

Gachagua Rallies Leaders To Support Transformation Agenda



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Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua



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KCA University To Raise Sh15 Million For Needy Students

By: Manya Hidayah
 @themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- “Through the cycling, we hope to get funds to establish the first research institution in mobility studies and traffic injury surveillance,” said the VC.
- “This is the second edition in which we target to help 50 students, which is higher than the first edition, where we assisted 16 students,” he said.
- He said the core mandate at KCA University was to catalyze and spur research, innovation, and outreach.

KCA University is seeking to raise Sh15 million to fund scholarship opportunities for talented, needy students and establish a center for Road Safety and Traffic Injury Surveillance.

The funds are being raised through an annual resource mobilization event by 13 cyclists who are covering 1000 kilometers of cycling in the Western Kenya region.

Speaking during the flagging of the 2nd Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer cycling tour at the Masinde Muliro gardens in Kakamega Town, the Deputy Vice Chancellor of KCA University, Prof. Vincent Onywera, said they were cycling to cover 1002 km for a noble cause.

He added that the cycling programme would help them to raise funds to support the needy students at KCA University.

“Through the cycling, we hope to get funds to establish the first research institution in mobility studies and traffic injury surveillance,” said the VC.

“This is the second edition in which we target to help 50 students, which is higher than the first edition, where we assisted 16 students,” he said.

He said the core mandate at KCA University was to catalyze and spur research, innovation, and outreach.

“KCA is sensitizing the community about the benefits of exercise and healthy living by cycling and also walking,” said Prof. Onywera.

“We are looking for financial support to cover the students whose fortune changed in the middle of their education journey, through the loss of a parent or guardian,” added Prof. Damiana Kieti,

the Associate Professor in Charge of Finance and Development.

Kakamega County Governor Fernandes Barasa, who flagged off the race, promised to buy bicycles for the University worth Sh500,000 to support the course.

The governor urged Kenyans to support the cycling project to support KCA University, adding that as a county, they will be supporting KCA on an annual basis.

While speaking at the flagging-off event of the first edition, which took place at the KCA University Main Campus in Ruaraka, Prof. Isaiah I.C. Wakindiki said they were partnering with the Technical University of Dortmund in Germany to set up the Centre for Road Safety Awareness and Traffic Injury Surveillance, which seeks to facilitate the reduction of road carnage in Kenya through research,

innovation, and knowledge creation.

We are also collaborating with the road agencies in Kenya, such as the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) and the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA), to streamline the collection and analysis of road carnage data because this is pivotal in getting to the root causes and ultimately developing solutions through education, advocacy, and policy-making.

“The tour is also sensitising members of the public on safe road usage for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians, as well as advocating for a healthy lifestyle,” said Prof. Wakindiki.

The cyclists are expected to cycle via Nakuru, Nandi, Kakamega, Vihiga, Kisumu, Bomet, and Kisii counties, among other counties.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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THEME

"Beyond Borders: Exploring Global Business Perspectives"

President Ruto Urges KDF Cadets To Adopt Smart Solutions In Combating Threats

By: Ronald Owili

President William Ruto has called on the new Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) cadets to seek smarter ways of combating current and emerging threats which pose risks to Kenya's economic development.

While commissioning new military cadets at the Kenya Military Academy in Lanet, Nakuru County, the President said Kenya in particular is facing various threats including terrorism, transnational organised crime, cyber security threats, the security related impacts of climate change, banditry and cattle rustling which will require a shift in thinking to address them.

"The multiplicity, magnitude and dynamism of security challenges in today's globalised and interconnected world demands a robust strategic mind-set capable of constantly keeping risks at bay through innovative and proactive approaches," said the

President.

In particular he pointed out cattle rustling which has led to loss of life and property and perpetuated cycles of poverty, conflicts and instability in the north rift region.

According to the President, dealing with the current and emerging threats will require creative approaches which focus on root causes, leverage technology, foster community engagements and implement targeted interventions.

"Your ability to innovate and adapt will become increasingly critical in safeguarding our national security," he noted.

The first cohort were cadets who joined the academy this year and who have undergone a three year training programme at the Kenyatta University and have graduated with Bachelors of Security Management and Policing Duties.

The new cadets are the last cohort to graduate with degrees from KU following the acquisition of a university charter by the National Defence University which now be providing the courses to KDF.



President William Ruto

The second cohort were Specialists and Special Duty Officers who have undergone a six months training exercise at the academy.

Among those commissioned today are also military cadets from Uganda,

Rwanda, Tanzania, Burundi, Egypt, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Mozambique and Sierra Leon.

"More importantly, I am confident that the friendship established amongst yourselves will contribute

to strengthening our bilateral ties and accelerating pan-African unity and integration. This will ensure the continent responds to present, emerging regional and global security challenges," added President Ruto.

Public Urged To Practice Safe Food Handling Ahead Of 'World Food Safety Day'

By: Christine Muchira
@themkenyatimes

The Principal Secretary Mary Muthoni Muriuki has emphasized the importance of safe food handling practices.

Speaking Thursday, the PS urged consumers to follow five keys to Safer Food by World Health Organisation (WHO) which include; keeping clean, separating raw and cooked items, cooking thoroughly, maintaining safe food temperatures, and using safe water and raw materials.

This as Kenya is gearing up to observe World Food Safety Day 2024 with a range of initiatives aimed at highlighting the importance of food safety.

The scheduled activities include a clean-up campaign at Soko Mpya market in Nyandarua County on June 4, 2024, followed by a conference at

Safari Park Hotel from June 5 to 7, 2024.

This year's theme for the World Food Safety Day 2024, is "Food Safety; Prepare for the Unexpected," underscores the urgency of readiness in managing food safety incidents regardless of their magnitude.

PS Muthoni highlighted that unsafe food poses health risks and also hampers socioeconomic development by straining healthcare systems.

"Unsafe food not only poses health risks but also hampers socioeconomic development by straining healthcare systems and hindering national economies, tourism, and trade." She highlighted.

Among the significant challenges facing Kenya, aflatoxin contamination in cereals, legumes, milk, and other dairy products; pesticide residues in fruits and vegetables; and the use of trans-fats were identified.

The PS noted that these issues have a substantial impact on consumer

health and economic well-being.

Addressing these challenges, the Ministry of Health is spearheading various initiatives, including the Food and Feed Safety Control Coordination Bill, 2023, currently in the Senate. "Our commitment to safeguarding consumers from substandard foods remains unwavering," stated PS Muriuki.

Moreover, efforts such as the distribution of food safety guidelines, sensitization programs for public health officers, and the establishment of minilabs for aflatoxin analysis underscore the government's proactive approach to ensure food safety.

Principal Secretary Ministry of Health
Mary Muthoni



NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS

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Charcoal Briquette Business Picks Up In Nyahururu

By: Joyce Thang'wa and Sarah Mong'ina

[@themkenyatimes](#)

Worth Noting:

- He says he uses charcoal dust and red soil to make them. He mixes the two together and adds water to make a heavy paste, making it easy to mould.
- This is then fed through a briquette-making machine, which uses electricity to compact them, producing the briquettes. Later, they are dried on a flat, raised surface for three days, hardening them up, or in his case, he uses a greenhouse to ensure a faster drying process.



Finished end product of charcoal briquettes placed on a raised flat surface to dry before its viable for use. Photo/Joyce Thang'wa.

In a bid to curb deforestation and environmental degradation in Kenya, traditional charcoal production is no longer a viable option.

The use of briquettes as a source of fuel has picked up in Nyahururu to replace wood and charcoal. Briquettes are compressed blocks of coal dust with by-products pressed with additives that help them light and burn consistently.

James Mwangi, who owns this business in Nyahururu town, told KNA about this line of work.

He said his charcoal briquette business combines the fusion of modern technology with old practices.

He says he uses charcoal dust and red soil to make them. He mixes the two together and adds water to make a heavy paste, making it easy to mould.

This is then fed through a briquette-making machine, which uses electricity to compact them, producing the briquettes. Later, they are dried on a flat, raised surface for three days, hardening them up, or in his case, he uses a greenhouse to ensure a faster drying process.

"I mix charcoal dust with red soil, keeping the ratio of charcoal dust high. A small amount of water is then added to the mixture to make it thick. It is later put in a briquette machine, shaping it into blocks which are dried to make it harder," he said.

He noted that the briquette-making business is advantageous as it is less expensive to produce because the wastes used are easily available. It does not emit polluting gases since it doesn't contain carbon and sulphur,

which are found in ordinary charcoal, making it environmentally friendly.

Most people, he says, prefer briquettes because they burn longer; three pieces can burn for five hours, and a kilogram costs Sh30.

"This business has more advantages than disadvantages. Briquettes are cheap to produce since the waste used is not difficult to find. They don't contain polluting gases that are harmful to the environment, making them burn longer. Charcoal briquettes cost less than normal charcoal coals," he said.

Eliud Kahiga, who is an employee, added that buying a briquette-making machine is expensive, which poses a challenge to those looking to start this business. Sometimes it's hard to obtain charcoal dust, which is the main material used in manufacturing the

briquettes.

"Buying the machine that is used in making the briquettes is expensive, which will be a problem for those willing to start the business. Charcoal dust is also hard to find because it's usually waste obtained from traditional charcoal, which has to be used in order to obtain it," he added.

The briquette-making business is a good source of income that provides easy employment. One can learn to make them and be self-employed rather than staying jobless. This business is very profitable and has many benefits since the demand for this product is always high.

The government should also provide incentives to encourage small-scale entrepreneurs to invest more in environmentally friendly businesses.

The

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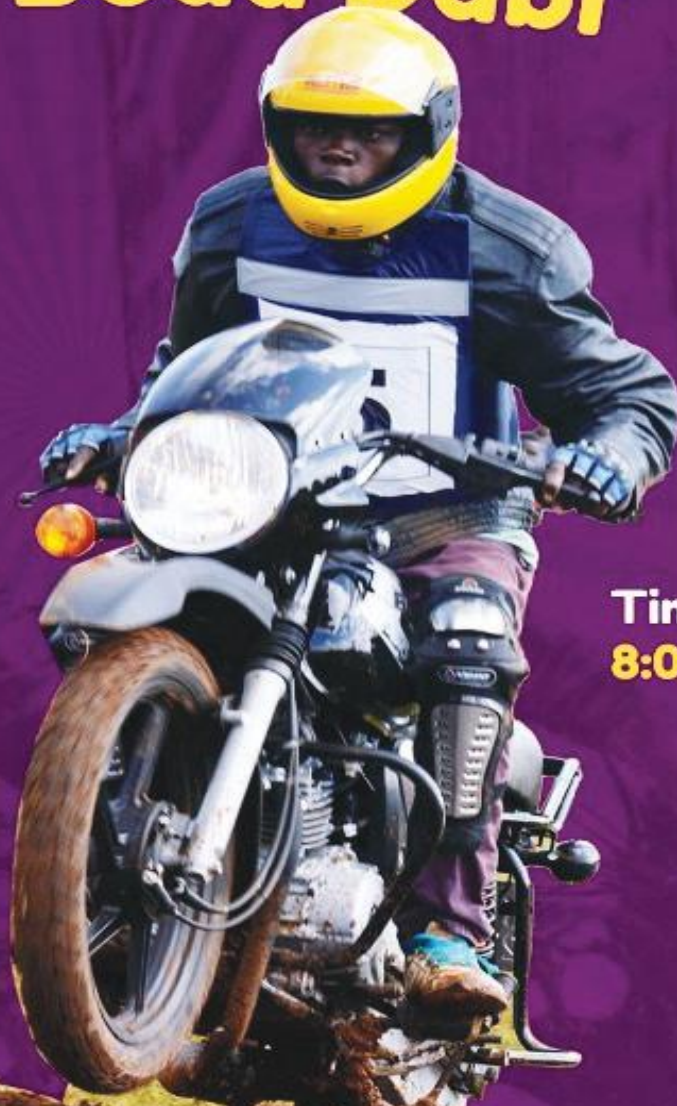
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Build Resilient Economies To Counter Global Shocks, Somalia Minister Tells African States

By: Joseph Ng'ang'a
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Speaking at a key side event organised by ODI in collaboration with the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), Egeh painted a sobering picture of a continent grappling with a “new normal” of compounding crises, from the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the intensifying climate crisis to geopolitical conflicts and crippling debt levels.
- These shocks, he warned, disproportionately harm Africa’s most vulnerable citizens and threaten to derail hard-won development gains.
- The event focused on unveiling research findings by researchers from ODI, AERC, the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP), and the Economic Research Forum (ERF), funded by Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC), on the devastating impact of multiple crises on African economies.



Somalia Minister of Finance, Bihi Iman Egeh addressing the forum yesterday.

Countries in Africa have been called upon to build resilient economies through collaborative action in efforts to face ever-emerging global shocks.

Somalia’s Minister of Finance, Bihi Iman Egeh, speaking during the African Development Bank’s (AfDB) Annual Meetings in Nairobi, said that building resilient economies that could respond to diverse, unpredictable, cyclical, and often very deep, shocks was the only way forward to build a better future for a large portion of the African population.

Speaking at a key side event organised by ODI in collaboration with the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), Egeh painted a sobering picture of a continent grappling with a “new normal” of compounding crises, from the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the intensifying climate crisis to geopolitical conflicts and crippling debt levels.

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ic Research Forum (ERF), funded by Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC), on the devastating impact of multiple crises on African economies.

Simulations show even a modest 10 per cent rise in food and fertiliser prices could cost the continent KSh900 billion annually, the Minister said, citing ODI research on the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on Africa.

Drawing on Somalia’s own experience in overcoming conflict, recurrent droughts, and economic instability, the Minister outlined a bold vision for a resilient Africa, emphasising the need for strong foundations and “tailored economic reforms” that address each nation’s unique challenges and opportunities.

Egeh highlighted Somalia’s recent success in achieving the HIPC Completion Point and attaining debt relief from most of its major creditors following years of rigorous reforms, which serves as a model for other African nations grappling with economic instability.

He stressed that macroeconomic stability, robust domestic revenue mobilisation, and strong governance are

the cornerstones of resilience.

“Somalia’s post-debt relief economic actions are focused on growth and creating opportunities for our people,” the Minister affirmed as he cautioned that debt relief alone is not enough.

“It is important to understand that economic shocks cannot be dealt with in silos. They do not come one at a time and say, ‘Solve me first, please,’” he said.

The Minister’s vision for a resilient Africa extends beyond economic reforms. He called for increased investment in critical infrastructure, greater support for climate adaptation initiatives, and social safety nets to protect the most vulnerable.

In a direct challenge to the international community, Egeh called for a radical overhaul of the existing financial architecture, arguing that current systems were ill-equipped to address the complex and interconnected challenges facing Africa, particularly in the areas of climate change and energy access.

Despite the daunting challenges, Egeh expressed unwavering optimism about Africa’s future, citing the continent’s burgeoning youth popula-

tion, expanding digital economy, and growing intra-African trade as powerful engines for sustainable growth and resilience.

He also stressed that realizing this potential requires a fundamental shift in how the global community supports the continent, calling for genuine burden-sharing and enhanced international cooperation to build resilient African economies.

“Partnerships are key to the successes of all economies in this age of greater interdependence and connectivity. Accordingly, there must be genuine burden-sharing if we are to build resilient African economies in this uncertain time of global shocks. South-South and North-South cooperation and knowledge sharing are crucial,” said Egeh.

The Minister’s address ignited a sense of urgency and renewed commitment among participants and the conference’s overarching theme, with leading experts echoing his calls for a multi-pronged approach addressing economic, social, environmental, and governance factors.

DP Rallies Leaders To Support President's Transformation Agenda

Gachagua said he would continue with his mission to unite Kenyans starting with the Mount Kenya region

By: Margaret Kalekye

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has rallied political leaders to support President William Ruto so that he the Head of State can succeed in his plan of transforming the country's economy.

The Deputy President also stated that he would continue with his mission to unite Kenyans, starting with the Mount Kenya region, behind President Ruto for socio-economic development of the nation.

"We must protect and ring-fence our unity and call out leaders trying to divide the people into political camps. The attempts to cause division are retrogressive and must be rejected. As Mount Kenya region, we are united behind President William Ruto so that he can succeed in his economic plan to transform the country. We are politically faithful," said Mr Gachagua on Friday.

He spoke at Mutonyora Comprehensive School in Kinangop Constituency, Nyandarua County, during a thanksgiving ceremony. He had the same unity message while addressing the people at Kimende and Kwa Mbira, in Limuru townships, Kiambu County, on his way back to Nairobi.

The Deputy President had lunch with traders, mechanics and juakali artisans at a butchery in Kwa Mbira township.

Mr Gachagua also rallied political leaders and government officers to press on with efforts to eradicate illicit brews and drug abuse in the country. The intervention led by President Ruto came in time to prevent the extinction of a generation in the Mt Kenya region due to poison packaged and sold as brews.

He said this even as a group of Members of Parliament and MCAs allied to the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) and Jubilee Party demanded that the Deputy President be accorded the respect, as they condemned their colleagues engaging in early campaigns for 2027 and 2032 elections.

The politicians accompanying Mr Gachagua present slammed their counterparts, who they accused of disrespecting and attempting to humiliate the Deputy President.

"It will be a mistake to undermine the office of the Deputy President and the holder of that office like it happened during the previous Jubilee Party regime. I appeal to MPs



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua .

and politicians, for the sake of national unity and prosperity of our country and political discipline, we must respect the office of Deputy President and the Presidency. We do not want another formation of 'tangata' and 'kieleweke' camps. We support the Deputy President and we must reject attempts to divide the Mount Kenya community into camps," said Kinangop MP Kwenya Thuku. He was elected to the Jubilee Party.

The second term MP added: "As Mount Kenya community when we see DP Gachagua being attacked we know it is the community being fought. We do not want a repeat of the history. The current President was humiliated when serving as Deputy President".

"We are behind you (Mr Gachagua) solidly, stay strong and we cannot allow any form of disrespect on the Deputy President," he said.

The leaders also condemned their colleagues engaging in early campaigns instead of joining the President and his Deputy in rebuilding the country.

"Those disrespecting the Deputy President are disrespectful to Kenyans and the Presidency. It is also wrong to start the early campaigns. We are asking them to stop the exer-

cise and focus on development. We commend the Deputy President for his mission to unite Kenyans and the Mount Kenya community. The DP is elected by Kenyans and must be respected," said Kajiado North MP Onesmus Ngogoyo.

Other leaders accompanying him included Nyandarua Deputy Governor Mwangi Mathara, Senators John Methu (Nyandarua) and Samson Cherargei (Nandi), MPs Faith Gitau (Woman Representative), Jayne Kihara (Naivasha), Onesmus Ngogoyo (Kajiado North), Njuguna Kiaraho (Ol-Kalou), George Gachagua (Ndaragwa), Mburu Kahangara (Lari) and Samuel Parashina (Kajiado South).

Senators Methu and Cherargei said those fighting the Deputy President were envious of his performance in the mandates given to him by President Ruto such as agriculture reforms and eradication of illicit brews.

"The DP has performed in his mandates. He is being fought because of his performance. He has also helped the people a lot while serving as the principal assistant to the President. It is not time for politics or campaigns. Those disrespecting the Deputy President should know that they are also disrespecting the President and

the country at large. The President and his Deputy cannot be separated. They are like siamese twins," said senator Cherargei.

Members of county assembly from Kiambu and Nyandarua led by Nyandarua Speaker Wachira Waiganjo, among other leaders, were also present.

"We commend the government's decision to eradicate illicit brews and drug abuse. In Nyandarua county, we have since passed a new Alcoholic Drinks control law to regulate and protect our community from destruction. We are behind you and your leadership. We also support your initiative to unite the country and the Mount Kenya community," said Nyandarua Speaker Mr Waiganjo.

The leaders also endorsed the DP's proposal for equity and equality in sharing of national resources through the one-man one-vote one-shilling formula.

They spoke a day after Myoot Kipsigis Council of Elders and the Kikuyu Council of Elders slammed a section of leaders that they accused of engaging in early campaigns and disrespecting the Deputy President.



Worth Noting:

- The Deputy President had lunch with traders, mechanics and juakali artisans at a butchery in Kwa Mbira township.
- Mr Gachagua also rallied political leaders and government officers to press on with efforts to eradicate illicit brews and drug abuse in the country. The intervention led by President Ruto came in time to prevent the extinction of a generation in the Mt Kenya region due to poison packaged and sold as brews.
- He said this even as a group of Members of Parliament and MCAs allied to the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) and Jubilee Party demanded that the Deputy President be accorded the respect, as they condemned their colleagues engaging in early campaigns for 2027 and 2032 elections.

Piped Water To Benefit 2,000 Residents In Lanet

By: Veronica Bosibori and Daisy Moraa
@themkenyatimes

Over 2,000 residents of Murunyu in Lanet Umoja Ward, Bahati Sub County, are set to benefit from the Murunyu Borehole Project.

The project will provide them with clean, piped drinking water directly to their homes. This initiative addresses the long-standing issue of water scarcity in the area.

The project is a key part of the Nakuru County government's commitment to ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for the community. Until now, residents have depended on unreliable water vendors, which has led to numerous hardships and health risks.

Bahati Sub-County Water Officer Jane Nginyo underscored the importance of the project, noting that the borehole would benefit not only the residents but also the local educational institutions.

The new water source promises to improve living conditions and health outcomes for the entire community.

Lanet Ward MCA Mwangi Ngarima commended Governor Kihika's efforts to tackle water shortages in Nakuru County and urged residents to utilize the government-funded projects responsibly to ensure the community benefits as a whole.

During the handover of the project site, key officials, including Ward Administrator Murugi Kinga'ng'i, the Ward Coordinator, and members of the Project Management Committee, were present to witness this significant advancement in water accessibility for Murunyu.

However, some environmentalists have termed the numerous boreholes in the county in the midst of climate change, as endangering the lives of residents.

Due to the continued sinking of boreholes, a number of areas were affected by the recent floods because the loose volcanic soils had made the fault lines weaker.



Ruto's 'Zakayo Is Just A Name' Remark Was Well Understood



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Worth Noting:

- At one point my opponents nicknamed Zakayo. He was referring to a phrase coined by Hon. Raila Odinga, the leader of Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Party, at the height of anti-Ruto demonstrations he was leading.
- He likened Ruto to Biblical Zakayo who was a tax collector.
- During the labour Day President Ruto reiterated. I don't mind being called Zakayo as long as Kenyans pay taxes. Zakayo is just a name.
- At the height of Raila Odinga led demonstrations, I wrote an article in this column. I observed that Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Coalition leader took the battle against President William Ruto a notch higher when he addressed a rally at Jacaranda grounds in Nairobi. He likened him to Zakayo, a tax collector.



President William Ruto

Recently, I listened to President William Ruto's speech as he led the nation to mark this year's Labour Day.

He minced no word in reiterating the passion and commitment of his government to fulfill pre-election pledges.

We have so far rolled out a number of mega development projects.

The money we spend to do this work comes from your pockets in form of taxes.

The President was right. We know all the governments' world over do not have money of their own. They rely on three main sources to raise money for development and provision of services that transform the lives of their respective citizenry. These sources are; taxes, loans and grants.

President Ruto while taking cognizant of this fact noted. I had been called all sorts of names.

At one point my opponents nicknamed Zakayo. He was referring to a phrase coined by Hon. Raila Odinga, the leader of Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Party, at the height of anti-Ruto demonstrations he was leading.

He likened Ruto to Biblical Zakayo who was a tax collector.

During the labour Day President Ruto reiterated. I don't mind being called Zakayo as long as Kenyans pay taxes. Zakayo is just a name.

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For those who have read The Bible, I'm sure they know Zakayo was a short man who climbed on a tree when Jesus was passing by.

This is the only option he had because Jesus was surrounded by a sea of humanity.

While atop a tree, he called the name of Jesus. Jesus listened to him as he confessed his sins and pleaded for forgiveness. The son of God told him. I have forgiven you your sins.

For Raila, Ruto is behaving like Zakayo, the tax collector. We know Zakayo later saw the light but Dr Ruto seems not ready to seek forgiveness, Raila stated.

I totally disagree with Raila. As a born again Christian, I want to say without fear of contradictions that his remarks were totally misleading and amounted to misinterpretation of the Bible.

There is no Verse that bars the government or any other institution and this include the Church from collecting

money from citizens.

However, the funds must be used to improve the lives and provide services to the contributors.

It becomes a sin if the funds (taxes) are stolen, mismanaged and wasted.

In the Churches, we call it 10 per cent and tithe.

For Zakayo, the Bible says he was collecting the tax from Churches and Synagogue. This was against the wish of God because he had turned the House of Lord to be a business premise.

Besides, he could not account for the collections.

We know the Azimio leader spent billions of shillings during the campaigns and many believed the outgoing government of President Uhuru Kenyatta was bankrolling him.

How come we did not hear him call Kenyatta a tax collector?

We know that the government does not have money of its own.

It relies on the taxes, foreign grants and loans to provide services to the citizens.

So, if Raila won the election, what miracle could he have performed? None. He could have done the same thing of rallying Kenyans to pay their taxes.

Former President Mwai Kibaki is remembered for taking this country to great heights of prosperity and devel-

opment.

When he ascended to power, he used to read same template.

He not only rewarded the tax-compliant Kenyans including those running big companies but he developed the slogan "Kulipa Ushuru, Nikujitegemea".

Since President Ruto assumed the power, I have not heard his government being associated with any corruption scandal.

So, I would expect Kenyans to buy Raila's political card that the taxes collected were being stolen and deviated.

This is my unsolicited advise to Raila. He should accept that Ruto won the presidential elections and move on.

The more he continues to make unsubstantiated claims against President Ruto, the more Kenyans believe he is after 'nusu Mkaté'.

Dr Ruto has repeatedly stated that he will not succumb to his machinations.

Raila should stick to his role of the opposition. My government is not hiding anything and it is ready to be checked and corrected.

He should, however, engage us in a structured and constructive criticism.

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

EACC Aims To Recover KSh5.2 Billion Grabbed Land In Central

By: Wangari Mwangi
 @themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- “This is a case that had around 10 witnesses. Nine of them have already given evidence. There is an attempt by a sitting Cabinet Secretary to interfere with that process, and EACC is opposed to that attempt. We have told the court that we want the case to go up to its logical conclusion,” said Ngumbi.
- Besides nullifying title deeds for the fraudulently acquired land, EACC will also be seeking orders directing the relevant Land Registrars to cancel all fraudulent entries in the land registers and issue new titles in the name of the Government. The Commission is also pursuing compensation for the period during which the illegal owners used the land to the disadvantage of the public.



EACC spokesman Eric Ngumbi.

Two parcels of land that were irregularly hived off from land originally reserved for the residences of the Central Regional Commissioner and the County Criminal Investigations Officer, are among government properties valued at KSh5.2 billion that the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) is seeking to repossess from grabbers.

The land parcels in question are government land and houses that were disposed of in a back-handed manner and ended up in the hands of private individuals in several locations in the Central region.

Speaking during a press briefing in Nyeri, EACC’s spokesperson, Eric Ngumbi, said that the Commission has moved to the Environment and Land Court seeking orders to nullify fraudulently acquired land titles for public property worth KSh1.2 billion that is in the hands of grabbers.

In addition, the Commission is investigating properties worth KSh4 billion in Nyeri, Nanyuki, and Nyahururu for recovery.

Among the people implicated in the suits are a former Cabinet Secretary for Lands, a retired High Court Judge, a former Provincial Commissioner,

and former Commissioners for Land. “Those cases are pending before the Environment and Land Courts in Nyahururu, Nanyuki, and Nyeri. The cases seek to recover these properties and restore them to the government,” Ngumbi said.

In Nyandarua County, the EACC is pursuing a 50-acre parcel of the Njambini Agricultural Training Centre, where the Commission has opposed a bid by the Ministry of Agriculture to have the recovery case withdrawn.

According to Ngumbi, the Agriculture Ministry has sought to handle the

matter administratively, but the Commission wants the title for the Njambini ATC, which is valued at KSh500 million, declared null and void.

“This is a case that had around 10 witnesses. Nine of them have already given evidence. There is an attempt by a sitting Cabinet Secretary to interfere with that process, and EACC is opposed to that attempt. We have told the court that we want the case to go up to its logical conclusion,” said Ngumbi.

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Ngumbi also asked the private developers holding title deeds to surrender the documents to the Commission.

He said that the EACC has created an Alternative Dispute Resolution Framework for those seeking to settle corruption cases outside court.

“Any person out there who is holding government land may consider approaching the Commission so that we can amicably settle the matter. We will assist them in returning the property because the Commission has an alternative dispute mechanism that can help them avoid costs and long-time entanglement in litigation,” said the spokesperson.



A section of the parcel of land, in the official residence of the Central Regional Commissioner in Nyeri that was hived off and sold to a private developer. The land is part of government land and houses valued at KSh5.2 billion that the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) is seeking to repossess from the hands of grabbers in Central region.
 Photo/ Wangari Mwangi.

Economic Growth Key Focus During Madaraka Day Celebrations

By: Sharon Atieno and Michael Omondi

[@themtkenyatimes](#)



Government spokesperson Dr. Isaac Mwaura

Worth Noting:

- Dr. Mwaura stated that the government has implemented strategic interventions that will support economic activities and efforts to revive the sugar industry, including public sugar mills, while also providing subsidised fertilizers and supporting legislative measures.
- Additionally, Dr. Mwaura revealed that agricultural projects such as the Lower Nzoia irrigation project will have over Sh3.2 billion in additional funds and establish industrial parks across the counties to boost productivity and economic growth.
- “Affordable housing projects, which cost approximately Sh1.6 billion in Kakamega and Vihiga counties, are already providing employment opportunities and improving the living conditions of residents,” he affirmed, adding that the government is committed to enhancing infrastructure and social services in the region.

The government plans to address the economic growth in the country as the nation marks the 61st Madaraka Day celebrations today in Bungoma County, Government spokesperson, Dr. Isaac Mwaura said yesterday.

Dr. Mwaura noted that Madaraka Day marks Kenya’s self-internal rule, which was achieved in June 1963 when the country gained full control of its political, social, and economic affairs.

He observed that the Madaraka celebration allows Kenyans to reclaim and celebrate cultural heritage, and foster national pride and unity, adding that the celebrations themed ‘Agriculture and Food Security’ align with the government’s commitment to showcase the western region’s economic potential in Agriculture.

“Economic activities in the western region are diverse and robust, including sugarcane farming in Bungoma County, which drives the local economy; maize, millet, sorghum, and livestock farming, which sustain the community, among others,” he highlighted.

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fertilizers and supporting legislative measures.

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Dr. Mwaura reiterated that the completion of Phase I of the Masinde Muliro project in Kanduyi Sub County, which will cost Sh. 807 million, and the rehabilitation of Matulo Airstrip, which will cost Sh139 million for commercial flights, mark significant milestones.

He added that Phase II, covering terraces, perimeter fences, and access passes, is nearly complete at an additional cost of Ksh 790 million.

On the other hand, Dr. Mwaura insisted that Educational investments such as the construction of an Engineering and TVET complex at Masinde Muliro reflect the government’s

dedication to improving access to quality education.

While Government efforts to conserve the national environment through tree planting initiatives at Kakamega Forest and the use of resources to boost the western tourism circuit are ongoing, the Government Spokesperson reiterated that significant cultural heritage sites like the Crying Stone and kakapel National Monument are promoted to attract more tourists.

Further, Dr. Mwaura stressed that the hosting of Madaraka Day celebrations in the county will enhance the region’s national profile and infrastructure, showcasing its culture and economic potential.

“Comprehensive strategies have been put in place to ensure the safety of all attendees, residents, and visitors, and emergency prevention, a management plan, and a traffic management plan have been developed to ensure minimal disruption,” he assured.

He at the same time maintained that the country’s economy and GDP have grown, attributing them to a rebound in the agriculture sector.

Meanwhile, Dr. Mwaura mentioned that the government is committed to supporting the offices of the retired presidents and the state officers in

accordance with the laws which demand that former presidents should receive pensions and other retired benefits after leaving office.

On the recent state visit to the United States (US) by the President, the Government Spokesperson highlighted that the president’s visit had led to several benefits and partnerships with Kenya, including increased investment in economic growth and trade, health (Sh 910 billion), agriculture (Sh 39 billion), education (Sh 58.5 billion), security (Sh 130 billion), governance and rule of law (Sh 26 billion), and infrastructure and development (Sh 195 billion).

Under the flooding emergency, Dr. Mwaura reported that 315 Kenyans have lost their lives as 306, 522 Kenyans drawn from 61,304 households are still affected by floods, 58,641 households comprising of about 293,205 people have been displaced, 38 people have been reported missing, and 188 people are injured and receiving treatment in various facilities.

Despite the challenges occasioned by recent flooding, Dr. Mwaura lauded the government’s prompt response and recovery efforts to safeguard the welfare of Kenyans.

Goodness



A person feels good from birth. Mother's love and care, her bright eyes and ringing laugh... When we are children, the best qualities surround us. Little people are not born good or bad. Parents are the first and most important example of the future behavior of a small person. What is goodness? It is the light in our heart, our view of the world and actions around us. Concepts of goodness are relative. When there are shootings, some people see murder, and some people see a victory in a fierce war.

When an animal is put to sleep, some see relief from suffering, while others see cruelty. The concept of kindness cannot be expressed in one phrase or sentence, because it is different for everyone.

We see kindness throughout our lives: a child shared a toy with a new friend; a teenager climbed a tree to save a cat; the girl helped the old man

to cross the road; provided first aid to a victim of a car accident; an old woman saved a homeless animal that was frozen on the street.

Everyone, regardless of their age and social status, can do good deeds. Goodness does not mean doing something great. Not many people save a family from a fire or provide first aid to someone who has been in a car accident every day.

It is not necessary to pass by a small thing, because every small kindness can return several times more. We should not forget about moral support. It is also important to help people and find solutions to their problems.

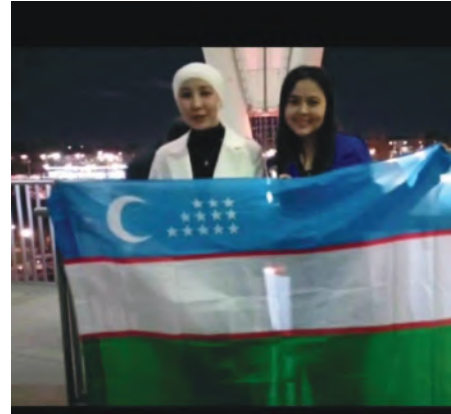
It's easy to make someone happy, to make a joke, to convey at least a few minutes of sincere joy. If everyone begins to share a little of their light with others, you can collect all the sparks and make a whole sun. A good heart is like a garden, good thoughts are the roots, good words are these flowers, good deeds – this is the fruit.

Take care of your garden and protect it from weeds, fill it with kind words and good deeds. Then with each new day, month or year, your garden will bloom, only the rarest and most beautiful plants will grow in it, and other people who will see this garden will create their own garden.

If you do good from your heart, you will see its reflection in other people.

Author: Erkinboyeva Hulkar, Uzbekistan.

Enhancing English Language Proficiency In Elementary Schools: Strategies For Success



By: Saytqulova Shaxnoza

Improving English language proficiency in elementary schools is a crucial endeavor that can significantly benefit students in their academic and personal development. This thesis aims to explore the importance of increasing English knowledge in elementary schools and propose effective strategies to achieve this goal.

Importance of Increasing English Knowledge in Elementary Schools

Global communication and multiculturalism:

English is widely regarded as the global language of communication, and proficiency in English opens doors to diverse cultural experiences and fosters international understanding.

Academic success: Proficient English skills provide a solid foundation for academic success across various subjects, including reading, writing, and critical thinking.

Enhanced cognitive development: Learning English at an early age has been linked to improved cognitive abilities, such as problem-solving, creativity, and analytical thinking.

Career opportunities: In an increasingly globalized world, proficiency in English enhances job prospects and equips students with skills that are highly sought after in the modern workforce.

Strategies for Increasing English Knowledge in Elementary Schools
To effectively enhance English language proficiency in elementary schools, the following strategies can be implemented:
Early exposure and immersion: Providing

opportunities for early exposure to English through immersion programs, bilingual education, or English as a Second Language (ESL) classes can help students develop a strong foundation in the language.

Interactive and engaging teaching methods: Utilizing interactive teaching methods, such as games, songs, storytelling, and role-playing, can make learning English enjoyable and motivating for young learners.

Integrated curriculum: Integrating English language instruction across various subjects, such as science, social studies, and art, can reinforce language skills and make learning more meaningful and relevant.

Professional development for teachers: Offering professional development programs for teachers to enhance their pedagogical skills in teaching English as a second language can lead to more effective instruction and improved student outcomes.

Collaboration with parents and the community: Engaging parents and the local community in supporting English language learning through workshops, language exchange programs, and cultural events can create a supportive environment for students to practice their English skills outside the classroom.

In conclusion, increasing English language knowledge in elementary schools is crucial for students' academic success, cognitive development, and future career prospects. By implementing strategies such as early exposure and immersion, interactive teaching methods, an integrated curriculum, professional development for teachers, and collaboration with parents and the community, elementary schools can foster a strong foundation in English language proficiency, equipping students with the skills they need to thrive in a globalized world.

Note: The sources used for this response are indicated by the source numbers in double square brackets.

Factors Affecting The Education Of Children



A generation ago levels of youth in most cities are increasing rapidly in most cities around the world. However, today efforts are being made to prevent this. This essay will look at the core solid solutions.

One of the main causes of this problem is that it is the negligence of parents towards their children. By this, I mean they go to other countries to earn money and this has a great impact on the upbringing of their children. For example, some people do not pay attention even when they are in front of their children they do not even know who is child has friends with. If his friends are rich, he wants to have what his friends have and through this, various crimes can be committed the solution is that the parents should always be attentive for their children and satisfy their needs. Another problem is that children are misusing some game. That

is to say, they also lead children to commit crimes by damaging their minds. To tackle this issue parents should monitor how their children use technology and set some limits.

A third cause of the problem is the some parents go to other countries because they cannot find work. To be more precise, they leave their children alone or with a relative which causes them to be free and uncontrolled as a result them they commit various crimes without knowing what they are doing. The way forward could be that the government should provide employment for people.

To sum up, the crime is on the rise, due to the reasons such as children in ignorance into not knowing that they have committed a crime. This is a serious problem and unless children should be strictly supervised, pay attention to the people around them, do not allow them use the phone a lot. About all, the state must provide employment for parents. My view is that the main responsibility for solving the problem lies with parents of children caretaker.

Davlatnazarov Davlatnazar

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HEALTH

Zoetis, Ripple Effect To Train 100 000 Farmers On Animal Health

By: Moses Wekesa
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

• Speaking in Kakamega, a consultant with Zoetis, Dr. Peterken Munyoki, who is a veterinarian, said they were targeting to train over 100 000 livestock farmers in Kenya to adopt good animal health practices to reduce sickness and deaths of livestock and curb the transfer of diseases from animals to human beings, commonly known as zoonosis.

• He said smallholder farmers in the continent grappled with the challenges of diseases striking their livestock, leading to huge losses, or transferring those diseases to human beings.

• Dr. Munyoki said Zoetis is set to also improve the diagnostic capacity to support veterinarians who lacked better diagnostic facilities to carry on with their work while in the field.



A veterinarian examining a calf

Zoetis, a global animal health company, has partnered with Ripple Effect, a non-governmental organization, to train animal health service providers through the Africa Livestock Productivity and Health Advancement Initiative (ALPHA Plus) programme on best animal health practices to improve productivity while contributing to the One Health strategy.

The ALPHA Plus programme is an initiative of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that seeks to improve livestock production systems in African countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, thereby contributing to food security.

The company, together with Ripple Effect, is conducting a training of Animal Health Service Providers who include Para-Professionals, Veterinarians and Para-Vets who will then train farmers in Western Kenya.

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better diagnostic facilities to carry on with their work while in the field.

Zoetis Kenya Technical Manager Ruminants Peter Lugonzo, who is also a practicing veterinarian, said that from the training, farmers would be able to reduce the excessive use of antibiotics in their animals to mitigate the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance.

“We live in a world where we are faced with a lot of uncertainties, especially on diseases, and a big percentage of these diseases emanate from animals, so it is important that farmers are aware of these good animal health management practices to mitigate diseases, not only diseases that affect animals leading to poor productivity but also to be able to control the spread of these diseases to human beings, what we call zoonosis,” Lugonzo noted.

He added that by adopting good animal health practices, farmers would be able to contribute to the One Health Strategy, the best practices that promote a good and healthier environment that is safe for all to co-exist in.

Peter Ngielo from Ripple Effect says that farming is a business which comes with challenges that might lead to losses due to lack of knowledge and access to services.

Ngielo said Ripple Effect is coming up with ways to enhance knowledge and enhance access to extension services like veterinary services to reduce production costs by reducing or eliminating diseases, which are a major cause of losses on a farm.

An Animal Health Service Provider from Khwisero, Herman Lichoti,

said he has noticed that the majority of farmers do not vaccinate their livestock at the right time and in the right way and fail to observe biosecurity measures, leading to infections in their animals.

He said, with the knowledge, he will support smallholder farmers in Khwisero to acquire the best methods of managing their livestock to improve production.

One of the farmers, Moses Mung’oni, said he benefited from the vets during their working tour and is ready to expand his poultry business into an institution to support the training of farmers in Kakamega County.

Getra Eliwa, the Farm Manager of Bukura Smart Farm, said that she benefited from the expertise of the vets during their practical session at the farm.

She noted that at the Smart Farm, they rare pure breed animals in a zero grazing unit where they are confined and fed on hay and silage, which are Basal feeds. The farm also grows brachiaria species of fodder in partnership with Ripple Effect.

“We also procure supplements and concentrates, that is, dairy meal, calf pellets, and young stoke pencils. We supplement them with mineral salts, and they have access to adequate water that they drink,” she added.

She said the Bukura Smart Farm has a total of 36 dairy animals, of which 19 are adults, 12 heifers, five weaners, and three calves.

“Out of these animals, we are milking 13 with an average of 8 liters per cow, per day. We sell the milk that we produce to locals at Sh60 per liter. The demand for milk is very high,” she disclosed.



Veterinarians monitor cows at the Bukura Smart Dairy Farm during a learning tour as part of training on animal health through the Africa Livestock Productivity and Health Advancement Initiative (ALPHA plus) conducted by Ripple Effect and Zoetis. Photo/Moses Wekesa.

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Could Namugongo Be Uganda's Untapped Gold?



By: Daniel Tusiimukye
danidalimonite@gmail.com

Worth Noting:

- Truly, Namugongo is a treasure trove of cultural and religious significance. This sacred site has evolved into a thriving cultural and tourism hub, attracting visitors from far and wide. As we delve into its richness, it becomes clear that this iconic destination offers a unique blend of cultural immersion and tourism experiences. Despite attracting millions of pilgrims annually, the site remains largely underutilized, with experts arguing that it could be a goldmine for the country's economy.

- According to Uganda Tourism Board (UTB) statistics, Namugongo receives over 1.5 million visitors each year, primarily for religious purposes. However, tourism stakeholders believe that with proper development and marketing, the site could attract a broader audience, including cultural and adventure tourists.

KAMPALA, UGANDA - As we approach June 3rd, the Christian community in Uganda and beyond is gearing up to commemorate the annual Martyrs' Day, a significant event that honors the courage and devotion of the Uganda Martyrs; Their unwavering commitment to their faith, even in the face of extreme persecution, serves as a powerful inspiration to Christians around the world. The day's celebrations typically include a pilgrimage to the Namugongo shrines, where thousands of devotees gather to pay homage to the martyrs and seek their intercession.

Located in Wakiso District, approximately 12 kilometers northeast of Kampala, Namugongo is a township steeped in history and religious significance. In the late 19th century, it was here that 32 young men, pages of the court of King Mwanga II of Buganda, were burned to death on June 3, 1886, for refusing to renounce their Christian faith. This tragic event marked the beginning of a long and arduous journey for the Christian community in Uganda, which would eventually lead to the canonization of the Uganda Martyrs. Twenty-two of the Catholic martyrs were canonized by Pope Paul VI on October 18, 1964, and are regarded as saints in the Catholic Church.

This year's Martyrs' Day celebration promises to be a momentous occasion, with various activities lined up to commemorate the lives and legacy of the Uganda Martyrs. The event will feature a series of prayers, processions, and cultural performances, culminating in a grand Mass animated by the Diocese of Nebbi at the Catholic Shrine. The festivities will also include a reenactment of the martyrdom, a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by the brave men who gave their lives for their faith.

The cultural significance Truly, Namugongo is a treasure trove of cultural and religious significance. This sacred site has evolved into a thriving cultural and tourism hub, attracting visitors from far and wide. As we delve into its richness, it becomes clear that this iconic destination offers a unique blend of cultural immersion and tourism experiences. Despite attracting millions of pilgrims annually, the site remains largely underutilized, with experts arguing that it could be a goldmine for the country's economy.

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and marketing, the site could attract a broader audience, including cultural and adventure tourists.

Namugongo's cultural importance cannot be overstated. The site is home to the Uganda Martyrs Shrine, a revered Catholic and Anglican pilgrimage destination. The shrine honors the 22 Catholic and 23 Anglican martyrs who were executed for their faith, and its significance extends beyond Uganda's borders, drawing devotees from across Africa and the world. The site's cultural importance is further underscored by the annual Martyrs' Day celebrations on June 3rd, which bring together thousands of people to commemorate the lives and legacy of the martyrs.

Beyond its cultural significance, Namugongo boasts a range of tourism attractions that cater to diverse interests. Visitors can explore the scenic hills, forests, and wetlands surrounding the site, perfect for hiking, birdwatching, and eco-tourism. The nearby Namugongo Museum offers a glimpse into the history and traditions of the Buganda Kingdom, while the vibrant local markets showcase the region's rich cultural heritage.

"The Uganda Martyrs Shrine is a unique cultural and historical treasure that has the potential to put Uganda on the global tourism map," said UTB CEO, Lilly Ajarova. "We need to invest in infrastructure, amenities, and marketing to showcase Namugongo's rich history and natural beauty to the world."

Local business owners and community leaders agree, citing the need for improved roads, accommodation facilities, and recreational activities to cater to diverse tourist interests. "Namugongo has so much to offer beyond its religious significance," said Kira Municipality Mayor, Mamerito Mugerwa. "We have scenic hills, forests, and wetlands that could be developed for hiking, birdwatching, and eco-tourism. The potential for growth is immense."

Responsive investment

To accommodate the growing influx of visitors, Namugongo has witnessed significant investments in tourism infrastructure. Modern accommodation facilities, including hotels and lodges, offer comfortable stays for travelers. The site's accessibility has also been enhanced, with improved roads and transportation services connecting Namugongo to Kampala and other nearby attractions.

One of the standout features of Namugongo is its ability to offer authentic cultural immersion experiences. Visitors can engage with the local

community, learning about their customs, traditions, and daily life. The site's cultural events and festivals, such as the Martyrs' Day celebrations, provide a unique opportunity for cultural exchange and understanding.

Namugongo stands as a shining example of a cultural and tourism site that seamlessly blends tradition and modernity. This historic township offers a unique and enriching experience for visitors, allowing them to delve into Uganda's rich cultural heritage while enjoying the natural beauty and warm hospitality of the region. As Namugongo continues to evolve as a tourism destination, it remains a testament to the power of cultural exchange and understanding.

A Comparative Look at Namugongo and Beyond

As we celebrate the significance of Namugongo, Uganda's revered cultural and religious hub, it's essential to explore similar sites across Africa, examining how their respective countries value and harness their potential. Similarly, other African nations boast equally impressive sites, each with its unique history and cultural importance.

- Kibeho, Rwanda: This small town is renowned for its apparition site, where the Virgin Mary appeared to three young girls in 1981. Like Namugongo, Kibeho has become a significant pilgrimage destination, with Rwanda investing heavily in infrastructure development to accommodate visitors day in day out.

- Lalibela, Ethiopia: This ancient city is famous for its rock-hewn churches, a testament to Ethiopia's rich cultural heritage. Lalibela has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and Ethiopia has made concerted efforts to preserve and promote its historical significance.

- Soweto, South Africa: This historic township is home to the Hector Pieterson Memorial, a poignant reminder of the 1976 Soweto Uprising. South Africa has recognized the site's importance, incorporating it into the country's liberation tourism circuit.

- Tunis, Tunisia: The ancient city of Carthage, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, boasts impressive ruins and historical significance. Tunisia has invested in preserving and showcasing its cultural heritage, attracting tourists and scholars alike.

While each site has its unique character, common threads emerge. All have significant cultural and religious importance, attracting visitors from near and far. However, the level of government support and infrastruc-

ture development varies greatly.

Rwanda and Ethiopia have made substantial investments in promoting and preserving their sites, recognizing the economic and cultural benefits. In contrast, Uganda's Namugongo, despite its significance, still requires further development to fully tap its potential.

All these African sacred sites serve as testaments to the continent's rich cultural heritage. By examining how their respective countries value and harness their potential, we can learn valuable lessons. As we move forward and talking Namugongo, Uganda needs to prioritize preservation, development, and promotion of the same, to the very level of unlocking its full potential for the benefit of both local communities and international visitors.

To unlock Namugongo's full potential, the government and private sector must collaborate on development initiatives. These include:

- Infrastructure upgrades: Improve roads, parking, and amenities to enhance visitor experience.

- Cultural center establishment: Create a hub for traditional crafts, music, and dance performances.

- Eco-tourism activities: Develop hiking trails, birdwatching excursions, and community-led tours.

- Accommodation expansion: Build hotels, lodges, and homestays to cater to diverse budgets.

- Marketing campaigns: Promote Namugongo globally, highlighting its cultural and tourism attractions.

Benefits and Opportunities

By developing Namugongo as a cultural and tourism site, Uganda stands to gain:

- Economic growth: Job creation, revenue generation, and local economic stimulation.

- Cultural preservation: Sharing our heritage with the world while preserving it for future generations.

- Tourism diversification: Offering a unique cultural and eco-tourism experience, distinct from traditional safari packages.

- Community empowerment: Engaging local communities in tourism development and cultural promotion.

The author is a publisher and an engineering student at Makerere University.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Inspect Vehicles To Tame Road Accidents



The government is responsible for the infrastructure development, when roads are poorly developed then accidents are surely meant to occur in a very high percentage. Some are flooded due to poor drainage systems; others have potholes which hinder smooth locomotion of vehicles. Although our drivers can be reckless but when roads are not maintained authorities are the ones to blame.

Negligence from the government also counts. Incompetence among traffic officers is viral; some take bribes from reckless drivers, encouraging them to perpetrate their atrocities. In addition, when such are caught and reported for bribery, no legal action is taken, they are not fired but instead shifted to other regions. Moreover drivers that cause accident are not punishment but given pitied bonds by courts.

Nevertheless the government hasn't taken the mandate to put road signs, for instance driving on paths that have no road signs, others lack signs while broken road signs lack replacements. Driving along such roads can practically cause accidents happen easily.

Therefore, the Government should set speed limits that every driver should follow to the latter by installing speed govern on public service vehicles. Sur-

veillance ought to be enacted along road blocks and the alcoblow gadget be introduced to identify drunken drivers. Also traffic police should be true to their calling and act diligently to deliver services to the nation.

Inspecting vehicles is a crucial measure in taming road accidents. By conducting regular and thorough inspections, potential hazards and malfunctions can be identified and addressed promptly, reducing the risk of accidents caused by mechanical failures. Inspections typically involve checking various components of the vehicle, including brakes, tires, lights, steering systems, and suspension. By ensuring that these elements are in proper working condition, the chances of accidents resulting from faulty equipment are significantly diminished. Moreover, inspections also contribute to maintaining roadworthiness standards, ensuring that vehicles meet safety regulations and are fit for operation. Regular inspections promote a culture of safety and responsibility among vehicle owners and operators, emphasizing the importance of maintaining their vehicles in optimal condition. Ultimately, by prioritizing vehicle inspections, we can proactively prevent accidents and create safer road



environments for everyone.

Road accidents serve as a stark reminder of the toll of human negligence. While vehicle inspections play a crucial role in preventing accidents caused by mechanical failures, they only address one aspect of road safety. The majority of accidents stem from human error, highlighting the significance of responsible and attentive driving. Negligent behaviors such as speeding distracted driving, driving

under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and disregarding traffic rules all contribute to the alarming statistics of road accidents. It is essential to recognize that vehicles alone cannot be solely held responsible for accidents. It is the individuals operating those vehicles who bear the ultimate responsibility for their actions on the road. Therefore, alongside vehicle inspections, initiatives focusing on education, awareness, and enforcement of traffic

regulations are vital in combating the problem of road accidents. By addressing human negligence through comprehensive measures, we can make significant strides in reducing the toll of road accidents and creating safer roadways for all.

DevinaAdhiambo
RongoUniversitywritersclub

Need To Celebrate Writers Hence Honouring The Art Of Wordsmiths

Wordsmiths

Writers hold a unique position in society as the custodians of humanity's collective imagination. Through their craft, they weave words into beautiful tapestries of stories, ideas, and emotions that captivate and inspire readers. Yet, despite their invaluable contributions to culture and knowledge, writers often go unrecognized and underappreciated. It is essential that we acknowledge the need to celebrate writers and honor their invaluable role in our society.

Writers are the architects of culture and the guardians of knowledge. They explore the depths of human experience, transporting us to different worlds, eras, and perspectives. Literature allows us to understand diverse cultures, historical events, and the complexities of the human condition. By celebrating writers, we acknowledge and preserve the rich

tapestry of our collective heritage.

Writers are the catalysts of imagination and creativity. Their works ignite our minds, inviting us to dream, explore, and question the world around us. Through literature, writers stimulate our curiosity, pushing the boundaries of what we perceive as possible. By celebrating writers, we encourage and nurture the creative spirit in ourselves and future generations.

Writers have long served as a voice for the marginalized and silenced. Through their words, they shed light on social injustices, challenge prevailing narratives, and amplify the voices of those who have been overlooked. Literature has the power to spark social change and foster empathy within society. By celebrating writers, we acknowledge their role as advocates for the underrepresented and give voice to those who need it most.

Writers are at the forefront of defending freedom of expression, a fundamental pillar of any democratic society. They tackle controversial topics, challenge established norms, and push the boundaries of societal discourse. By celebrating writers, we promote the importance of free thought and open dialogue, ensuring that diverse perspectives continue to enrich our society.

Writing is a solitary and often arduous endeavor. Writers invest countless hours, pouring their hearts and souls into their work. Celebrating writers acknowledges their dedication, perseverance, and commitment to their craft. It encourages them to continue exploring new literary frontiers and contributes to the sustainability of the art form.

By celebrating writers, we support the entire literary ecosystem. Writers are part of a vast network that



includes publishers, editors, agents, booksellers, and readers. Recognizing their contributions not only encourages writers but also sustains the industry that fosters their creativity and brings their work to the world. By celebrating writers, we ensure the continued existence and vibrancy of the literary world.

Writers are the backbone of our cultural heritage, igniting our imagination, giving voice to the marginalized, and challenging societal

norms. Celebrating writers is not only a means of honoring their invaluable contributions but also a way to inspire future generations of wordsmiths. Let us recognize and celebrate the writers who enrich our lives and shape our understanding of the world.

DevinaAdhiambo.
RongoUniversitywritersclub

Mary Maingi Keen To Ensure Access to Education For All

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyatimes

Mwea Constituency Member of Parliament Mary Maingi is a believer in the fact that education is an equalizer. That is why she has demonstrated enthusiasm in ensuring access and affordability of education for all. She notes,

“Providing opportunities for our children to access quality education is a collective responsibility that requires the partnership of parents, schools, and leaders.

In my efforts to ensure we support our students so that financial constraints do not hinder them from achieving their potential, today my team has successfully delivered bursaries to several institutions, including:

Jeremiah Nyaga National Polytechnic, Embu College, University of Embu, Chuka University, Meru University of Science and Technology, and The Meru National Polytechnic.

In the coming week, we will also be issuing and delivering bursaries to the rest of the institutions, so that no student is left behind.”



Building Up Towards World Environment Day

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyatimes

80% of Kenya is classified as arid and semi-arid. This has been exacerbated by desertification leading to over 70% of Kenyan land being degraded. These combined factor costs the country 3.4 Billion per year, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) Chairman, Emilio Mugo has stated.

Kenya plans to restore 5.1 Million Ha by 2030 under the Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) program. The 15 Billion tree growing campaign by 2032 aims at halting the spread of desertification in the country.

The Chairman added that in the last few years, most parts of the world have seen enhanced droughts. In the last one year, Kenya has seen enhanced rainfall that had costed Kenya over 800 Million. The last few years has witnessed enhanced droughts.

This has exacerbated by the recent enhanced rainfall and floods that indicate to climate change. Deserts have spread into formerly arable lands leading to degradation resulting into reduced productivity, stated NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo represented by the Director Corporate Services, Kennedy Ochuka at the Panel Discussion.

World Environment Day presents a moment to halt momentarily and reflect on the progress we have made towards environmental sustainability as a country, Levis Kavagi, UNEP Country Representative has said.

He added that building resilience is the surest way to restore our lands and halt desertification. Mr. Kavagi was speaking during the World Environment Day Panel Discussion at University of Nairobi on Thursday.

The panel discussion was organized as a buildup towards World Environment Day at the University of Embu, Embu County on 5th June 2024 where various restorative activities will be undertaken. The theme for this year’s celebration is “Land Res-



Mamo B. Mamo is the Director General (DG) NEMA..

toration, Desertification and Drought Resilience” Various other buildup activities have been planned including cleanups, football matches, community forums and tree growing among

others.

Other Panelists were drawn from Nairobi River Commission, Safaricom, Nature Kenya, National Drought Management Authority

(NDMA), State Department for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) and Regional Development and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

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SARIT EDITION



26-28 JULY, 2024

8:00AM - 5:00PM



VENUE

SARIT CENTRE
NAIROBI - KENYA



GALA DINNER

JACARANDA
HOTEL NAIROBI



28 JULY, 2024

7:00PM - 10:00PM

THEME:

"BEYOND BORDERS:
EXPLORING GLOBAL
BUSINESS PERSPECTIVES"

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**EXPONENTIAL
INTERNATIONAL**

Sports >> *Chelsea have appointed Leicester's Enzo Maresca as their new head coach, according to British media reports late Thursday.

Chelsea Appoint Enzo Maresca As New Manager



Enzo Maresca in a past match at Leicester City. Photo by Plumb Images/Leicester City FC via Getty Images..

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Chelsea have appointed Leicester's Enzo Maresca as their new head coach, according to British media reports late Thursday.

The Daily Telegraph said the Italian would be joining the Blues on a five-year contract, plus an option of a further year, designed to give the club stability after two years of upheaval under the new regime led by US investors Behdad Eghbali and Todd Boehly.

Maresca, who until last year was Pep Guardiola's assistant at English champions Manchester

City, oversaw an immediate return to the Premier League for Leicester following their relegation 12 months ago.

The 44-year-old Italian's style of football is also said to have impressed Chelsea chiefs.

London club Chelsea were looking for a new manager after parting company with Mauricio Pochettino.

He spent just one season in charge at Stamford Bridge, with Brentford's Thomas Frank and Kieran McKenna, who led Ipswich to top-flight promotion be-

hind Leicester, also linked with the vacancy.

Pochettino left after a late surge resulted in Chelsea finishing sixth in the Premier League -- qualifying for the Europa Conference League -- but missed out on Champions League qualification and a trophy.

Chelsea lost the League Cup final 1-0 to Liverpool after extra-time and pushed Manchester City all the way before losing in the FA Cup semi-finals by the same score.

But there had been signs former

Tottenham manager Pochettino's project was coming together during a run of five consecutive wins to end the campaign that ensured Chelsea will be involved in European competition next season.

AFP

Sports >>> *Vincent Kompany was named Bayern Munich head coach on Wednesday, capping a rapid rise in the Belgian's embryonic coaching career despite mixed results.

Guardiola Disciple Kompany Joins Elite As Bayern Boss



Vincent Kompany was named Bayern Munich head coach on Wednesday, capping a rapid rise in the Belgian's embryonic coaching career despite mixed results.

Kompany, still just 38, lacks the experience of previous Bayern coaches and was a surprise choice with his Burnley side relegated from the Premier League this season.

But he has long been earmarked for top jobs with Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola saying it is his "destiny" to one day succeed him at the Etihad.

The former City captain spent three years under Guardiola at Man City as a player, winning two of Kompany's four Premier League titles together.

Guardiola also knows the pressures that come with being Bayern boss from his three-year spell in the Bundesliga between 2013 and 2016.

After attempts to lure Xabi Alonso and Julian Nagelsmann back to the Allianz Arena from Bayer

Leverkusen and the German national team failed, Bayern reportedly sought Guardiola's advice before going for Kompany.

"I'm happy the link has happened for Bayern to Vinny," Guardiola said.

"I have a huge opinion about Vinny, (it) doesn't matter the relegation with Burnley. What I felt playing against him and knowing him, I have the highest opinion of his work, personality, his knowledge of the game, how he handles the media."

Kompany began his coaching career back at his first club Anderlecht, leading them to third-place regular season finishes in both of his full seasons in charge.

He departed his homeland to return to England in 2022 and enjoyed a dream start at Turf Moor with Burnley promoted from England's second tier as Championship winners with 101 points in his first season.

The Claret's joy was short-lived, however, as they were relegated from the top flight with just five

wins and 24 points -- the club's lowest top-flight tally in their history.

Kompany faces a marked shift in expectation when he swaps Turf Moor for Munich.

But Bayern are hoping to replicate the rapid rise of another former Guardiola protege, Alonso, who led Leverkusen to their first ever Bundesliga title in his first full season as a senior coach.

- Breaking a 44-year drought -

Aged just six, Kompany joined Anderlecht and came through the youth ranks, breaking into the first team in 2003 aged 17.

He left to join Bundesliga side Hamburg in 2006 but his stint at the former European champions would prove crucial to his Bayern appointment.

Kompany, a native French and Flemish speaker, learned German during his time in Hamburg -- a crucial criteria for Bayern, who have been historically reluctant to sign coaches not proficient in the local tongue.

After two seasons in northern Germany he made the move that would define his career, joining City just before the club was taken over by a consortium from Abu Dhabi, which transformed them into the dominant force in English football.

Named skipper in 2011-12, he then captained City to their first English league title in 44 years.

The defender departed the Etihad in 2019 but has an enduring presence outside the stadium, with a statue built in his honour in 2021.

With 89 caps for Belgium, Kompany's leadership also shone at a national level, where he captained the side from 2010 until stepping down from international duty in 2019.

- 'Want to become a coach' -

Kompany's qualities always seemed well-matched for a coaching career, but it was his time learning under Guardiola that crystallised that ambition.

"With Pep in the first friendly, I just knew I wanted to become a coach one day," Kompany told Germany's Sueddeutsche Zeitung in 2023.

"He influenced me a lot because he was the one who broke the game down so that I could fully understand it.

"With his absolute clarity, he was the trigger for me to explain football in my own way."

Kompany's ideology has been formed by Guardiola's possession-based style.

He attracted criticism this season for not adapting as Burnley struggled with the step up to the Premier League.

But Bayern -- whose resources dwarf the rest of the Bundesliga -- will be hoping Kompany can replicate the dominance shown in his one Championship season.

AFP

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Unenforceable God's Plan



By: Paula Otukile
Gaborone, Botswana

In the dusty village of Mahalapye, relatively approximately 5km from the center of the village lays an area name Tshikinyega 2, a mile from Di-laene ward, a mile from Parwe ward, in fact kind of no man's land of it was overseas, or by the borders.

Right in the village center on the corner of the showground, in the midst of Rangers stadium formerly the national stadium which held Botswana National athletics and sports competitions, the Tamocha or Rangers stadium in between the agricultural show ground lays the Maupong compound if not homestead widely known as Kwa ga Mmacali!

The late old woman was so unique in everyway, but Covid left with many good people and although she was not confirmed as Covid victim she passed on that time. Teaching her offspring beautiful things she did not leave her husband with an empty house.

The kids carry on, live moves on, however Mrs Tshwanelo Otukile left a very immaculate and adorable daughter who took care of her father, the homestead and does other great things.

It is vital to highlight that an aunt or mother are the pillars of strength to the weak, we celebrate this amazing young woman as the space filled after our mother left can never be filled with anyone.

She is a mother, an aunt but a role model to many young people and youth in her community on the issues of steadfastness, love, and compassion as well as commitment to family.

A big happy birthday to Lapo in many various ways! Mmagwe Toy le Tshiamo May God continue to lift her up!



Author and Her aunt: Mrs Lapologang Veronicah Otukile Maupong!.



My beloved aunt and her son Ms Lapologang Veronicah Otukile Maupong!

Worth Noting:

- The late old woman was so unique in everyway, but Covid left with many good people and although she was not confirmed as Covid victim she passed on that time. Teaching her offspring beautiful things she did not leave her husband with an empty house.
- The kids carry on, live moves on, however Mrs Tshwanelo Otukile left a very immaculate and adorable daughter who took care of her father, the homestead and does other great things.
- It is vital to highlight that an aunt or mother are the pillars of strength to the weak, we celebrate this amazing young woman as the space filled after our mother left can never be filled with anyone.



Birthday Queen: Mentor and Aunt Lapo

