pool resources and conduct sensitizations to inform the public. Busia is leading with a high potential for flooding, while Vihiga is prone to landslides. Macharia also urged locals to refrain from mining activities during the season and to be cautious on the roads. Special security officers will be deployed to man-made evacuation centres and urge parents to be more responsible for their children’s safety.



The government plans to spend at least Ksh148 million from the Universal Service Fund (USF) to improve mobile network connectivity in West Pokot County. Officials from the Ministry of Information, Communication, and Digital Economy (PAS) and senior officials from the Communication Authority of Kenya toured the county to map out ways of improving communication infrastructure. The new phase comes after two sub-locations in West Pokot County, namely Chepserum and Apuke, were connected to the mobile network in phase one, at a cost of Sh9 million. During phase two, 14 sub-locations, including Kiwawa, Kases, Kola, Lotukum, Kaptolomwo, Ompolion, Kachawa, Akiriamet, Amaler, meshau, Emboasis, Kokwoporit, Marus, and Pkopogh, were wired to the mobile network. Deputy County Commissioner David Boen, the Deputy County Commissioner of Pokot South Sub County, highlighted the importance of engaging the community in the implementation of CA’s programs and ensuring the security of communication masks and boosters.



The Cabinet Secretary for Ministry of Information, Communications & The Digital Economy Eliud Owalo, has emphasised government’s commitment to boosting economic growth through ICT and the digital space to spur job creation. He highlighted ongoing efforts, including the construction of the Digital Superhighway, which aims to bolster Kenya’s ICT infrastructure and position the country in the global digital marketplace.

The strategic initiative aims to enhance connectivity, create opportunities for innovation, entrepreneurship, and invest in digital development and prosperity for all Kenyans. The initiative aims to position Kenya as a hub for digital innovation and foster economic growth through ICT infrastructure development. Owalo also emphasised the importance of developing a robust legal framework to facilitate the establishment of more smart cities across the country. Both the senate and Council of Governor’s chairpersons in the ICT committees emphasised the necessity of creating an e-commerce platform to foster a conducive environment for business activities in Kenya.



Ngao village in Tana River County is set to receive a community museum due to rehabilitation works by the National Museums of Kenya (NMK). The NMK has secured a KSh2.7 million grant from Greece-based Heritage International and is working on renovations on a 120-year-old missionary building. The building, constructed between 1900 and 1902 by German missionaries, was used as a launching pad for evangelistic work among the Pokomo of the Tana River after an earlier attempt to evangelise the Galla (Orma) failed. The NMK’s Assistant Director of Museums and Monuments in charge of the Coast Region, Mr. Athman Hussein, announced that the building would be converted into a small museum and made part of a tourism circuit that includes three First World War monuments in Garsen and the nearby Methodist Church. The NMK will also gazette the over 100-year-old historical relics (the missionary house and the church) in partnership with the Methodist Church in Kenya so they can continue receiving attention from the government and other partners. The renovation of the two buildings will open up Ngao, Tarasaa, and Garsen, which are renowned for hosting World War I monuments, and form a tourism circuit. The rehabilitation work would be completed by June this year.

NEWS PAPER

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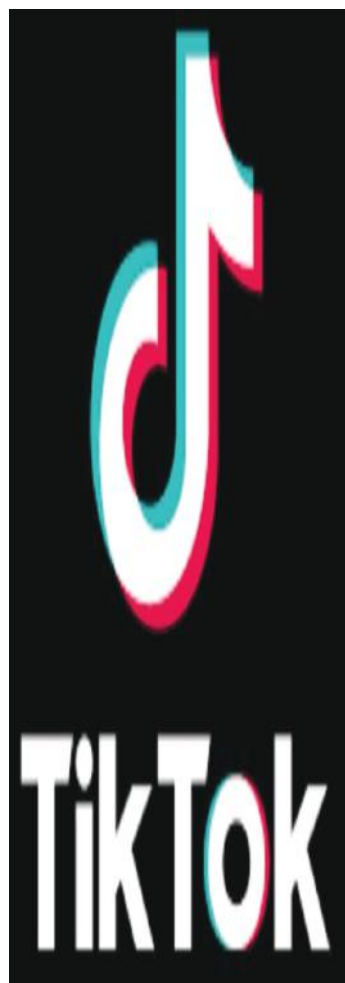
TIKTOK Management Appears Before Petitions Committee On Petition To Ban The Social Media

By: MKT Correspondent

@themkenyatimes



The parliamentary committee and TikTok officials during the session.



The management of Social Media App Tiktok and Majorel Kenya, the apps regulator appeared before the National Assembly's Public Partitions Committee to present their views on why the app should not be banned in the country

This follows a Petition filed before the National Assembly by Bridge Connection Consulting Group CEO, Mr. Ben Ndolo seeking to have the popular social media app banned in the country. Mr. Ndolo alleges that the platform poses a significant threat to Kenya's cultural and religious values as it promotes violence, explicit sexual content, hate speech, vulgar language, and offensive behavior

ByteDance, the mother company that owns the Social Media Platform was represented by its Public Policy and Government Relations Director, Mr. Fortune Mgwili Sibanda.

Mr. Sibanda took the Committee through an extensive presentation highlighting the applications operational policy and efforts taken by the company to ensure that content on the App is safe for consumption.

Mr. Sibanda informed the committee that 95 per cent of the content consumed on the app is filtered by machine assisted programs also known as Artificial Intelligence (AI). He stated that the AI is programmed using internationally set policy standards.

The content is thereafter forwarded to human moderators conversant with the countries languages and culturally accepted policies.

These policies, he states are guided by the local partners who help shape what is culturally accepted in different countries.

"In the last year, we have taken down over 296,000 videos from Kenya

alone. Around the globe 96.7 per cent of harmful content is taken down before it is reported, while 77.1 per cent of content is taken down before garnering any views," stated Mr. Sibanda.

He went on to add, "We will be the first to admit that, we are not perfect and that we are constantly investing in ways to ensure that the one per cent of content that slips through the gaps is also stopped."

However, committee members were not convinced and poked holes into the company's formula stating that it was not good enough to protect the vulnerable viewers.

Mbeere South MP, Eng. Nabert Muriuki on his part questioned Tiktok's moderation formula noting that it was not tailored to factor in the multiple dialects that are spoken in the country.

"What you are doing is simply not enough. Your AI and moderating for-

mula is not built to work effectively in Kenya. How is your system going to decipher content that is spoken in different dialects such as Ki-Meru?" stated Muriuki.

Majorel Kenya, the Business Process Outsourcing firm hired to by ByteDance to provide moderation services in Kenya informed the committee that the company had 250 employees locally dedicated to moderating Tiktok content.

Mr. Sven De Caeter, the company CEO however had a tough time explaining to the committee why pervasive and harmful content was still making it to young people's screens.

The committee members asked for further statistical data from both ByteDance and Majorel Kenya to take into consideration before producing their report.

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Nakuru Farmers Reap Big In Pyrethrum Revival, Value Addition

By: Anne Sabuni
@themkenyatimes



Caroline Koech, the Product Development Manager at Pyrethrum Processing Company of Kenya (PPCK) in Nakuru displays some of the products the company has developed for use in homes, industries and on farms..



Caroline Koech, the Product Development Manager at Pyrethrum Processing Company of Kenya (PPCK) in Nakuru displays some of the products the company has developed for use in homes, industries and on farms..

Worth Noting:

- Another farmer, Margaret Kiptanui, at Tangi in the same location prides in the revival of the crop that affords her 90 kilograms of the flowers every harvest on her one and a half acre piece of land.
- “With the revival of this crop, I am assured of Shs.27, 000 paid upfront to my account that comes in handy when educating my children and attending to my needs. Pyrethrum pays more than potatoes and maize that I have been growing,” added Mrs. Kiptanui.
- Kiptanui, who prides in upfront payment on delivery of dry flowers to collectors, calls on other farmers in highland zones of Kenya to grow the crop that is now on high demand following the liberalization of the sector in 2013.

White dazzling petals, with yellow anthers sunken in the middle, brightened by the cool climatic conditions of Kenyan highlands that they bask in. The pyrethrum flowers may pass for your ordinary bush flower, until their anthers assume a bulging middle.

The land on which the cool green leaves supporting the flowers rest is clean and free from pests, a sign that the flowers are not your ordinary flowers that would attract insects to aid in the pollination process. They are ‘deadly on the dudus, but gently on you’.

Despite the small portions of land under the pyrethrum crop, the recently revived sector is turning tables for farmers in Nakuru County, both for those planting the crop and those seeking organic solutions for perennial infestation by worms and pests for other crops as well as livestock.

“I have increased my portions of land under pyrethrum to two and a half acres which I harvest every two weeks translating to about 60 kilograms of dry flowers for every acre,” notes Joseph Sirma, a farmer at Sirikwa location in Molo Sub County.

Sirma is glad that unlike other crops that are expensive to manage, pyrethrum only demanded weeding and periodic harvesting to ensure the quality of the flowers is maintained for best returns.

Another farmer, Margaret Kiptanui, at Tangi in the same location prides in the revival of the crop that affords her 90 kilograms of the flowers every harvest on her one and a half acre piece of land.

“With the revival of this crop, I am assured of Shs.27, 000 paid upfront to my account that comes in handy when educating my children and attending to my needs. Pyrethrum pays more than potatoes and maize that I have been growing,” added Mrs. Kiptanui.

Kiptanui, who prides in upfront payment on delivery of dry flowers to collectors, calls on other farmers in highland zones of Kenya to grow the crop that is now on high demand following the liberalization of the sector

in 2013.

Peter Omari, who manages 22.5 acres under the crop in Kuresoi North is certain that the crop was a game changer in the lives of small scale farmers.

“We have seedlings in the nursery that we are transplanting to 15 more acres, with more available for sale to farmers who are willing to start up this venture,” notes Omari, estimating to reach farmers up to 30 more acres.

The pyrethrum crop was first introduced to the country in 1928 with Kenya commanding up to 70 percent of the international market for pyrethrin, which is an extract of the pyrethrum flowers used in making insecticides and other public health products.

Under the then Pyrethrum Board, more farmers enlisted to grow the crop that largely depended on the international market. The shift to cheap synthetic insecticides and pesticides led to the shrinking of the market, in 2006, occasioning huge losses as the glut exceeded the demand.

The threat that overproduction posed, was that even the excess poison was hazardous to dispose to the environment, and that necessitated the stop.

In 2013, the sector was revitalized through the liberalization of the market to allow even private producers and processors to join in and reap from the sector. The revival of the sector also prioritized the payment of farmers from Shs.150 to the current guaranteed minimum return of Shs.300 for every kilo of dry flowers delivered.

Pyrethrum Processing Company of Kenya (PPCK) Production Manager, Carolyne Imbwaga, notes that the crop is planted for its Pyrethrins found in pyrethrum flowers. Pyrethrin is an active ingredient used to produce organic based insecticides.

“Pyrethrum is propagated by seed or vegetative materials starting from tissue culture that produces disease free planting materials with ability to produce high yield of flowers with high pyrethrin content.

The country prides in 19 counties like Uasin Gichu, Nyandarua, West Pokot, Kisii, Nyamira among others, with the potential of alleviating poverty and improving the standards of its producers.

“We have 14 recommended commercial clones of pyrethrum with high flower yields recommended for the various pyrethrum growing ecological zones. These are Kenyan highlands that range from 1700m to 2800m above sea level, with minimum rainfall of 1000mm, well spread across the year.

Kenya competes with Tasmania in Australia, China, Rwanda and Tanzania, with Tasmania now taking lead in the supply of the world’s pyrethrin, having recently overtaken Kenya.

“The revival strategy targets to increase the acreage under pyrethrum to 80, 000 acres by 2027 from the current 6, 000 acres. Kenya, at its peak, is able to produce over 20 metric tonnes of pyrethrin and there is need to invest more in the high quality planting materials, which are available in small quantities at PPCK,” says Imbwaga, adding that the company recorded 310 metric tonnes of the produce in 2023.

The four-year-season crop starts yielding three months after transplanting, with farmers being able to break even in a year after planting. The crop is cut back every year, on the onset of rains, to allow fresh shoots and better yields.

Field officers stationed at various sub-county offices, she adds, help train farmers on agronomic aspects of crop production including managing nurseries for the seeds, to land preparation, picking, drying and delivery of flowers.

“Farmers are paid Shs.300 upfront on delivery of every kilo of dried flowers to the Nakuru based processing company, with more paid for the percentage of pyrethrin content in the flowers after an analysis is done,” adds Imbwaga, urging farmers to improve the quality of their produce to earn up to Shs.750 for every kilogramme delivered.

The crop, she says, has the potential

of increasing the farmers income up to Shs.6 Billion, with a foreign exchange of up to Shs.9 billion annually.

“From land preparation, growing of the crop, harvesting and transportation value chain, the crop is able to support upwards of 5 million Kenyans if the crop is well established, maintained and supported across the value chain,” adds Imbwaga.

Pyrethrum growing has continued to take shape in the country, with farmers being urged to take advantage of the processing in the country to meet the demand for pyrethrin products across the world.

Pyrethrum products, that range from aerosol sprays, pesticides and other insecticides as well as animal feeds, are best preferred because they immediately degrade and hence best suited for food safety.

Caroline Koech, the Product Development Manager at PPCK, notes that pyrethrum’s wide spectrum was acceptable for use in making of Botanical insecticide, that were value added products being sold both locally and globally.

“Pyrethrin being a natural molecule has six distinct insecticidal properties that makes it unique, coupled with its environmental friendly properties as it is easily biodegradable and safe on humans and animals.

“We have products for control of mosquitos, bedbugs, cockroaches and tick and tsetse flies in animals. These products are safe for use in homes, manufacturing industries and food handling premises.

“Pyrethrum is also recommended as a pesticide with a pre-harvest interval of a day, which makes it suitable for those in the horticulture export market as they have no pesticides residues,” added Koech, noting that Pymac product controlled maize stock borers, that was a nuisance in the maize growing regions.

Koech added that affordable Pymac had good quantities of proteins and carbohydrates that come in handy as an animal feed. The company is in the process of rolling out more products as well as enlisting distributors.

KNEC Admits System Error Led To Discrepancies In 2023 KCSE Results

By: PSCU and MKT Reporter

@themkenyatimes

The Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) has acknowledged a system error that resulted in mistakes in the printed nominal rolls for the 2023 KCSE exams.

In a meeting with the National Assembly Education Committee led by Vice-chair Malulu Ijendi on Tuesday, Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu and KNEC Chief Executive Officer Dr. David Njengere were put to task regarding Grade Discrepancies in the 2023 KCSE Examination.

They were summoned by the parliamentary team following a request for a statement by Igembe South constituency Member of Parliament John Paul Mwirigi.

According to documents submitted before the Education committee, KNEC officials encountered technical difficulties during the printing process, leading to the omission of minus (-) signs for some grades.

“This means some students’ grades

were printed as, for example, a D (plain) instead of a D- (minus),” the KNEC official added.

The committee was informed that 3,018 candidates across 1,059 examination centres nationwide were affected by this error.

Kililai Secondary School, which is in Igembe was one of the affected institutions

Members of the committee raised alarm over the distress the affected students experienced and the confusion in the errors caused in the affected schools.

KNEC assured the committee that the online portal reflected the accurate results.

The discrepancies were solely in the printed nominal rolls distributed to schools. The council has since delivered corrected printouts to affected schools, including Kililai.

According to CS Machogu, the Ministry of Education has taken steps to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

“A technical team was constituted, with representation from the Ministry of ICT and the Digital Economy, the National Computer and Cybercrimes



Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu and KNEC CEO, Dr. David Njengere when they appeared before the committee.

Coordination Unit and the ICT Authority. By a letter dated March 4, 2024, the team submitted its report to the Ministry of Education,” Machogu added.

These recommendations include establishing a multi-sectoral ICT committee to oversee the examination process from marking to result release, and implementing regular

load tests to assess system capacity. Additionally, KNEC will upgrade its IT infrastructure and implement continuous performance monitoring to proactively identify potential issues.

NCCK Demands People Driven Electoral Reforms

By: Sharon Atieno

@themkenyatimes

The National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) wants the reforms done under the National Dialogue Committee (NADCO) must be people driven to reflect on the anticipated governance and electoral reforms proposed in the report.

NCCK said the NADCO report that was recently passed by Parliament and earmarked for implementation was a negotiated political compromise to a perennial crisis in the electoral circle in a perpetual struggle for power and money.

The General Secretary, Rev Canon Chris Kinyanjui said the country is faced with many challenges such as economic and health crisis among others and calls for adequate participation of the public and opposed Parliament plans to make the amendments without involving stakeholders.

Presenting the NCCK statement



NCCK Secretary General Canon Chris Kinyanjui addressing the media yesterday.

at a press briefing held at Christian Students’ Leadership Center, Ufungamano House, the NCCK Chairman Nairobi Region Rev. Dr. Alphonse Kanga said the churches have assessed the nine Bills that are being processed by the National Assembly, and taken into consideration the age-old definition of democracy themed

‘A government of the people, by the people, for the people’.

Rev. Kanga NCCK shares the message with the people of Kenya including validation of NADCO report which states that all sovereign power belongs to the people of Kenya, and should be exercised either directly or through democratically elected repre-

sentatives and requires organs to act in accordance with the constitution.

“For this reason, it is absolute necessity that the report of the NADCO be taken to the people of Kenya for validation before it is implemented,” he said.

He added that the people of Kenya have a basic right to know and agree

with the recommendations made by NADCO, hence it would not be proper for the National Assembly to unilaterally implement decisions that radically affect the governance and electoral environment

Kanga urged both the Speakers of National Assembly and Senate to have the report published and accessed by Kenyans while at the same time calling on the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee to hold sittings in the counties to receive feedback from citizens.

He said the feedback will enable the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee review the Parliamentary Bills attendant to the NADCO report to reflect on the people’s wishes.

Bishop Joseph Omollo, a presiding Bishop of Evangelical Church said electoral reforms should focus on improving governance, accountability and legitimacy by securing peaceful, free and credible elections and improving participation and representation of the youth, women, and persons with disabilities in elective bodies.

The Power Of Vision Pt 2



By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

What we see in the physical eyes is not permanent. You have to have conviction that what you are going through currently is not permanent, but you are heading towards your God ordained destiny. When you have a clear vision, there are some things it gives you in life. One of these is HOPE, that is why people who have a vision can afford a smile no matter what they are undergoing in life, they can say: "Because my REDEEMER lives, I can face tomorrow." Secondly, it gives you passion/ the drive/ strong emotions. It gives you the drive and energy. People who have vision, they always wake up in the morning and feel they've enough energy and drive. Vision is also a source of courage.

There are people you may despise because of where they are, but are very courageous because of what they see in their future. People who have a vision are courageous, have a lot of boldness. A vision also gives you perseverance in difficulties, because they can see hope in the future. The Bible says in Psalm 57:2-4 "I will cry out to God Most High, to God Who performs all things for me. He shall send from heaven and save me; He reproaches the one who would swallow me up. God shall send forth His mercy and His truth. My soul is among lions; I lie among the sons of men who are set on fire, Whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword." If you check this, you will realise that David was in the midst of death, but he persevered because he knew and understood God had a purpose for his life. So, he saw the future and persevered.

Those who have succeeded in life is not because they did not pass through hardships, you can think you are the only one undergoing challenges, but when you talk to them who have suc-

ceeded, but because of the vision they had in their life, they persevered. You can pass through shameful things, but because you see light at the end of the tunnel, you persevere.

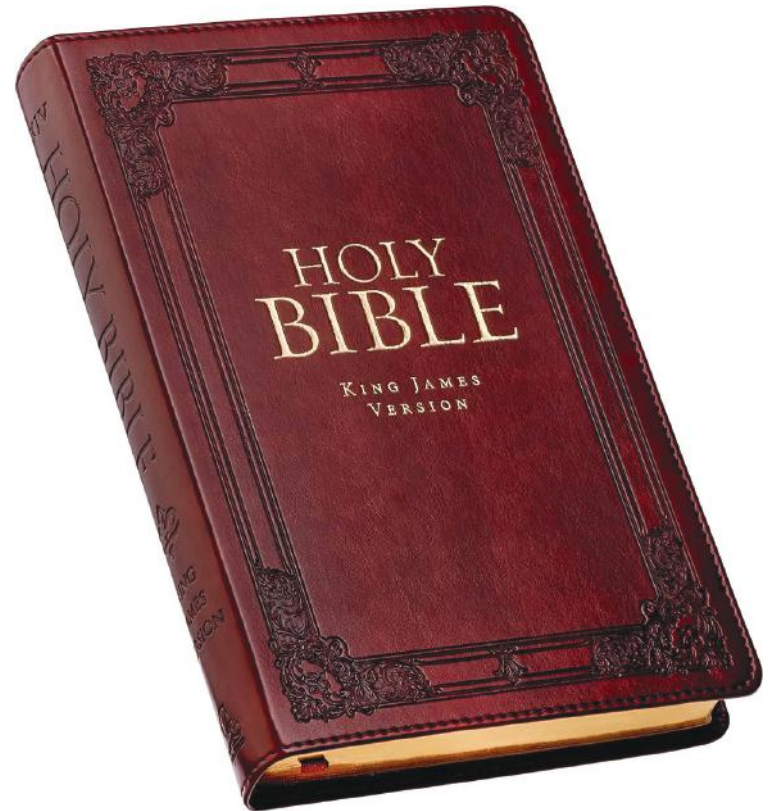
A vision provides motivation. People who have a vision are highly motivated. They know everything they undergo in a step towards their destiny. They wake up early, and pursue energetically their vision. A vision gives priority in life; you have restraint in your life. It is also a vision that gives you purpose/ direction. This means you have a compass in your life when you wake up.

HALELUJAH, TO GOD BE THE GLORY 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 Sanctity Of The Family In Islam [Part 2]



By: Kholturayeva Ugiloy Urol
@themtkenyatimes

Modern women, who are the pillars of society and family unity, should also feel the responsibility of raising talented young people with sound thinking for the development of our country. Putting a woman's human value in place, protecting her from any aggression, realizing her place in social life in time is the material and spiritual ground for stability to prevail in society. Because, as long as the family, which is considered a sacred place in social life, is created in the bosom of a woman, it also acquires continuity. Today's child will become a mother and grandmother in time. The more comfortable the women and

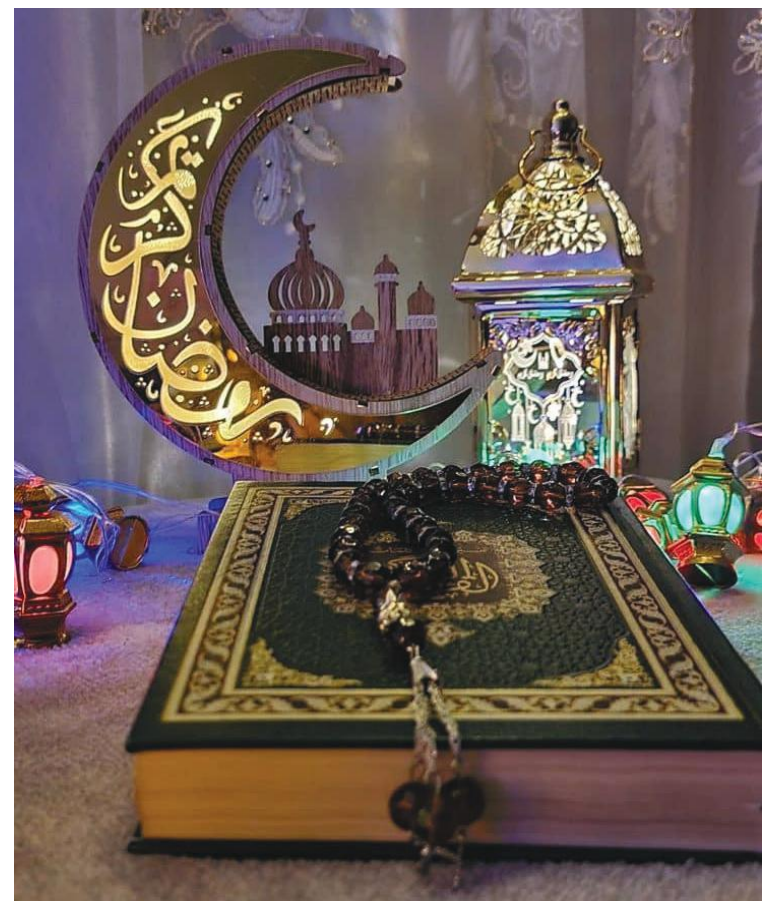
their freedom and living conditions are, the more opportunities are opened for women to be responsible for the future. This is also related to the reputation our women have gained due to their honest work for the peace of the country and the well-being of the people. The future of a woman who is happy in the family and has found her place in life cannot be neglected.

God made a woman so great that she brings peace and blessings to her husband with her intelligence and understanding. Thanks to such a woman, the husband will achieve the happiness of both worlds. God Almighty created Adam and blessed him with the blessings of heaven. Everything was perfect in heaven. But Adam seemed to be missing something. Therefore, God created our mother Eve from the left rib of God, and the heart of Adam, peace be upon him, was comforted. If you have a righteous, good, intelligent woman in your marriage, your life will be in the paradise of the world. Such a woman is greater than the angels with her qualities.

Any religion encourages a person to

realize that this world is transitory and to live thinking about the hereafter, to be vigilant, to stay away from impure paths, to leave a good mark in life. Islam also strengthens people's sense of confidence, purifies the hearts of Muslims, gives them strength to overcome life's tests, problems and difficulties, and serves universal spiritual values from generation to generation. That is why Islam remains a reliable companion of man and an important part of our life.

[Kholturayeva Ugiloy daughter of Urol]



Nature Based Businesses Can Save Mother Earth From Climate Hell



By: Robert Kigongo
 @themkenyatimes



Nature Based Businesses

Worth Noting:

- “Nature based business offers a rare proficient opportunity of Eco-system services that can translate the benefits, we receive from nature into economic terms”.
- What we are learning and enlightening in this article is how communities, Profit business minded people can better understand the trade-offs we are able to make between nature, economic growth and sustainable development.
- Nature based enterprises leverage on Ecosystem services that benefits communities to obtain the services of benefit produced from nature.
- Ecosystem services can as well be described as the integration of business capital with societal capital that is all supported by the capital provided by nature and her ecosystem services.

Last year, on a field visit to Wanare and Wagagai hills in Elgon mountains ,Bugishu sub region, Eastern Uganda was shocked by the levels of warm temperatures in the upstream blocks that where hotter compared to 2022 when we last visited.

This year and beyond is projected to be warmer than last year which has been registered as the warmest year on record in history according to World meteorological organisation recent report.

The Elgon mountain blocks increment in temperature levels are just a statistic of the escalating global temperatures.

Unfortunately such is what environmental degradation of our forests, natural water sources, land abuse, industrial pollution. wetlands degradation has done to the only planet we call home leading it to global warming and climate hell.

Despite the unprecedented changes in weather patterns as a diverse effects of climate change, gladly we still have an underrated opportunity to adapt and embrace Climate action in business monetary mode, therefore that's none other than leveraging on nature based business to restore protect and conserve the environment.

Lets put a touch at how Communities and particularly business minded people who often times are not interested in Climate Change discussions and environmental conservation can leverage on nature based business to make money and maximise profits from nature without necessary destroying it with our human induced activities like deforestation, fossil fuels and coal excavation, industrial pollution, wetlands degradation, air and water pollution leading to Eco system destruction and global

warming.

“Nature based business offers a rare proficient opportunity of Eco-system services that can translate the benefits, we receive from nature into economic terms”.

What we are learning and enlightening in this article is how communities, Profit business minded people can better understand the trade-offs we are able to make between nature, economic growth and sustainable development.

Nature based enterprises leverage on Ecosystem services that benefits communities to obtain the services of benefit produced from nature.

Ecosystem services can as well be described as the integration of business capital with societal capital that is all supported by the capital provided by nature and her ecosystem services.

Ecosystem service subsets from forest services are Carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation soil conservation and recreation services which are beyond the short term visible and tangible commercial use but with positive outputs that can be converted into monetary value.

Usually our forests provide clear financial capital and benefits in terms of timber for fuel,paper materials, Furniture and construction materials and other bi-products we extract, unfortunately the value presented by the Eco system services has largely gone unnoticed and is a seldom factored in terms of the financial costs and benefits associated with such services.

Forests are so much more than just trees but rather offer personal health to our communities and businesses all tightly woven into health of our ecosystems.

Subsequently Woods food, medicine and water are just some of the most obvious products that derive from nature, however there are ecosystems that equally produce services not just products but the quality of water and air we breath which is essential to our existence.

Crucial benefits business oriented people and enterprises can consider are namely;

- Provision of services such as food, forest products and water;
- Regulating services such as regulation of floods drought land degradation, air quality, climate and diseases;
- Supporting services such as soil formation and nutrient cycling;
- Cultural services and cultural values such as recreation, spiritual religious and other non-material benefits.

Studies have shown that the benefits derived from ecosystem services are 10 times as much as the values of the top 50 companies in the world.

Providing the value on these services provides a much better context for everyone to understand their importance and most crucially leveraging on nature based business in the decision making that derives environmental and conserving efforts.

Nature based business inline with ecosystem services offers incentives to become a Payment for ecosystem service certification service provider in the market.

The market for ecosystem services is readily available for permaculture, coffee farmers, timber growers, carbon farmers, forest managers and growers, watershed service providers, recreation enterprises like eco resorts, Wildlife and national game parks with certification

as a result of compliance with forest management standards and natural resource management.

Eco system services claims for carbon capture and storage can be used as evidence of contributing to article 5 of the Paris agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate change.

Nature based business promotes ecosystem services with payments has huge potential to increase confidence in governments, investors, and buyers in ecosystem markets.

Nature based business can be used to demonstrate the impacts of investments in preserving ecosystem services and its contributions towards the United Nations Sustainable development Goals.

Precautionary, if we continue to cut trees of our forest cover degrade wetlands, pollute air and water sources that eventually destroys the ecosystem, the cost of repairing and mitigating these long term effects that threatens the well being of Homo sapiens and all other living beings will escalate until it becomes unsustainable.

Nature based business leveraging on provision of ecosystem services has a monetary value to leverage on in restoring our environment protecting and conserving a beautiful landscape or ecosystem.

Therefore attracting business minds into venturing and investing in nature based businesses is not just passing interest but it also has a determinable value that even business people must understand, appreciate, adapt to climate action for environmental conservation.

Robert Kigongo, is a climate change champion and a trainee by UNFAO in nature based business solutions

Gender And Equality Commission In Consultative Meeting With Parliamentary Committee On Constitution And Oversight

By: MKT Correspondents
 @themkenyaintimes

Worth Noting:

- The NGECE, tasked with safeguarding principles of equality and freedom from discrimination, finds itself constrained by insufficient funding, she disclosed.
- She lamented the Commission's inability to conduct crucial inquiries on violations of equality principles due to insufficient funds. Notably, petitions regarding the inaccessibility of built environments for persons with disabilities remain unaddressed, hence the urgent need for financial support.
- Furthermore, the NGECE's reach is severely limited, with operational presence confined to just six counties.
- "This scarcity, compounded by a shortage of technical staff, impedes the Commission's ability to extend its services across all regions effectively," she noted, as she stressed the need for expanding NGECE's footprint to ensure equitable access to its services nationwide.



Dr. Joyce Mwikali when she appeared before the parliamentary committee on Tuesday.



Githunguri MP Gathoni Wamuchomba during the Tuesday session.

The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) Chairperson Dr. Joyce Mwikali met with a parliamentary commission where it highlighted the commission's hitches in the implementation of key programmes.

Dr. Mwikali noted that the commission faces difficulties including limited human resources, inadequate funding, and capacity constraints.

While meeting the Constitutional Implementation and Oversight Committee (CIOC) convened under the leadership of Githunguri MP Gathoni Wamuchomba, NGECE discussed the implementation of their Constitutional Mandate and the obstacles hindering the realization of the two-thirds gender rule.

Dr. Mwikali laid bare the challenges hindering the Commission's vital work as she underscored the critical importance of addressing these hurdles to ensure the realization of constitutional mandates.

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"This scarcity, compounded by a shortage of technical staff, impedes the Commission's ability to extend its services across all regions effectively," she noted, as she stressed the need for expanding NGECE's footprint

to ensure equitable access to its services nationwide.

Dr. Mwikali further noted, "Amidst these challenges, adherence to legal and policy frameworks on gender equality and inclusion remains low. Laws pertaining to gender representation and inclusion also remain unenacted, signaling a worrying lack of prioritization in legislative agendas".

She emphasized the need for proactive measures to rectify this disparity and uphold constitutional mandates. Dr. Mwikali observed that gender equality initiatives are often perceived as costly burdens, adding that the misconception that such efforts inflate the wage bill threatens to undermine crucial support for marginalized groups and perpetuate systemic inequalities.

The commission Chairperson urged policymakers to reframe gender equality as a catalyst for development rather than a discretionary expense.

Of concern is the proposed merger of constitutional commissions, in-

cluding the NGECE, which threatens to unravel years of progress. She cautioned against the dissolution of the NGECE, highlighting its unique mandate and indispensable role in advancing equality and social cohesion. She implored the Committee to safeguard the NGECE's autonomy and preserve its vital contributions to Kenya's constitutional framework.

Legislators urged NGECE to forge partnerships with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to advocate for gender mainstreaming and address issues such as Gender-Based Violence (GBV) facing the country.

Further, members elaborated that it was critical to consider providing legal assistance to victims of GBV as they dealt with the issues at hand.

"Consider the need to represent voiceless Kenyans and collaborate with NGOs aligned with your objectives," stated Wamuchomba.

Furthermore, members highlighted the misconception that gender issues solely concern women, emphasizing

the inclusion of men in gender-related discussions. They suggested that the two-thirds gender rule may eventually require "topping up" male representation.

The committee urged NGECE to develop policies and frameworks promoting gender mainstreaming across all sectors and reaffirming the commission's mandate.

Wamuchomba raised concerns about the declining operations of gender desks at police posts, leaving the public vulnerable.

She stressed the importance of gender sensitivity, highlighting cases where men faced discrimination, in reporting GBV against them.

"It's crucial to address these challenges," emphasized Wamuchomba, "as gender issues affect both men and women."

The engagement between CIOC and NGECE underscored the importance of collaborative efforts to address gender equity challenges and advance inclusive policies in Kenya.



National Gender and Equality Commission officials and other stakeholders during a past function.

Firearm Robbed From Ocs Vihiga Recovered In Kasarani, Nairobi

By: The DCI

A firearm that was violently robbed from the Officer Commanding Vihiga Police Station when a criminal gang attacked him while on patrol on December 21, last year has been recovered in Mwiki, Kasarani sub-county, Nairobi.

One member of the gang from whose possession the Jericho pistol was recovered was also neutralized after daring a gunfight with the DCI Operations team that was trailing them.

To get the firearm, the ruthless gang had on the said date waylaid the Chief Inspector as he parked his car in Vihiga's Majengo market, descending on him with daggers and leaving him for the dead.

They then disappeared with his Jericho pistol loaded with 15 rounds of ammunition.

After days of surveillance, detectives from DCI Operations Directorate

swiftly responded to an intelligence report received through the Fichuak-waDCI hotline by an anonymous caller who reported to have spotted a suspicious car occupied by three armed men at the KU farm in Mwiki area.

Stealthily approaching the scene, the hawkshaws realized it was the same suspects who had evaded several police dragnets after staging some attacks around the City.

On challenging the miscreants to surrender, two of the three took to their heels as the shot suspect brandished the firearm for a battle of guns and was gunned down.

His accomplices made it to the populated shopping centre and holed up, but the police are hot on their trail.

A KBZ 985T Nissan Note which the suspects were using was impounded alongside other exhibits that were found stashed in it.

The suspect's body was moved to the City Mortuary pending identification.



Firearm.

The Mt. Kenya Times



Nature Love



mother.

Nature shows a selfless love on people
how mother's like them children.

Nature protect the people how a father
protect them children.

Nature gives good company as like as
the best friend.

Sometime good Nature spread a positive
vibes in us.

How nature change good it's self as
like as Nature change people in a good
manner if nature have life

We don't need to do anything for
Nature but we don't destroy the
Nature.

Nature gives us lots of things without
any expecting from us as like as a

Save Nature save world
Jagadish Baikadi

Young People Are The Creators Of The Future



Today's youth are mature and talented in every way. It is an urgent topic to develop every talent identified in time and on this basis to encourage and support them in their professional activities and to give them practical help to become the most necessary specialists for the development of society.

Determining the interests of our school-aged students and guiding them in the right way will certainly motivate them to find their own professions and work in their own fields in the future. Therefore, today Every young person studying in educational institutions should be provided with employment at the next stage of schooling. Our young people who are not provided with employment will cause the increase of unemployment in the society and the emergence of various social problems.

It is the duty of the pedagogue-psychologist to perform the task of psychological study, correct diagnosis and orientation of young people to which profession they have inclinations and interests.

If we look at the world education system, we can see that it is possible to determine which subject or profession a child is inclined to at the first step to school, and it is guided based on this. without development, in the end, without defining its directions, it cannot achieve any positive results.

In general education schools, the work of directing 7th grade students to what subject they are interested in and in which direction to the profession is currently being organized by practicing school psychologists. , they are finding their direction and gaining both professional and psychological skills. It is important that students are studied from the psychological side, their personal

interests are determined, and the right path is shown. is dying.

In fact, isn't this the demand of today?

Only when young people choose a profession of their own free will, they will have a significant positive impact on their professional activities.

can achieve results.Special attention is paid to the fact that they have chosen a profession or trade based on their interests.

Based on my professional activity, I can emphasize that today we need to carry out large-scale, systematic work with students on choosing a profession.I believe that a timely psychological diagnosis will definitely be effective. In these processes, I realized how important the role of school psychologists is in students' career choices.

The physical, physiological and psychological aspects of students are researched with the help of various methods and educational materials, and their development has risen to the level of a major reform in the education system today. should be developed.

Every young generation of school age must definitely find their direction and acquire a profession in the future.

Mamadaliyeva Aziza Dilshodbek
Mamadaliyeva is the daughter of Aziza Dilshodbek.

He was born on October 19, 2006 in the city of Chust, Namangan region. His first book "Joy of Youth" was published in 2021. Aziza is very interested in reading books along with writing poems. He is the district and regional prize winner of the "Young Reader" competition. A number of his poems are published in district and regional newspapers. Aziza Namangan has delighted many fans with her poems on television.

One World Forever



With you, through you and from you.

Tell them the world is never
Art in law, parliament,
The president and his cabinet -
The king and his monarch -
The pastor and his church,
The prophet and his mosque,
The priest and his temple,
The educator and his school.

The world extends west, east, north,
South, up and down - horizontally,
vertically, diagonally Framed in you.

By Chenjerai Mhondera
Facebook account: Dr. C J Chenjerai
Mhondera
Insta id: ceciljonesmyondela

One day they'll gather
And ask you why you are this cool and
confident?

Tell them that it is because you've seen
the world.

The world is neither here nor there!
It is in you, with you, for you
And for everyone else to live
And experience eternal beauty

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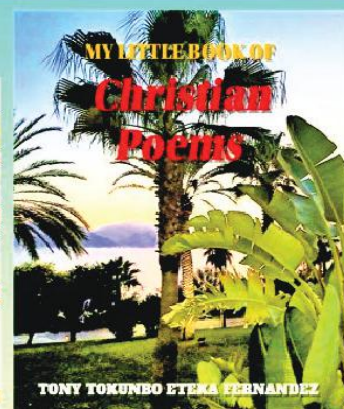
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BUSINESS

Safaricom Offers Lab Equipment To Uasin Gishu Health Facilities

By: Ekuwam Sylvester
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- “We are very grateful for the support from Safaricom, we have received lab equipment worth Sh 500,000, we are committed to working together with them. Safaricom have and continue to support us like now they are building a boys dormitory at Ngeny secondary school,” said Dr. Chelilim.
- He affirmed his administration’s commitment in prioritizing health through improving diagnostic equipment across all the 138 health facilities in the county in order to offer quality services in terms of accurate prescription.
- He hinted on a Sh 437 million deal with an Israeli Elsmad organization with expertise in health technology, to leverage on drone technology to boost health services where samples will be easily transferred from facilities with no labs via drones to sub county hospitals for analysis and prescription.



Uasin Gishu Governor Dr. Jonathan Chelilim (right) and Mercy Kiprop, Territory Business Lead, Safaricom Foundation, officially launched the newly equipped lab at Kimurgoi dispensary, Ziwa ward, Soy Sub County, Uasin Gishu..

At least 8400 residents in Ziwa, Soy Sub County in Uasin Gishu can now receive enhanced medical services after Kimurgoi health facility received a donation of select lab equipment worth half a million from Safaricom Foundation.

Uasin Gishu Governor Dr. Jonathan Chelilim expressed optimism that the consignment would improve diagnostic services at the facility and relieve the residents the burden of travelling many kilometers for similar services.

He made the remarks during a development tour to the sub county as he officially launched the newly equipped lab at Kimurgoi dispensary, Ziwa machine area, lauding the support from the Safaricom foundation which he said was key in promoting universal health coverage by ensuring access to efficient and reliable health services at the grassroots level.

“We are very grateful for the support from Safaricom, we have received lab equipment worth Sh 500,000, we are committed to working together with them. Safaricom have and continue to support us like now they are building a boys dormitory at Ngeny secondary school,” said Dr. Chelilim.

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Health CECM Abraham Serem said the move is a game changer that will enhance the facility’s capacity in terms of diagnosis and prescription unlike before when they relied on their own observation which was prone to errors.

He commended the role played by the 90 Community Health Promoters (CHPs) in the area in offering services like monitoring blood pressure, sugar and other ailments, adding that it is supporting the health agenda of the government.

In her remarks the nurse in charge of the facility, Rhoda Kurgat indicated that the facility which started its operations in 2016 mainly offers Outpatient and Mother Child Health (MCH) clinical services noting that lab services had been a challenge for a long time which made it difficult for them to offer accurate services in terms of diagnosis.

“Since 2016 the dispensary has been doing great service to the residents of these areas. It was the main one serving patients from three wards of Ziwa, Kapkures and Kipsomba. Previously we used to treat about 20 patients a day but with improved services we are able to serve 50 to 60 clients per day which is a significant improvement,” noted Kurgat.

She noted that the support from the donors has saved patients from transport expenses they were forced to incur in terms of seeking lab services from Sirikwa health facility which was far.

On her part, Mercy Kiprop, Territory Business Lead, Safaricom Foundation, indicated that the initiative is part of the company’s Corporate Social Responsibility to ensure communities get support in terms of access to improved health services.

The Kimurgoi Dispensary Committee Chairperson Joseph Bitok cited staffing, water and expansion space challenges as he urged the county government and partners to come in to support the facility by addressing those challenges to ensure seamless services to the wananchi.

Eldoret Water and Sanitation Company (ELDOWAS) Managing Director Peter Biwott who is a resident from Ziwa machine area lauded the cooperation from Safaricom working

together with members of the society in order to improve and bring services closer to the community.

He said the select lab equipment is an immense support to ensure mothers and children from the area receive efficient health services which promote their growth especially for children under the age of 5 years.

“This dispensary serves close to 1500 patients per month, mostly women and children. The equipment from Safaricom foundation will boost services in this dispensary as we know if children do not get good medical care before 5 years it always becomes a challenge for them to grow healthy, this will improve both the health of our mothers and children,” noted Biwott.

He assured the residents of improved access to clean water for domestic use through the Ziwa dam project which is expected to be completed in 2 months to serve about 500 households in the area, schools and hospitals.

He also mentioned that Safaricom has also made a proposal and concession worth about Sh1 billion to support ELDOWAS to boost water services in Eldoret town and its surroundings and help to reduce Non-Revenue Water (NRW) losses.



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Echoes Of The Kabiru: Unveiling The Spiritual Legacy Of The Gikuyu Community



By: Erick Kamau Kahura
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Recent archaeological discoveries and genetic studies have illuminated the captivating connection between the Kabiru community and the construction of the Egyptian pyramids. The Kabiru people are revered as pioneers of pyramid construction and esteemed ambassadors of cultural exchange, disseminating profound ancient wisdom to distant lands and leaving an enduring mark on the annals of human history.
- Mount Kenya, revered as Kirinyaga or the "Mountain of Brightness" by the Gikuyu community, holds profound spiritual significance. It is considered the earthly dwelling place of Ngai, the creator and sustainer of all life. The mountain serves as a sacred site for prayer, meditation, and spiritual reflection, embodying the divine presence that shapes the Gikuyu worldview.



Ancient Origins: The Kabiru/Habiru/Hebrew Connection

In the heart of Kenya's vibrant cultural landscape, the Kabiru/Habiru/Hebrew people, known in present times as the Gikuyu community, stand out as a vibrant and resilient group with a deep connection to history and spirituality. Their journey through the annals of time unveils a rich tapestry of cultural heritage and profound spiritual significance that continues to resonate in the modern world.

The Gikuyu community, renowned for its rich cultural heritage, traces its lineage back to the ancient Kabiru/Habiru/Hebrew people who traversed the legendary lands of Palestine circa 2000 B.C. This historical narrative intertwines seamlessly with the modern identity of the Gikuyu, forging a bridge between the past and the present while inspiring future generations to embrace the wisdom of their esteemed ancestors.

Pyramids and Cosmic Wisdom: Pioneers of Cultural Exchange

Recent archaeological discoveries and genetic studies have illuminated the captivating connection between the Kabiru community and the construction of the Egyptian pyramids. The Kabiru people are revered as pioneers of pyramid construction and esteemed ambassadors of cultural exchange, disseminating profound ancient wisdom to distant lands and

leaving an enduring mark on the annals of human history.

The Egyptian pyramids, marvels of engineering and spiritual significance, stand as a testament to the Kabiru people's ingenuity and deep cosmic understanding. Through their architectural feats, the Kabiru conveyed cosmic principles and spiritual teachings that continue to inspire awe and admiration across the ages.

The Spiritual Essence of Mount Kenya: Kirinyaga

Mount Kenya, revered as Kirinyaga or the "Mountain of Brightness" by the Gikuyu community, holds profound spiritual significance. It is considered the earthly dwelling place of Ngai, the creator and sustainer of all life. The mountain serves as a sacred site for prayer, meditation, and spiritual reflection, embodying the divine presence that shapes the Gikuyu worldview.

The Gikuyu people's spiritual practices and rituals reflect a deep reverence for nature, ancestral spirits, and the interconnectedness of all life. From sacred ceremonies honoring cosmic forces to rituals celebrating the cycles of the natural world, the Gikuyu embody a harmonious relationship with the spiritual realm, passing down ancient wisdom through generations.

Guardians of Cosmic Wisdom: Rituals and Traditions

Amidst Kenya's diverse landscape, the Gikuyu community continues to honor its spiritual heritage with unwavering pride and devotion. The legacy of the Kabiru/Habiru/Hebrew among the Gikuyu celebrates unity, cosmic harmony, and an enduring connection to the divine. This enduring legacy invites us to delve into the mysteries of the cosmos, cherish the interconnectedness of all life, and celebrate the spiritual richness of the Gikuyu community.

The Gikuyu people exemplify profound wisdom through their commitment to unity and harmony. By fostering communal bonds and respecting the natural world, they embody the cosmic principles that guide their spiritual journey. In embracing unity and harmony, the Gikuyu community invites us all to cultivate a deeper connection with the divine and celebrate the interconnectedness of humanity.

Embracing Unity and Harmony: The Legacy Continues

Amidst Kenya's evolving landscape, the Gikuyu community steadfastly honors its spiritual heritage with unwavering pride and devotion. The legacy of the Kabiru/Habiru/Hebrew among the Gikuyu people celebrates unity, cosmic harmony, and an enduring connection to the divine. This enduring legacy invites us to delve into the mysteries of the cosmos, cherish

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The Gikuyu people exemplify the profound wisdom of their ancestors through their commitment to unity and harmony. By fostering communal bonds and respecting the natural world, they embody the cosmic principles that guide their spiritual journey. In embracing unity and harmony, the Gikuyu community invites us all to cultivate a deeper connection with the divine and celebrate the interconnectedness of humanity.

Conclusion: A Journey of Spiritual Enlightenment

As we unveil the spiritual legacy of the Kabiru/Habiru/Hebrew, now known as the Gikuyu community, we embark on a journey of spiritual enlightenment and cosmic understanding. Through their enduring legacy, the Gikuyu people inspire us to embrace the mysteries of the cosmos, cherish our connections to the divine, and honor the profound spiritual heritage passed down through generations. Celebrating the Gikuyu community's spiritual eminence, we discover the transformative power of ancient wisdom and the timeless essence of cosmic harmony.

Erick Kamau Kahura, Proud Guardian of Hebrew Heritage



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Balancing Dreams And Diapers

Nadia's journey on campus was not a smooth one. It was a path paved with sleepless nights, endless diaper changes, poor class attendance, and the unwavering determination of a young woman who refused to let an unexpected pregnancy derail her dreams.

The first hint came during her first week of classes, she was just a third-year student. A subtle shift in her body, a growing fatigue which signaled a life-changing revelation. She had to purchase a pregnancy test to confirm her fear. With trembling hands and anxious anticipation, she faced a positive pregnancy test, initiating a flood of emotions, uncertainty, and the weight of a ruined future. Thoughts

of potential losses and demoralizing decisions clouded her mind, with the overwhelming stress of contemplating abortion

Yet, amidst the initial panic, Nadia remained resolute in her commitment to education. She knew it was her key to a brighter tomorrow. "It never crossed my mind to drop out," she says, her voice laced with a quiet strength. "There was just a year left. I had to graduate." She pressed forward, undeterred by the obstacles that threatened to ruin her dreams.

The following months on campus were full of balancing motherhood and studies. Her tiny daughter, a constant companion, became a familiar face in the halls of academia. Friends

offered support, watching the baby during classes. Despite relying on the support of friends, the relentless demands of childcare often overshadowed academic pursuits, leading to missed classes and mounting concerns about falling behind.

"It was exhausting," she admits. Fatigue became a constant companion, while the guilt of sacrificing time with friends for childcare weighed heavily on her shoulders. "I couldn't rely on my friends all the time." Ultimately, the decision was made. During the last semester, Nadia left her daughter with her mother, a sacrifice made for academic focus.

Nadia's story isn't just about resilience; it's a testament to the unwav-

ering support system that held her up. "My parents and friends have been amazing," she says. Their belief in her, and their willingness to help, gave her hope. Through it all, Nadia's perspective on life transformed. Motherhood became a powerful motivator, a constant reminder of the responsibility she now carried. "Life is so different," she reflects. "You have a whole person, who depends on you completely."

For other young mothers facing the same, Nadia offers a message of encouragement. "Don't give up," she urges. "Having a child doesn't mean the end of your education." The rewards, she acknowledges, are subtle. The unbridled joy of a child's laugh-

ter, the quiet pride of knowing she's building a better future, these are the things that make the long hours and sleepless nights worthwhile.

Nadia's journey is far from over, but she's come a long way. As she looks towards graduation, a sense of accomplishment fills her. The most memorable moments, she whispers, are the simple joys of motherhood the first cry, the first giggle, the unwavering love that binds them together.

Nadia's story is a testament to the enduring life, a reminder that even amidst life's unexpected turns, dreams can still be chased, and goals can still be achieved.

By Grace Kubo
Rongo University

One Of The Major Threat Affecting Unity And Cohesion Of Our Country Is Insecurity

Although the C.S minister of internal security Kithure Kindiki and his team have done much and invested in security by employing more police officers ensuring corruption is minimised and justice is provided, he also went ahead to buy machines so that it's ministry can deal with bandits

who attacks the people but it seems all these is not enough. His ministry has to come up with more strategic plans, invest on them privately without informing the public because if the public has already an information of the ministry's next move the bandits will already have an idea of what they are

planning, to abort there mission and plan on how they are going to execute their plans .

Lately in Nyamira county, Kebirigo market and Tombe center, there have been cases of insecurity targeting business people.

Firstly they attacked a business man

known in Tombe as Dennis MALI MALI, a popular business man in the Nyamira county,they destroyed the shop and stole money. Two days after the attack, in kebirigo April 8 a business lady also was attacked, where they robbed her, stole all the money she had and sadly they cut her neck

and back with a panga, where she was rushed to cristamarian hospital in Kisii county for further treatment.

Nyamira county
Judy Totari

Bandits Should Be Dealt With Once And For All

It so painful to see that we still have people dying from cattle raiding in Kenya. At least all five governments have experienced this issue.

But it is unfortunate that all of them they don't have everlasting solution to this issues. Northern people really go on hard ground to survive.

Kids are in severing from hanger that might cause their death. The future of Kenya is Being washed away by this bandit. The worse thing is that the bandits have gone out to start attacking school, burning them and steal foods.

Around one week ago more than

two schools have been closed due to these attacks. Learning is been closed because of this people. Other students are continuing with studies while from this region have been forced to be home.

Leave that alone, handled of families Have Been displaced. They have to run away from their family to seek better place to be. No food, no shelter. Just war only available. Which can't give them food nor shelter but suffering and death.

But we must worries first what brought all this. The government should send security intelligence

service to found out the reason on this. Once the reason has been established, the next thing they should look away on how solution will be found. One thing they should, engage the community, they have much information about the bandit.

The community knows the tactics the bandits use. Once the solution has been found then use military to conquer the bandit once for all. Administration police should not be used on this. Let the cabinet secretary ask parliament approval to use Kenya defense forces to restore the northern part of Kenya.

Once the Kenya defense forces have been diploid to the area, no politician should go to the ground until the operation is done. One thing all we should know, most politician like chasing fame. Once they are allowed they will interfere with the operation. They will try to make sure that people have seen him/she has brought peace in the area. This will cause crisis between the political classes that will trigger chaos within their supporters. Military will be handling two issues at a time.

If this approach is to be followed, then schools from northern area will

be back. Hospital will be back and people continue will their normal life. All this will be achieved if the government decides

One Kenya one voice
Bonivace Oyunge
Rongo university.

Gov't To Construct Modern Markets In Narok At KSh1.3B

By: Kenya News Agency

The State Department of Housing and Urban Affairs is set to construct eight markets in Narok through the Economic Stimulus Program (ESP) at a cost of KSh1.3 billion.

Narok Governor Patrick Ntutu commissioned the projects at the Ololulunga and Ntulele trading centres, which are among the towns benefiting from modern markets.

The program aims to uplift the livelihood of the people in the grassroots, as thousands of traders will benefit from the program.

The construction work will be done by local residents, with hundreds of local people employed in the construction work.

The governor committed to putting a concrete fence around the markets to enhance security for traders and their goods.

The county government has set aside Sh. 2 million to build a dumping site at Ololulunga trading center for proper sanitation.

The markets will attract financial institutions like banks, M-Pesa shops, and insurance firms, boosting the livelihood of the people.

Maasai Mara University will receive about 2,000 units under institutional housing.



Narok Governor Patrick Ntutu with the contractor after he commissioned the projects at the Ololulunga and Ntulele trading centres.

KEPHIS To Open Up A Lab For Root, Tuber Crop Production

By: MKT Reporter @themkenyaintimes

Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) Managing Director Prof. Theophilus Mutui has announced the establishment of a KSh 260 million laboratory facility to expedite the testing and release of new varieties of roots, tubers, and bananas.

The facility is expected to take less than five years, compared to between 10 and 13 years under conventional procedures.

The Roots, Tubers, and Bananas - East Africa Germplasm Exchange Laboratory (RTB-EAGEL) aims to revolutionise agricultural practices in East Africa, preserving and enhancing the genetic diversity of crops essential for food security and sustainable agricultural development.

The lab will enable the exchange

of RTB germplasm—sweet potato, potato, cassava, yams, and bananas—between CGIAR breeding programmes and regional national agricultural research and extension systems (NARES) partners for evaluation.

The three main interventions targeted through the EAGEL lab are the testing and release of new varieties, managing pests and disease, and providing nucleus-quality seed to the seed system.

The project will facilitate the movement of roots, tubers, and bananas to prevent pests and diseases in their planting material and facilitate the movement of these varieties regionally to different countries.

This will enable breeders to get new and better varieties out to farmers quicker than they normally do.

The project will also create a centralized database where all germplasm developed by various breeders can be accessed by another breeder, even from another country.



KEPHIS Managing Director with other stakeholders when he made the disclosure.

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Private Sector's Presidential Roundtables Seek To Address Kenya's Global Competitiveness

By: Our Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

On 12th and 25th March 2024, the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) and the Government led by President William Ruto held two small roundtables at the State House in Nairobi. Fifteen private sector leaders were present through KEPSA, to discuss global competitiveness in various sectors of manufacturing including ICT, agriculture, international investors, tourism, labour, and financial services. The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) joined in the second meeting.

According to KEPSA, the outcomes of the two roundtables address critical bottlenecks in each sector and proposed interventions. Recognizing the businesses' vital role in driving innovation, creating jobs, and

stimulating economic growth, the President has affirmed the administration's unwavering commitment to engage the private sector. This includes adopting the recommendations, including negotiating access to strategic markets to open up for Kenya's exports. Leveraging the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) will further help expand market access within the continent, tapping into the growing demand for high-quality products and services.

Other resolutions recommended include adopting the National Taxation Policy to provide predictability to Kenya's tax system, increased support and financing to SMEs, and an overall supportive environment that incorporates stakeholder inputs into the process of policy and legal intervention across sectors, among others. The third Presidential Roundtable will take place sometime in May, to go through the progress report and add two more sectors for discussion. Over the last 20 years, KEPSA has



President William Ruto during a meeting with leaders of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) and Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) at State House, Nairobi on March 12, 2024. Image: PCS.

rallied the private sector to engage and speak in one voice to the government through structured dialogue as a social and economic partner. The Presidential Roundtables mark a ma-

major milestone and are a culmination of the ongoing deliberations under the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment that seek to collate different private sector issues affecting

business costs, including the cost of raw materials, cost of utilities, labour productivity, logistics, and cost and tenure of credit.

Today's Guidance

By: Dipa Sharma

Greetings, I am a professional intuitive tarot card reader. My readings incorporate both the cards and my intuition. This reading is timeless, general, and collective, meaning it may or may not directly resonate with you. Please take what resonates with you and disregard the rest. If you've come across this reading, it likely holds a message for you. For personalized guidance, feel free to reach out for a personal reading. You can contact me via email at: sharmadipa.ds@gmail.com

How open you are in receiving energy?

Right now, understanding energy feels like unraveling a captivating mystery. You are eager to delve into it, to feel its flow and connect with the vastness of the universe. But there's a lingering question: what's holding me back? Instead of seeking external validation, you are following your gut instincts and prioritizing inner growth. You feel your energy rooted and

stable, yet there's an insatiable curiosity driving you to explore the spiritual realm further. You are seriously considering dedicating time to focus solely on this transformative journey. The best part? You are bursting with excitement at the prospect of discovering the profound positivity waiting within the depths of the spiritual world.

What might be blocking the energy from reaching you?

You may struggle to balance your energy and experience disappointment quickly. Taking time out for meditation and yoga to calm yourself might cross your mind, but you find it challenging to fully commit due to intrusive dark thoughts that hinder concentration. Your mind begins conjuring images that don't reflect balance, making it difficult to trust that the universe will eventually restore equilibrium.

What should you focus on and set your intention as?

It's essential to take action and implement your ideas and plans deliberately. Avoid being impulsive or

rushing into situations without thorough consideration, expecting everything to fall into place effortlessly. While meditating, focus on recalling moments of happiness to elevate your energy. By doing so, you'll effectively reach the target you've always aspired to achieve. Prioritize self-improvement as it's crucial for attaining your goals. Centralize your energy and exercise control over your thoughts and actions to progress effectively.

Advice from Lord Krishna

Do not burden yourself with additional responsibilities and a heavier workload, for they will only add to your already heavy burdens. Reflect on why you continue to work extra hours if it only leads to more stress. Take a step back, dear one, and grant yourself some respite. Calm your mind, immerse yourself in sacred texts, and dedicate time to introspection. Seek to understand what your true essence requires of you. Dive deep within, my devotee. Withdraw into solitude to discern the source of your burdens, preventing you from centering your energy.

Tarot, Zodiac, Astrology & Horoscopes

How To Harness Your Energy?



Kenyan Women Urged To Report Violence Cases In Efforts To End The Violations

By: MKT Correspondent

@themtkenyatimes

A survey by Nguvu Collective has revealed that Kenyan women are being subjected to gross human rights violations while seeking maternal care in healthcare institutions.

The survey, titled "Towards Ending OBV in Kenya," drew responses from 189 women from 27 counties.

The survey revealed that 83% of respondents had encountered at least one form of OBV, with 68 per cent of the incidents being gross human rights violations.

The survey was conducted in partnership with various organisations, including BrightHarriet Foundation, The Debra Show, AbleRise Africa Society, Mukuru Slums Development Projects, the GAMAFRICA Foundation, the Association for the Physically Disabled of Kenya, and CAARY-AFRICA.

The survey revealed various forms of OBV, including psychological

and emotional abuse (62%), physical violence and coercion (10%), and medical neglect, malpractice, and unnecessary interventions (28%).

The majority of incidents of OBV occurred during childbirth, with 55% experiencing mistreatment during this vulnerable stage.

Nurses were the most prone to subjecting women to OBV at 51 per cent, followed by doctors, obstetricians, and gynaecologists at 25 per cent, and non-clinical staff at 19 per cent.

The survey also revealed that 9 per cent of reported OBV incidents resulted in infant deaths, while 13 per cent had a long-term negative impact on the child's health and development.

The survivors of the survey are seeking interventions to increase awareness about women's rights and respectful maternity care, with 97 per cent stressing the importance of formal legislative measures in effectively addressing the issue.



Stakeholders Support The NACADA Policy

By: MKT Correspondent

@themtkenyatimes

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UNEP And Oman Envoys' Face Defence Committee, As It Urges Nominees To Prepare Well For Approval Hearings

By: PSCU and MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyentimes

The National Assembly Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations, chaired by Belgut MP Nelson Koech has directed ambassadorial nominees to be better prepared for approval hearings.

“Ambassadors are the face of the country in their duty stations. They represent the interests of Kenyans as such we expected the nominees who appear before this Committee to demonstrate their suitability,” underscored Koech.

His sentiments echoed by the session Vice chair and Kajiado Central MP Elijah Memusi who said, “We expected the nominees to have done their homework.”

The lawmakers vetted two ambassadorial nominees: Mr. Abdi Aden Korio (Muscat, Oman) and Ms. Gertrude N. Angote (UNEP, Nairobi).

Saboti constituency MP Caleb Amisi challenged Kenyan’s nominee to Oman on his plans to boost Kenyan meat export.



Abdi Aden Korio.

“Oman is supposed to be a good market for Kenyan meat products. However, we have previously had several diplomats who have failed to deliver tangible results. What are you going to do differently to market Kenyan products?”

Korio, a career Civil Servant and member of the Board of the Kenya National Museums assured the committee of his intention to identify market gaps and opportunities for Kenyan products.

The Kenya’s nominated representative to the UNEP was the final nominee to be vetted on Tuesday where the lawmakers noted Ms. Angote has exemplary career as the Project Coordinator of the International Labour Organisation with 13 years experience in law, policy and capacity development.

Kamukunji MP Yusuf Hassan raised concerns about UNEP, the sole UN headquarters in the Global South asking, “UNEP is the only UN Head-



Gertrude Angote

quarters on the global south but its not meeting its full potential. How will you advocate for UNEP to get more funding?”

Hassan further pressed Ms. Angote on the lack of Kenyan representation in UNEP’s top management. “Kenyans are completely underrepresented in the top leadership of UNEP, How will you facilitate and advocate for Kenyans to reach management levels?”

In her response Ms. Angote acknow-

ledged the significance of UNEP’s headquarters in Kenya.

She further added that following the Conference on Climate Change and Development held in Kenya and 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP28 provided opportunities for Kenyans.

The committee is expected to resume approval hearings of other ambassadorial nominees this morning.

Migori Artisan Miners To Receive Mining Permits

By: Kenya News Agency

The Migori County artisanal mining committees are set to issue mining permits to artisan miners, aiming to boost their socio-economic development in the county.

Migori Regional Director for Mining, Joseph Boiwo, stated that 25 mining cooperatives formed by artisan miners are currently awaiting permits to legalize their operations.

Mining is primarily conducted in Nyatike Sub County, with Osiri Matanda being one of the largest sites with over 2,000 artisan miners. Other sub-counties, Kuria, Awendo, Rongo, Suna, and Uriri, also have mining activities involving artisan miners.

Boiwo explained that permits will be given to registered cooperatives, not individual miners. He added that permits issued to cooperatives will provide benefits such as market

links, grants, and mining training to artisan miners.

He also stressed that illegal mining and processing plants will continue to be closed until compliance is met to protect community interests.

The government-mining royalty-sharing formula outlines that the national government will take 70% of the generated resources, counties 20 per cent, and the community involved 10 per cent. The 20 per cent allocation for counties will be added to the national government’s budget allocation.

In August last year, the National government suspended all mining operations in Migori County and issued notices to machine operators and artisanal miners to acquire legal licenses.

Cabinet Secretary Salim Mvurya urged artisan miners to obtain proper documentation for their operations, promising decriminalisation to enable them to earn a decent livelihood and promote socio-economic development in Kenya.



Migori miners at work.

Alisher Navoi Is The King Of Words



By: Mehri Juraeva
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Navoi was born in 1441 in Herat, which was part of the Timurid kingdom at that time. He came from a noble family and received a traditional Islamic education, including the study of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish, as well as literature, religion, and philosophy.
- Navoi showed great interest and talent in poetry and writing from a young age, and was encouraged by his teachers to pursue his passion. Navoi's rise to fame began with the patronage of Timurid ruler Sultan Husayn Mirza Boykara.
- In 1469, Navoi was appointed minister to the kingdom and served there for seven years. During this period, he also created a literary academy known as "Navoi Majlisi" and gathered scholars and poets from all regions of Central Asia to promote literature and art.



Alisher Navoi, also known as the "King of words", was a famous poet, scientist, statesman and philosopher of the 15th century of the Timurid kingdom in the territory of present-day Uzbekistan. He is respected for his contribution to the field of literature and language, and his works are still widely admired and studied in Central Asia and beyond. Navoi is often cited as the greatest poet of his time, and his legacy has left an indelible mark on the world of literature.

Navoi was born in 1441 in Herat, which was part of the Timurid kingdom at that time. He came from a noble family and received a traditional Islamic education, including the study of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish, as well as literature, religion, and philosophy. Navoi showed great interest and talent in poetry and writing from a young age, and was encouraged by his teachers to pursue his passion. Navoi's rise to fame began with the patronage of Timurid ruler Sultan Husayn Mirza Boykara. In 1469, Navoi was appointed minister to the kingdom and served there for seven years. During this period, he also created a literary academy known as "Navoi Majlisi" and gathered scholars and poets from all regions of Central Asia to promote literature and art. He is also known for his philanthropic work, such as the construction of madrasas, financing the construction of mosques and other religious institu-

tions.

One of Navoi's most important contributions is his literary works, which are strongly influenced by Sufism, a branch of Islam that focuses on spiritual development. His poetry and prose are rich in symbols, metaphors and allegories, and often explore complex philosophical and moral themes. Among his most famous works are "The Seven Thrones", "The Secret Garden", and "Xamsa" ("The Five"), a series of five connected poems. These works are considered masterpieces of literature of Persian and Turkic languages and are still studied and admired by world scientists and lovers of literature.

Navoi's works greatly influenced the development of Persian and Turkic languages. He introduced many new words and phrases to the language and firmly established himself in the literary and cultural traditions of the region. He also created a new poetic structure called mukhammas, which combined the two existing forms of poetry. This innovation became popular among poets, and later many Persian and Turkish poets followed Navoi's style. Even after his death in 1501, Navoi's legacy continued to flourish. His works have been translated into many languages, including English, French, and Russian, and his ideas and views on language, literature, and philosophy continue to captivate writers and intellectuals to



Alisher Navoi .

this day. In order to honor the memory of the great poet and promote his work, the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris established the Alisher Navoi Award in 1994.

To sum up, Alisher Navoi, the "King of Word Property", was a poet, scientist and statesman whose contribution to literature and language was unparalleled. His ability to combine deep philosophical thoughts with the beauty of words and poetic images earned him a place among the greatest poets of

all time. His wonderful works continued to inspire and influence generations, cementing his status as a legend in the world of literature. His spirit lives on in his words, which continue to enrich our understanding of language and our human experience. I am proud to be a descendant of Alisher Navoi.

SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *A Spanish court on Wednesday dismissed appeals against the provisional release on bail of former Brazil international footballer Dani Alves from jail while awaiting his conviction for rape.

Spain Court Rejects Appeals Of Release Of Alves On Bail



Former Brazil international footballer Dani Alves.

A Spanish court on Wednesday dismissed appeals against the provisional release on bail of former Brazil international footballer Dani Alves from jail while awaiting his conviction for rape. One of the world's most decorated footballers, Alves, 40, was in February sentenced to four-and-a-half years in jail for raping a young woman in the VIP bathroom of a Barcelona nightclub in the early hours of December 31, 2022. But in a surprise move, a Barcelona court last month agreed

to his request for provisional release while his appeal is heard if he posted bail of a million euros (\$1.08 million), handed over his Spanish and Brazilian passports, remained in the country and presented himself to court "on a weekly basis". Alves, who had been behind bars since his arrest in January 2023, walked out of the Brians 2 prison in San Esteban Sasrovi-ras near Barcelona on March 25 without speaking to the media. Prosecutors and the victim's lawyer Ester Garcia appealed the

decision to grant Alves bail but a Barcelona court said Wednesday it had rejected all appeals filed against the decision to release the footballer. Alves' lawyers are seeking his acquittal, and the appeal process could take months to complete. Prosecutors, however, want his prison sentence doubled to nine years. Alves is widely considered one of the greatest defenders of all time, having won 42 trophies. The peak of his career was with Barcelona between 2008 and

2016, alongside Lionel Messi, when he won 23 trophies. At the time of his arrest, he was contracted to Mexican club Pumas UNAM. He was sacked soon after being detained.

AFP

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Mikel Arteta has warned Arsenal to learn from their costly mistakes in Tuesday's dramatic 2-2 draw against Bayern Munich if they want to reach the Champions League semi-finals.

Arteta Urges Arsenal To Learn From Mistakes In Bayern Showdown



Bayern Munich's German goalkeeper Manuel Neuer tackles Arsenal's English midfielder Bukayo Saka during the UEFA Champions League quarter final first-leg football match between Arsenal and Bayern Munich at the Arsenal Stadium, in north London, on April 9, 2024. (Photo by Ian Kingston / IKIMAGES / AFP)

Mikel Arteta has warned Arsenal to learn from their costly mistakes in Tuesday's dramatic 2-2 draw against Bayern Munich if they want to reach the Champions League semi-finals.

Arteta's side ensured their quarter-final clash remains finely balanced thanks to Leandro Trossard's late equaliser in the first leg at the Emirates Stadium.

Arsenal's old tormentor-in-chief Harry Kane had ignored a hostile reception from Gunners fans to mark his return to north London with the ice-cool penalty that put Bayern 2-1 up in the first half.

Former Tottenham striker Kane's sixth career goal at the Emirates came after ex-Arsenal winger Serge Gnabry cancelled out Bukayo Saka's early opener for the Gunners.

It was a frustrating evening for Arsenal, who looked hesitant at times in their first Champions League quarter-final since 2010.

The Premier League leaders have been in red-hot form in 2024, while Bayern have stumbled through a crisis-torn campaign.

But Arsenal's status as favourites to advance to the last four was undone by some uncharacteristically

sloppy defending.

Arteta urged his players to use the experience as a valuable tool to make amends in the second leg in Munich on April 17.

"We will go again in Munich. We are alive. The game became difficult and they understand they have to step up the level," he said.

"We have made some mistakes today. Lets learn from it. These players have been unbelievable. It's part of football. Lets support them.

"I sense the belief there. We are going to go to Munich and have a chance to win it. We're going to be better in certain areas and that's how we are going to prepare it."

Arteta admitted Bayern's impressive first half had rattled his team, but he was impressed with the way they regained their composure after the interval.

- 'Crazy situation' -

"The second goal created some insecurity in the team but after we reacted well. It's easy to throw your toys away when things don't go right," he said.

"The subs, especially Leandro and Gabriel (Jesus), made a huge impact with their body language

and the initiative they took to make things happen."

Saka was convinced he should have been awarded a penalty in the final seconds when Bayern keeper Manuel Neuer appeared to make contact with the Arsenal winger.

But replays suggested Saka had initiated the contact and Arteta refused to be drawn on the controversy, saying only that he "hadn't seen the image again" and "can't change" the decision.

Bayern boss Thomas Tuchel bemoaned a separate penalty incident that didn't go his side's way. Arsenal defender Gabriel Magalhaes inexplicably picked up the ball following a David Raya goal-kick in the 66th minute.

Yet Swedish referee Glenn Nyberg opted against awarding a spot-kick.

"I know it was a crazy situation. They put the ball down, he whistles and the defender takes the ball with his hands," Tuchel said.

"What makes us really angry is the explanation on the pitch. He told our players it was a 'kid's mistake' and he won't give a penalty for that in a Champions League quarter-final.

"It's a horrible explanation. Kid's mistake, adult's mistake, whatever. We feel angry because it was a huge decision against us."

A crucial miss by Leroy Sane -- who allowed Ben White to get back to tackle him after he ran clear on goal -- stopped the six-time European champions going 3-1 up in the first half.

But after a traumatic season that leaves Bayern almost certain to surrender the Bundesliga title to Bayer Leverkusen, Tuchel could have few complaints about his side's battling display.

"It wasn't easy, especially after we conceded early. The Arsenal fans were incredible, they pushed them. We scored with our first attack and the body language and confidence changed.

"There are no away goals anymore. We are happy with what we showed and we start from 0-0 next week.

"Next week we will have the decision. It is only half-time."

AFP

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Mother Is A Great Being

By: Farida Boltayeva
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- My mother was the first teacher who taught me the lessons of life, the distinction between black and white. My confidant is the only person I can support in any situation.
- I compare my mother to an angel on earth. Although my mother did not study at any university, she worked tirelessly to ensure that my children were educated and not less than others.
- We gave our children honest work and honest food. During my years at school, my teachers used to say, "Thank you to your mother and father who gave you education". At the end of every quarter, they presented my mother with a letter of thanks for my behavior.



Farida Boltayeva with her mother

Mom! When everyone hears this word, a river of love, a mountain on which the bemint rests, and an angelic mother come to mind. A mother's love is like an incomparable ocean. Mothers are a great miracle and a great breed. It is the responsibility of the mother to ensure that the family is stable, peaceful, and healthy, and that her children are healthy. A person who fulfills such a responsibility without complaining, without refusing, despite difficulties, is undoubtedly a mother. Every mother is a separate person for her children. Mother is a great teacher, a lovely person. A mother's prayer is like a miracle. Wherever we are, his blessing is always with us. I set a goal that if I ever write an article, I will write about my innocent mother first. I have achieved this goal today. No matter how much we write about

mothers, it is not enough. My mother was the first teacher who taught me the lessons of life, the distinction between black and white. My confidant is the only person I can support in any situation. I compare my mother to an angel on earth. Although my mother did not study at any university, she worked tirelessly to ensure that my children were educated and not less than others. We gave our children honest work and honest food. During my years at school, my teachers used to say, "Thank you to your mother and father who gave you education". At the end of every quarter, they presented my mother with a letter of thanks for my behavior. When they said, "We are grateful to you for the upbringing of your daughter," my mother's face was full of joy.

I was so happy to see their happi-

ness. I remember, I will never forget, when they took me to study in the capital a year and a half ago. Although they have not seen the capital themselves, they took my daughter to study in the capital. They created all the conditions. At that time, when they were saying goodbye to my mother, their words: "Daughter, your father and I are ready for everything for you, please know that our pride and our face are on your shoulder. We have high hopes for you". Sounds under. These words always encourage me to learn, study, and follow the right path. I tried not to show my tears when saying goodbye to my mother, but it was impossible. Since then, I started to miss my mother. Longing is a very heavy feeling. I wish my mother was with me, so that we could live together. Every day, when they called me and asked, "Are you okay, my daughter, is the snow full, is your head all right?" However, I could not say, "Mom, your love is lacking". I swallowed these words so that they would not think that my daughter was suffering far away. My mother's value was well known in the foreign country. I really miss them waiting for hot meals. As for money, my mother would send it to me so that my daughter would not have to eat, drink or wear clothes. Seeing their kindness, I wondered if I could return this favor to my mother. When I was sick, I wanted to see my mother. I wanted to see my mother soon. I even counted the days to see my mother. When longing makes a person feel...

So the days passed. My studies were about to end. When I returned to my mother, I felt like a happy person. I wish I could go sooner to see my mother's relatives. And when I finally saw my mother, when I felt her warm arms, all my longings and sorrows were forgotten. I realized that I can't live far from my mother, my days without her are like darkness. I decided to transfer my studies to my province. Thank God, my mother and I are always together. The purpose of writing this story is that nothing can compare to a mother's love. A mother is ready for ev-

erything and every difficulty for her child. Sometimes I want to say live for yourself.

Today I realized that mothers are truly a great breed. Our mountain, our being, is our mother.

Our mothers give their lives for their children if necessary. After all, heaven is under the feet of mothers. A mother is a miracle of existence, a priceless blessing, a great and unique power. We cannot imagine a day without our mother. Let's always protect and appreciate our mothers. No one can love us like our mother. Their hearts will be happy with our sweet words. Mother, there is life in this world. The less we honor our mothers. A mother's approval is the key to heaven. We children must lean on our mother to gain her approval. We should be aware of the situation every minute. In conclusion, our mother is our most valuable asset. This breed has honored us, protected us, honored us and is still lighting our way like a beacon. The most interesting thing is that all this is happy! Our happy and healthy walk is enough for them. Let's remember our friends for a moment, no matter where they are. If we say "Mom! I love you, I hope you are healthy. Thank you, I am here". Our inexhaustible wealth is our mother. Of course, there are no people among us who are in need of mother's love. So let's appreciate them and support them. Munis mothers, you are a great miracle. We always bow to you.

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