



### Kisiang'ani Urges Public To Support 15 Billion Tree Planting Campaign

Broadcasting and Telecommunications Principal Secretary Prof. Edward Kisiang'ani has encouraged the public to rally behind the presidential campaign to plant 15 billion trees across the country by 2032.

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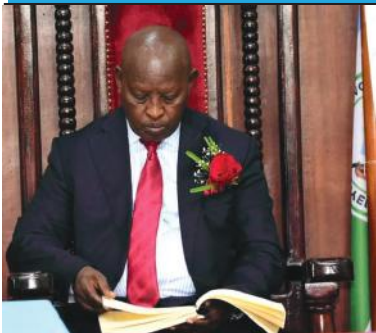
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## Daily ePAPER

Thursday, June 20, 2024

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### News>>Inside Nyeri County's KSh8.7 Billion Budget

P. 8. Nyeri County government yesterday made its next financial year's budget pronouncement amounting to KSh8.7 billion.



### News>>Delegated Legislation Committee Briefed On Fisheries Management Regulations

P. 12. Members of the Committee on Delegated Legislation, led by Chairperson Samuel Chepkonga (Ainabkoi) yesterday received a briefing on key regulations aimed at streamlining the fishing sector.

# Gachagua Attends Ramaphosa Inauguration

**Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua was among hundreds of world leaders who converged in Pretoria, South Africa, to witness the affirmation of the country's President, Cyril Ramaphosa.**

The Deputy President represented President William Ruto at the swearing-in of President Ramaphosa, following his re-election for a second term. The colourful ceremony at the Union Buildings in Pretoria was attended by Heads of State and Government as well as former presidents. from Africa and beyond.



South Africa President Cyril Ramaphosa during his inauguration yest and Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua arriving yesterday.

STORY ON PAGE 9

## MAGICAL Kenya

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# Chinese Building Materials Manufacturer Opens Roofing Factory in Lukenya

By: KNA



Machakos County governor Wavinya Ndeti with Sinoma Roofing Systems officials during the opening of the factory on Tuesday

**Worth Noting:**

- Sinoma Roofing Systems Kenya Company Limited, General Manager Wu Shuang said the factory established last year is committed to improving Kenya's manufacturing level through localised and integrated solutions to provide high-quality roofing system products and services to the local market.
- Shuang said the factory will produce four million stone-coated roofing tiles and three million metres of iron sheets in a year.
- "The factory has also created close to 200 job opportunities for Kenyans," he said during the official opening of the factory on Tuesday.

Sinoma Roofing Systems, a subsidiary of the China National Building Material Group Corporation (CNBM), a leading global building materials manufacturer, has set up a roofing factory in Lukenya, Machakos County.

The plant will provide reliable and cost-effective roofing products to Kenya and the East African Community countries.

Sinoma Roofing Systems Kenya Company Limited, General Manager Wu Shuang said the factory established last year is committed to improving Kenya's manufacturing level through localised and integrated solutions to provide high-quality roofing system products and services to the local market.

Shuang said the factory will produce

four million stone-coated roofing tiles and three million metres of iron sheets in a year.

"The factory has also created close to 200 job opportunities for Kenyans," he said during the official opening of the factory on Tuesday.

The general manager added that besides manufacturing, the factory will also offer training to students to equip them with technical skills and knowledge on innovative roofing systems.

"The factory will be a learning centre for advanced technologies used in manufacturing of roofing products," said Shuang. He pointed the factory's roofing tiles are top-of-the range products with a long span of close to 60 years and the ability to withstand strong winds and other natural

disasters.

"They are also easy to install and the materials used can be recycled hence protecting the environment," said the general manager.

Shuang reiterated the company's commitment to partnering with local businesses to provide a comprehensive and full-value chain service to consumers through manufacturing, construction and maintenance of roofing products.

"Sinoma Roofing Systems is currently operating in 10 countries and we chose to invest in Kenya due to the country's social and political stability," he said.

Speaking at the same event, Machakos Governor Wavinya Ndeti said the construction industry in the country has grown exponentially and factory will

plug in the gaps in the roofing sector.

"The roofing sector has in the recent past been flooded with innovative products to meet the growing need for unique roofing systems. This factory is therefore timely for the huge untapped market out there," said Wavinya.

The governor noted that the roofing industry will remain a key economic drive that will create jobs especially for the youth and hailed Sinoma Roofing Systems for setting up the factory in Machakos.

"We are glad that the company chose to invest in Machakos. As a government we shall provide a vibrant and a friendly business ecosystem that will give investors a proper latitude to thrive in their ventures," she said.

Wavinya assured investors, both local and international, that her government will put in place policies that will support investment and make Machakos the most attractive innovation destination in the country.

The governor noted that the factory's location is well served with good transport infrastructure including the SGR that will give it a competitive advantage to transport products in various destinations in the country and across the East Africa Community.

She called on the factory to come up with customized products that fit well with the climatic and environmental conditions across different parts of the country.

"The current global warming needs cutting-edge technologies that will create a good environment for various house designs hence the need for continuous scientific research," noted the governor.

She also called on the factory to create sustainable and safe products to protect both the people and environment.

"Sustainability and safety is key and we urge all players in the roofing sector to adhere to the provided environmental guidelines," said Wavinya.

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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IN BUSINESS

# The Mount Kenya Times

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) engaged with representatives from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to explore avenues for enhanced cooperation in combating maritime-related crimes.

Vincent Monda, Head of the Mutual Legal Assistance Division at ODPP, proposed joint training initiatives for prosecutors, judicial officers, and investigators noting that these programs will strengthen capabilities in evidence gathering, presentation, and the establishment of procedural guidelines for handling maritime cases effectively.

Highlighting recent developments, Monda informed IMO about the establishment of a dedicated Maritime Crimes Division within the ODPP. This division has a team of specialized prosecutors tasked with prosecuting maritime offenses in Kenya.

Given the resurgence of piracy and emerging security threats in the Indian Ocean, Monda emphasized the importance of formalizing new engagement terms through updated Memoranda of Understanding between Kenya and relevant stakeholders.

Kiruja Muchemi, IMO's Project Manager, acknowledged the critical need for capacity building in the justice sector. He underscored IMO's commitment to equipping legal professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to address the rising incidence of maritime crimes. Muchemi also emphasized the significance of collaborative efforts, especially for countries like Kenya that share maritime boundaries, in exploring diverse strategies to combat these challenges effectively.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua's spouse Pastor Dorcas has appreciated the continued support for the boy child program by individuals, organisations, and companies of goodwill.

She says the beneficiaries of the program have been through inpatient rehabilitation at different centres in the country and are undergoing skilling and reskilling at the Nyandarua Skilling Centre.

Yesterday, Pastor Dorcas received donations from various organizations that included Magunas Supermarket, Kim-Fay East Africa Ltd, and Unilever Kenya Ltd., who gave out food and toiletry towards her office's life-changing program.

President William Samoei Ruto yesterday congratulated President Cyril Ramaphosa for securing a second term and assuming office as the President of the Republic of South Africa.

He said President Ramaphosa's victory is a testament to the trust and confidence placed in his vision and leadership by the people of South Africa.

President Ruto said Kenya is committed to continuing to work closely with South Africa to solidify and broaden the prospects of relations and bonds of friendship between the two nations.



Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) yesterday launched a new tea brand; Chai Gold during a colourful ceremony graced by President William Ruto. The new brand for the international market is expected to boost farmers' proceeds. The ceremony took place in Ainamoi within Kericho County.



The UN Habitat has expressed its intention to aid the country realise its ambition to facilitate access to adequate housing in line with Article 43 of the Constitution which provides for economic and social rights.

During a courtesy call to the Speaker of the National Assembly, Moses Wetang'ula at Parliament Buildings, Mr. Michal Mlynar, Acting Executive Director of UN Habitat acknowledged the crucial role Parliament plays in enacting legislation that addresses various social issues, including housing and urban development.

Wetang'ula expressed his appreciation to the UN Habitat for its global organization's initiative to ensure the country achieves its dream to affordably and adequately house its citizens.

Mr. Mlynar shared details about their programs in Kenya, which focus on beautification of public spaces, urban planning for new towns, improving urban water and sanitation services, and implementing blue economy projects.

These efforts align closely with the National Assembly's legislative priorities and underscore the importance of sustainable urban development.

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# Boda Ni Life

Chagua usalama, chagua  
kuwa hapo kwa ajili ya  
familia yako



# KSh36 Billion Spent On Construction Of Thwake Dam – CS Njeru

By: MKT Reporter  
@themkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- The CS was speaking during an inspection tour of Thwake dam, where he witnessed the final filling of the embankment area being constructed at the confluence of Thwake and Athi Rivers at the border of Makueni and Kitui counties.
- “This exercise marks a great milestone for the dam being constructed at the confluence of Thwake and Athi Rivers. The filling of the embankment will now pave way for the settlement of the dam and implementation of the bridge over the embankment, concrete face, installation of the gates and other downstream activities,” he added.



Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Cabinet Secretary Zachariah Njeru with his Principal Secretary Julius Korir and Water Secretary Samuel Alima among other leaders when he toured Thakwe dam..

The government has spent over Sh36 billion on the construction of the embankment area of Thwake Multipurpose Dam, Makueni county.

Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Cabinet Secretary Zachariah Njeru has said the Ministry is currently implementing phase 1 of the programme, whose scope involves constructing an 80.5-metre concrete face rockfill dam (CFRD), with a storage capacity of 688 million cubic metres.

The CS was speaking during an inspection tour of Thwake dam, where he witnessed the final filling of the embankment area being constructed at the confluence of Thwake and Athi Rivers at the border of Makueni and Kitui counties.

“This exercise marks a great milestone for the dam being constructed

at the confluence of Thwake and Athi Rivers. The filling of the embankment will now pave way for the settlement of the dam and implementation of the bridge over the embankment, concrete face, installation of the gates and other downstream activities,” he added.

Njeru disclosed that the completion of the first phase will be done by December 6, 2024, while adding that water supply, hydropower development and irrigation activities will follow soon after.

“The dam is expected to be completed by early December after the construction works that commenced on March 27, 2018. The Ministry expects water filling of the dam to take approximately two normal rainy seasons,” he said.

So far, the construction of the dam civil works and other related activities

are ongoing, with an overall progress of works at 93.63 per cent against a time lapse of 92.77 per cent with the embankment recording 100 per cent.

Njeru disclosed that discussions were also underway with the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) to source for funding for the downstream works that will ultimately fulfil the long-term country’s development areas of water, energy and agriculture.

Consequently, the CS added that the ministry has already finalized the designs and tender documents for the critical downstream components of water, energy and agriculture.

“The second phase will involve development of water supply, sanitation and waste water infrastructure to distribute an estimated 150,000 cubic metres a day of treated water to 1.3 million

people drawn from the rural and urban areas of Kitui, Makueni counties and Konza Techno City,” said Njeru.

“The third and fourth phases will see development of a hydropower generating system with an installed capacity of approximately 20 MW and an irrigation scheme to irrigate 100,000 acres of land to contribute to food security,” he added.

The CS was accompanied by the ministry’s Principal Secretary Julius Korir, Water Secretary Eng. Samuel Alima, Makueni County Commissioner Henry Wafula, chairperson Tanathi Water Works Development Agency Regina Ndambuki and the County Executive Committee for Devolution Japheth Mang’oka among others.

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# Inside Nyeri County's KSh8.7 Billion Budget

By: William Muchiri  
@themtkenyatimes



Nyeri County government minister for Finance Mr Robert Thuo reading the budget proposal at the local County Assembly yesterday.



Some of the Nyeri County government officials following the proceedings..

## Worth Noting:

- Some of the main activities earmarked for the new financial year include; KSh200 million for medical drugs and non-pharms for county facilities, KSh40 million for Wamagana Level IV Hospital Phase I, KSh40 million for construction for Mukurweini Hospital Phase and KSh53 million to support rural health facilities
- Others include KSh 10 million for development at the County Referral Hospital, KSh12.5 million for disaster response through procurement of materials, fuel and maintenance of response vehicles, KSh365 million for Kenya Informal Sector Improvement Programme to upgrade five select settlements and KSh156.5 million for National Value Chain Development Project.

Nyeri County government yesterday made its next financial year's budget pronouncement amounting to KSh8.7 billion.

The area County Executive Committee Member for Finance, Economic Planning & ICT Robert Thuo presented the proposals before the local County Assembly.

The total budget estimates for the 2024/2025 Financial Year is KSh 8,750,998,795.

This amount consists of KSh5.85 billion for Recurrent expenditure with the balance of KSh 2.89 billion going to development expenditure.

Mr Thuo said the recurrent expenditure represents 66.95 per cent of the total county budget while development expenditure is 33.05 per cent.

He told the sitting that was convened by Speaker Gichuhi Mwangi and graced by among others, Governor Mutahi Kahiga that the budget will be financed through several initiatives.

These include; Equitable share, Loans and Grants from the donors and government agencies and own Source Revenue

Some of the main activities earmarked for the new financial year include; KSh200 million for medical

drugs and non-pharms for county facilities, KSh40 million for Wamagana Level IV Hospital Phase I, KSh40 million for construction for Mukurweini Hospital Phase and KSh53 million to support rural health facilities

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Hospital, KSh12.5 million for disaster response through procurement of materials, fuel and maintenance of response vehicles, KSh365 million for Kenya Informal Sector Improvement Programme to upgrade five select settlements and KSh156.5 million for National Value Chain Development Project.

Also listed for funding are; KSh42.1 million for purchase of merchandise in support of organized groups of youths, women and persons living with disability, KSh10.5 million for improvement of social halls and other amenities through ward specific projects, KSh25.2 Million for sport equipment and improvement of sporting facilities and KSh4.5 million for completion of fencing at Karatina Town Hall.

Mr Thuo told attentive assembly that other areas lined up for funding included; KSh6.75 million for improvement of office access by those living with disabilities, KSh32 million for dumpsite fencing and solid waste management, KSh 3.2 million For revenue collection equipment, KSh5 million for agricultural management including maintenance of the extension fleet, KSh16 million for crop management including procurement of certified seeds, KSh14 million to facilitate livestock production through improved breeding stock, KSh23.9 million for vaccines and sera as well as animal disease control and prevention, KSh7 million for Wambugu Farm Agricultural Training Center and KSh 6.5 million for Naromoru Agricultural Mechanization Station.

Other areas being funded are; KSh21.9 million for Kenya Agricultural Business Development Programme, KSh11.2 million for improvement of county market, KSh 4.5

million for securing county markets, KSh350 million for construction of an industrial park with 100 million as counter funding from the county government, KSh46.1 million for the improvement of ECDE centres and procurement of education related materials, KSh39 million for upgrading and equipping youth polytechnics, education materials and capitation, KSh13.3 million for water tanks and distribution pipes, KSh125 million for Financing Climate Change Climate Action, KSh11 million for building capacity on climate action, KSh113 million for supporting climate related activities in the community, KSh100 million for construction of modern County Assembly chambers, KSh35 million for completion of Speaker's residence, KSh10 million for renovation of offices, KSh431.3 million geared towards roads maintenance, building of bridges and maintenance of machinery and equipment, KSh120 million for street lighting electricity bills, KSh26 million for maintenance of the existing streetlights, KSh74 million for installation of new streetlights, KSh19.5 million; Construction of the Governor's Residence, KSh20.5 million; purchase of Deputy Governors Vehicle, KSh20.7 million for solid waste management and garbage collection within the municipality including maintenance and fueling of motor vehicles, KSh22.4 million for construction and maintenance of roads within the municipality and KSh35 million for the urban institutional grant for Kenya Urban Support Programme.

Governor Kahiga was accompanied by senior officials in his administration led by his deputy David Kinaniri Warui with the assembly members being led by the Majority Leader James Kanyugo.



Nyeri County Assembly during yesterday's session

# Gachagua Attends South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa Inauguration

By: DPCS

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua was among hundreds of world leaders who converged in Pretoria, South Africa, to witness the affirmation of the country's President, Cyril Ramaphosa.

The Deputy President represented President William Ruto at the swearing-in of President Ramaphosa, following his re-election for a second term.

The colourful ceremony at the Union Buildings in Pretoria was attended by Heads of State and Government as well as former presidents from Africa and beyond.

Mr Gachagua delivered a special congratulatory message of goodwill and best wishes from President Ruto to President Ramaphosa and the people of South Africa.

Kenya's opposition leader Raila

Odinga, who is eyeing the chairmanship of the African Union Commission, attended the inauguration that was also witnessed by thousands of South Africans.

Mr Gachagua landed at the O.R Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg shortly after midnight Wednesday.

Accompanied by Senators Lenku Seki of Kajiado and Karungo Thang'wa of Kiambu, Mr Gachagua was received by Kenya's High Commissioner to South Africa, Jane Ndurumo.

He flew the national carrier Kenya Airways.

President Ramaphosa, the African National Congress (ANC), gave a wide ranging keynote address that centred on national unity.

Following the country's general election held on May 29, 2024 to elect members of the National Assembly, President Ramaphosa was re-elected at the first sitting of the Assembly last Saturday.

The party leader of the ruling African National Congress, (ANC) Ramaphosa garnered 283 votes against Economic Freedom Fighters' (EFF), leader Julius Malema (44 votes) to emerge victorious and retain the presidency.

President Ramaphosa has been in office since February 15, 2018 when he took over from President Jacob Zuma.



South Africa President Cyril Ramaphosa with Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua after his inauguration yesterday..

# Chuka University Conducts Training On Mental Wellness, Investments To Boost Productivity

By: Kenya News Agency

Chuka University Deputy Vice Chancellor Prof. Gilbert Nduru has called on governmental and non-governmental organisations across the county to conduct trainings on mental wellness, financial saving and investment as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to increase productivity in the society.

Speaking during a mental wellness and financial literacy seminar for leaders representing over 145 groups at Chuka University in Tharaka Nithi County, Prof. Nduru said such trainings will enable people to make appropriate judgement and enable them to handle difficulties with ease as well as avoid conflict in society.

"We want to create a society where there is peace and harmony, where people love each other and appreciate one another. When we have a men-



tally stable society, we can be sure of productivity," he said.

Prof. Nduru noted that the training was part of the university's community extension programme under corporate social responsibility (CSR), saying there was need for stakeholders to conduct more sessions with groups in the country to create mental stability and financial empowerment awareness.

"We are happy to extend this kind of training as an institution of higher learning to the community. When people are mentally stable, they are able to use their minds and knowledge appropriately. We look forward to more collaborations and sessions," the Deputy VC said.

The University Dean of Students Dr. Benjamin Kanga called on the youth to set savings goals, distinguish be-

tween good and bad borrowing options and emphasised on the need to create savings and investment awareness amongst young people through trainings and seminars.

On his part, Assistant Dean of Students Francis Gacheru, while giving a talk on Savings and Investment Culture stated that groups are the first step to financial inclusion as they provide mechanisms to save money,

while building financial knowledge and skills.

Gacheru noted that groups can be used to deliver financial education and entrepreneurship training especially in rural areas which are disadvantaged compared to urban regions.

"Groups (Chamas), associations and saccos are a bridge between entrepreneurs and access to capital and help fuel economic growth. Access to affordable credit services is essential for growth in groups in rural areas that face development problems such as lack of infrastructure and poor access to public services," he said.

The event was organized in collaboration with Kenya Connection Kids (KCK) and Touch of Love (TOLI).

Also present was the Ag. Dean Faculty of Environmental Studies and Resource Development Dr. Jafford Njeru and the CEO Kenya Connection Kids, Humphrey Muthengi.

# The Spirit Of God Knows How To Get Victory In Every Instance



By: Eric Musa  
 EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

The devil cannot stand against God's power. And remember: Where the devil has been before and done damage, he will try to come back. If you are cured of alcoholism, but you used to love whiskey, the same demon will return and again and try to tempt you to just take one drink. He will tempt you with the sin that he knows is your weakness. I admire anyone delivered from the world of society. I know what social drinking is like. It is not easy to get delivered from all of that. I made up my mind I would not go back into that kind of life after I got saved, it is costly but worth it.

Pastor Hayes gives his testimony: "Some people will not give up the world of cocktails and social life because they want to be with the "big

shots." Night clubs filled with all kinds of commonalities, and dirty jokes—that's what I was delivered from. PRAYING IN TONGUES WILL KEEP YOU STRONG ENOUGH IN GOD that the devil cannot drag you back."

It is written, meditate and live by this: Acts 1:8 "But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth."

The things you cannot figure out, call out to God and pray in tongues. THE SPIRIT OF GOD KNOWS HOW TO GET VICTORY IN EVERY INSTANCE. If you will let Him come through you and pray in tongues, He knows how to get the will of God in every situation. You can be sick in any form or fashion, and the prayer of faith in Jesus' name will get you your healing.

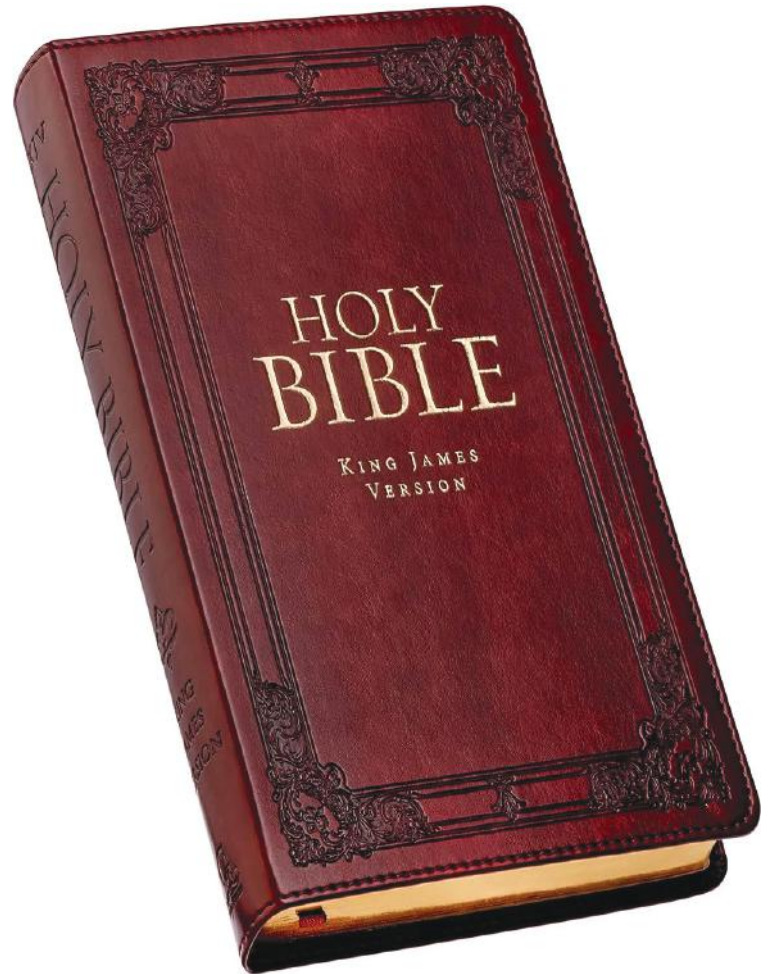
The Bible is more powerful than Satan and all of his demons. The devil cannot stand against the Word of God. The Word will put the devil on the run. The Word will bring the

presence of the Holy Spirit onto a person, and when His presence goes on a person, the devil has to leave. The Word of God is powerful enough to set free the demon possessed. The Word of God is powerful enough to heal the sick. His Word will never fail. His Word is not weak; it is strong and powerful. The Word of God will set people free.

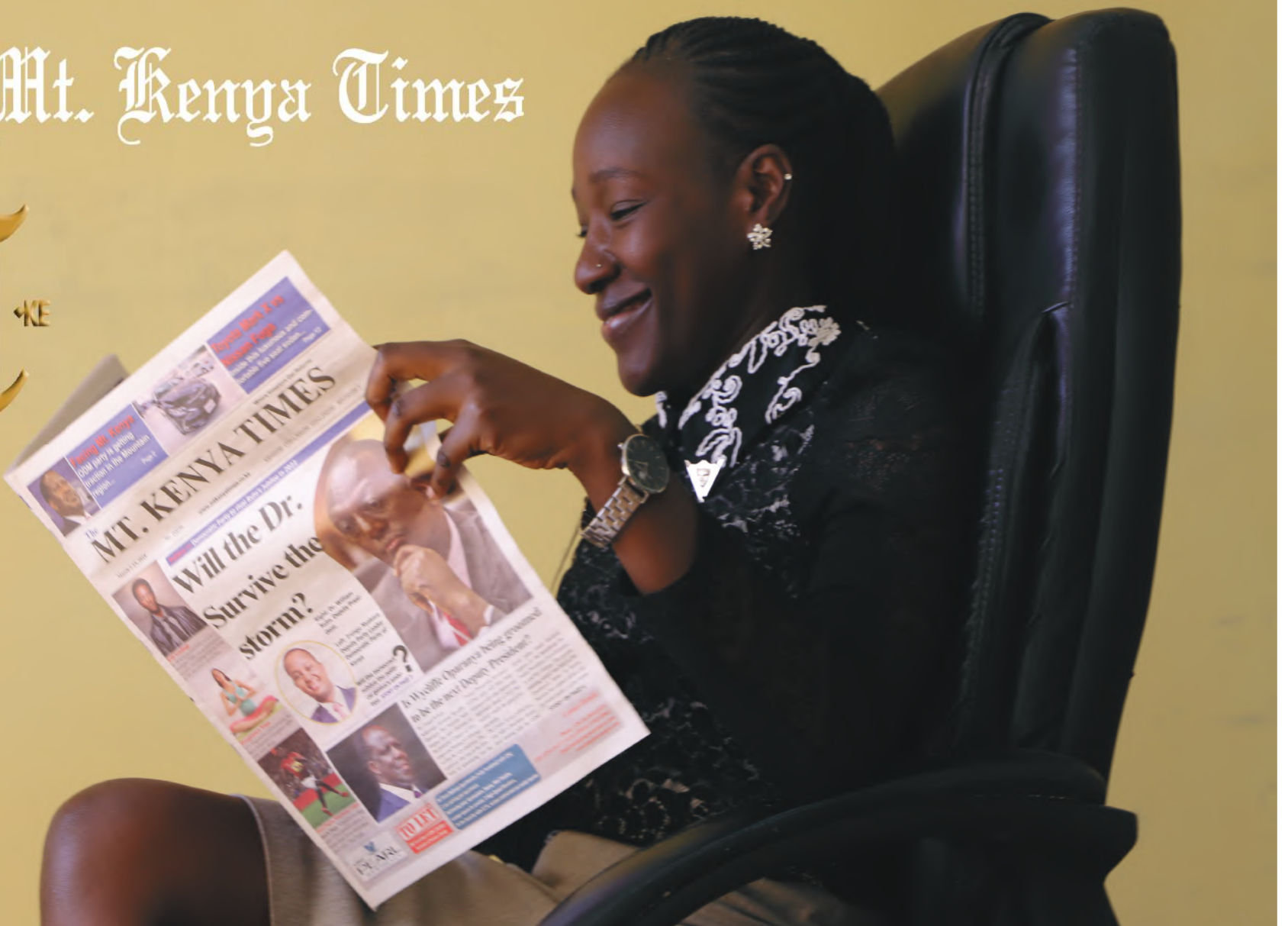
HALELUJAH: PRAISE BE TO THE HIGH GOD FOREVER : AMEN.

**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 Mt. Kenya Times



# IG Koome Reaffirms President Ruto's Stand On Deployment Of Police Officers To Haiti



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Inspector General of Police Japheth Koome

## Worth Noting:

- An advance team led by Deputy IG Noor Gabow which had a few days earlier visited Haiti to assess the situation had just returned back to country.
- Besides Kenya, Chad, Burundi and Nigeria are among the countries in Africa which have so far agreed to send officers for the same mission.
- They join those from Jamaica, Chile, Paraguay and Brenda.
- Contrary to the impression created by one of the mainstream newspaper, the deployment of the Kenyan officers had not been designed to coincide with President William Ruto's state visit to the United States of America (USA).
- The decision to deploy 1,000 officers had been made before President Joe Biden made the decision to invite him.

A few day ago Inspector General of Police (IGP) Japheth Koome hosted a delegation of police officers from Haiti at police headquarters in Nairobi.

The IGP assured them that the government of Kenya has finalized plans to deploy Kenyan police officers to Haiti. Being one of the countries that heard your cry, Kenya is committed to help in restoring peace and stability in your country.

We are going to send our first batch soon.

It is worth noting that this operation is being coordinated by the United Nation Security Council (UNSC) under the banner of Multilateral Security Support Mission (MSS).

In his part, the leader of Haiti police delegation thanked President Ruto and his government for responding positively to their distress call. He assured the Kenyan police that they will work closely with them and provide them with necessary support.

Earlier report had indicated that deployment of first batch of 200 officers had been delayed once again. This was because the UNSC had not completed building the barrack where Kenyan officers would reside.

An advance team led by Deputy IG Noor Gabow which had a few days earlier visited Haiti to assess the situation had just returned back to country.

Besides Kenya, Chad, Burundi and Nigeria are among the countries in Africa which have so far agreed to send officers for the same mission.

They join those from Jamaica, Chile, Paraguay and Brenda.

Contrary to the impression created by one of the mainstream newspaper,

the deployment of the Kenyan officers had not been designed to coincide with President William Ruto's state visit to the United States of America (USA).

The decision to deploy 1,000 officers had been made before President Joe Biden made the decision to invite him. It is worth to recall the decision to deploy our officers had been delayed.

Reached for comment, Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Korir Singoei explained why the government had put this matter on hold. He denied rumors being peddled around by the critics of President Ruto that his government had developed cold feet.

We have made this decision because of the resignation of the Prime Minister Henri Ariel.

Also, some ministers and top police officers had been forced by the Haitian gangs to resign and flee.

So, there was no government in place to receive our officers and direct them on how to carry out the operations, the PS reiterated.

The Government of Kenya believes in the constitution and rule of law. So, in Haiti, it looked forward to work with a constitutional authority. This is position would be adopted by other countries across the world which had agreed to join the United Nation led Multilateral Security Support Mission (MSS). The Haitian transitional council has since appointed a new Prime Minister.

Earlier, I had written an article that goes. I had been following with interest the debate surrounding the plan to send 1,000 Kenyan police officers to the troubled nation of Haiti.

The critics of President William Ruto want Kenyans to believe that Kenya is

the only country sending officers to that country. This is not true.

President William Ruto had earlier hosted the Prime Minister of Haiti Henri Ariel at State House Nairobi. The two leaders signed an agreement paving the way for deployment.

Reports indicate that parliament and the Court of Appeal have ratified the decision. This showed the law was being followed to the letter and spirit.

So the claims by Dr Ruto's critics that he was forcing the decision down the throat of Kenyans did not hold any water.

Having read sections 107,108 and 109 of the National Police Service (NPS), I'm persuaded to believe that the decisions that the President had made so far were within the law.

I heard the Cabinet Secretary for Interior Kithure Kindiki elaborating this matter further.

He stated that the deployment cannot be done without an approval of Parliament. Granted, I'm persuaded to believe President Ruto equally shares his sentiments.

The constitution is the supreme law of the land.

It is wrong to point an accusing at President Ruto.

Given this scenario, the grounds cited by those opposed are weak.

Kenyans can only listen to them if they manage to convince the court that the three sections are unconstitutional and should be removed from NPS Act.

As we know, the people of Haiti had been in big trouble. The vicious marauding criminal gangs have forcibly taken over and overrun thier country

For the starters, I want to share with

them some of the atrocities that were being committed there.

The gangs were raping women and chopping the heads of thier fellow citizens. The children were not spared.

The hospitals and schools had been closed and the main roads blocked. More than ten Police stations have run down. A prison has been broken into and thousands of prisoners secured their 'freedom'.

The staffs of humanitarian and charitable organizations were being targeted. They were blocked from accessing the camps where hundreds of thousands of Haitians had sought refuge to offer them food and medications.

This is the reason why Haitian leaders, who were on the run and some besieged, had pleaded with UN to intervene.

If you ask historians, this is what they would tell you about Haiti. This was the first country to emancipate itself from the colonial slavery. The people living in this caribbean nation are Africans.

President Ruto remembered this while explaining why Kenya is touched with thier pains and agony.

The people of Haiti are human beings just like us. Taking cognizant that Kenya is a member of the community of nations, it is wrong to sit and watch when they are suffering.

It is worth noting this is not the first time that the government of Kenya is sending security personnel to join the Africa Union or United Nations peace keeping missions.

The history of the previous Kenyan administrations is replete with this.

The previous deployments were approved at a time when Kenya had fallen far short of meeting the UN requirement of the ratio of 1: 450. This means one police officer taking care of 450 citizens.

I have heard the critics of Ruto raising this as another concern.

How come they never raised it during the reigns of the previous governments?

So, thier comments reeked more of hypocrisy and insincerity.

I also totally disagree that President Ruto was doing this in order to earn international recognition, mostly from the white people.

The President had already curved a niche of a renowned leader because of his style of leadership at home.

The world leaders particularly liked him because of strongly believing in tenets of democracy, constitution and rule of law.

Besides, he was walking the talk. This is in terms of fulfilling the pledges he made to Kenyans during the campaigns.

Contrary to impression created, Dr Ruto enjoys the support of African leaders because of being candid in pushing the agenda of Pan-Africanism. This has thrust him into the international stage where he has been championing the course of our people.

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

# Delegated Legislation Committee Briefed On Fisheries Management Regulations

By: PSCU

Members of the Committee on Delegated Legislation, led by Chairperson Samuel Chepkonga (Ainabkoi) yesterday received a briefing on key regulations aimed at streamlining the fishing sector.

The committee heard detailed submissions from Betsy Muthoni Njagi, Principal Secretary of the State Department for Blue Economy and Fisheries.

The briefing covered a series of proposed regulations under her purview. The proposals included the Fisheries Management and Development (General) Regulations, 2024; the Marine Fisheries Regulations, 2024; and the Beach Management Units Regulations, 2024.

Additional regulations reviewed were the Inland Fisheries Regulations, 2024; the Fish Levy Trust Fund Order, 2024; the Recreational Fisheries Regulations, 2024; the Fish Safety and Quality Regulations,



The committee during yesterday's session.

2024; and the Aquaculture Fisheries Regulations, 2024.

During the session, MPs questioned PS Njagi about a clause in the Marine Fisheries Regulations that prohibits the public from catching more than five whole fish or more than five kilo-

grams of fish per day.

“How practical is it to confine a fisherman to only catching five fish a whole day?” posed Chepkonga, echoing concerns from other committee members.

Njagi defended the clause, stating it

applies only to subsistence fishing, not commercial fishing.

“We established the five whole fish rule per day after thorough public participation. The number reflects the average size of the household,” explained Njagi.

She added that the regulation aims to protect marine fishery resources.

Committee members recommended the state department also develop strict regulations to guide the handling of fish, noting that current practices pose a health hazard.

# Thousands Of Livestock Vaccinated In Turkana County

By: MKT Correspondent

@themkenyatimes

About 340,000 livestock from over 1,800 households have so far been jabbed during the ongoing vaccination campaign in Turkana county.

Teams of county veterinary officers are conducting a simultaneous vaccination and supportive treatment for livestock across the Turkana East, South, and Central Sub-Counties belts.

Under the joint supervision of the Directorate of Veterinary Services and Concern Worldwide, the exercise will run for 21 days.

Through this vaccination, the department aims to reduce the spread of livestock diseases, especially transboundary ones, given the migrating patterns of the pastoralists.

In addition to the vaccination, the team is also collecting blood samples for analysis at the county laboratory. This will go a long way in averting the risks posed by livestock diseases

through early detection for the prevention and preparation of outbreaks.

This mass vaccination and supportive treatment approach is meant to protect livestock, which is central to the livelihoods of pastoralists and the realisation of food security in the county.

In May, the County Veterinary Services stepped up vaccination and support treatment exercises for livestock following reports of a surge in livestock diseases in Turkana North and Kibish Sub-Counties.

According to the County Chief Officer for Livestock Development, Dr. Ezekiel Etelej, the surge was reported by technical teams and Community Disease Reporters (CDRs) after conducting routine animal surveys and collecting reports from local livestock keepers, prompting the intervention.

“The region has experienced a rise in cases of lumpy skin disease in cattle, as well as sheep and goat pox and contagious bovine and caprine pleuropneumonia, thus necessitating this intervention,” said Dr. Etelej.



# Relieve As Hundreds Of Tharaka Nithi Residents' Sight Restored Through Surgery

By: Mwenda Njeru  
@themtkenyatimes

Tharaka Nithi County Government has scaled up the fight against cataracts, the major cause of blindness among people aged 50 years and above.

Cataract is the clouding of the eye's natural lens which lies behind the iris and the pupil causing blurred vision or total blindness if not treated.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), out of one million people in developing countries like Kenya, 3000 suffer from eye cataracts compared to 2000 people out of one million in developed countries.

In collaboration with the Fred Hollows Foundation from Australia and the County Department of Medical Services and ICT is going on with a six-month eye treatment programme across the 15 wards.

The team is conducting free eye



Medics conducting eye screening of Tharaka Nithi County residents. Hundreds of the county residents have regained sight following successful surgeries. Photo/Mwenda Njeru

treatment medical camps in the villages and hundreds of patients have got their sight restored through surgery to remove the cataract.

The county government led by Governor Muthomi Njuki resolved to con-

duct the medical camps after noting that many people in the remote areas lack access to quality eye care services due to financial challenges.

By taking the critical services to the villages, the devolved government

has ensured that every county resident has an opportunity to medical care.

"The impact of this initiative is not just restoring sight but also enabling the persons to continue with their normal ways of life," said Mr Karani Ri-

angu, Chief Officer, Medical Services and ICT in the county government.

He appealed to those with eye problems to seek treatment and not to fear losing sight completely after the operation noting that almost all those who have undergone surgery for cataracts have improved sight.

In 2022, the county government also conducted a similar exercise and achieved a target of 1500 out of the county's average population of 500,000.

The Community Health Promoters (CHPs) who are in every village are helping identify people with eye problems and advise them to go for screening at the camps or nearest hospitals.

Some young children are born with congenital cataracts; a condition the lens of the eye is cloudy instead of it being clear at birth.

The other common causes of blindness include trachoma, diabetes, glaucoma, and age-related degeneration.

# NACADA Launches 2023-2027 Strategic Plan

By: John Kariuki  
@themtkenyatimes

The National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA) yesterday unveiled the Strategic Plan 2023 – 2027.

The Principal Administrative Secretary Ms. Beverly Opwora (who represented Interior Principal Secretary Dr. Raymond Omollo) observed: "Alcohol and Drug abuse pose a national threat to the safety of people and security of Kenya leading to deaths from adulterated alcohol, reduced productivity, health issues as well as fueling organized crime and violence within our communities. Drunk driving also remains a major cause of fatalities and serious injuries. In 2024, over 2.8 million liters of illicit and counterfeit alcohol were seized, alongside 6,000 kgs of bhang, resulting in nearly 30,000 arrests. The regions most impacted were Nairobi, Central, Rift Valley,



Ms Beverly Opwora represented Interior PS Dr. Raymond Omollo during the strategic plan launch.

Nyanza, and Western."

According to Dr. Anthony Omerikwa, MBS, the Chief Executive Officer he noted: "This strategic plan is a product of widely consultative process involving the Board, staff and stakeholders. The plan envisages a nation free from alcohol and drug abuse by leading a coordinated cam-

paign against alcohol and drug abuse through a multiagency approach to demand and supply reduction. During the plan period, the authority will adopt a multi-pronged approach in prevention, advocacy, compliance and enforcement, policy formulation and strategic research."

He added, "The authority will cre-

ate a culture of ultimate performance and excellence. This will seek achieve outstanding results at all levels that meet or exceed the expectations of our stakeholders. We look forward to the future and proactively adapt to meet expected challenges even as we ride on existing opportu-

nities to deliver our mandate."

On his part, Board Chairperson Rev. Dr. Stephen Mairori noted: "The plan charts a solid course for the next five years as the authority seeks to address challenges associated with alcohol and drug abuse and related harm. All the efforts will be geared towards realizing and supporting the initiatives of the Government policy as espoused in the Bottom-up economic transformation agenda as well as the Fourth Medium Term Plan. The plan proposes a resource requirement of Ksh. 12.213 billion whereas the projected resource envelope stands at Ksh 5.997 billion resulting in a resource gap of Ksh 6.216 billion. This therefore calls for innovative resource mobilization strategies, including strategic partnerships and collaboration with National Government agencies, County Governments, Faith Based Organizations, Civil society organizations and the public in collaborating with the Authority to bolster efforts to address the resource gap and support the priorities as indicated."

## Love



The color of my life,  
Happiness shining on my chest.  
The bright world of my life,  
O fiery secret love.

You are mountains for me  
My bonfire burned in the peaks.  
You are the spring of all seasons,  
Greenery is a green flower.

You are as wonderful as the color of  
the rainbow  
You are dew on a rose.  
Sometimes a lesson from the ways of  
migration,  
You are wet in my eyes.

You smile in my eyes,  
You are the spark that burned in my  
face.  
You lose faith in my heart,  
You're as obsessed with me as I am.

You fly in the fall,  
My favorite rain in the spring,  
Shahsanamu Strange epics,  
Layli Majnun, Zukhrom, Tohrim.

You are the breath of the winds,

A lamp at night, my guiding star.  
A sweet dream is the brightest desire,  
A quiet night, a pleasant day.

You are full of love at dawn,  
My tunes written by your name.  
Far, far away  
My thoughts about you.

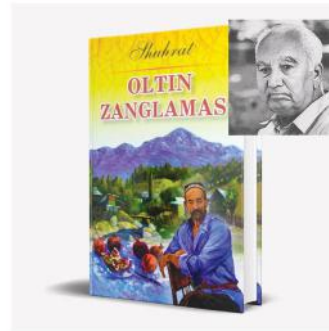
Eighteen thousand fill this world,  
Signature written in hearts.  
A window that illuminates the darkness,  
Live long, beautiful love

Husan Hakimov  
A student of the 4th general secondary  
school of Kogon Shahar, Bukhara region.  
The author of books such as My  
Word to You, Olistdagi Sadoim, Tingla  
Sozim Oymoma, Republican Rainbow  
Stars Children's Art Festival and  
the winner of the Poet of the Year  
competition. Currently, he is the  
chairman of the youth academy "Yuksak  
Parvozdasiz". voice Bukhara youth  
Kogon life is published in newspapers  
and magazines such as Yoshlar Ovozi.  
Desire free volunteer movement Kogon  
city coordinator. Representative of  
the World Association of Writers and  
Artists.

He works as a member and regional  
coordinator of several international  
organizations

He is the leader of promotion of  
"Spirituality and Literacy" in the city of  
Kogon.

## My Impressions Of Shuhrat's "Golden Stainless"



By: Aziza Saparbaeva

"Gold does not rust!" – yes, of course, the content  
of this work is the same, enlighten the fate of  
a truly "golden" brave person who overcomes  
various trials and does not lose his loyalty to his  
Motherland and his human feelings. received work.  
Part 3 and the chapters in each part reveal the  
life of people of the 20th century down to the  
smallest details.

The events in it reflect the years of World War II,  
which once shook the world.

At first, the work seemed to be related to  
romance, I just suspected that the author  
described the usual family life of Uzbek families,  
but the development of events was renewed in  
each part.

The writer characterized the image of each hero  
with his own characteristics, and it is impossible  
not to dwell on them separately.

In particular, I was surprised by the loyalty and  
dedication of Sadiq, the main character of the play,  
to the Motherland.

The simplicity of this person, his kindness to people  
at the level of "He doesn't even say a word to  
pierce his bag", and even his loyalty to the system  
that made him a traitor after the Boxtons and  
sentenced him to exile without a trial is amazing.  
I was very interested in how his life path ended  
and I didn't even notice that I read 390 pages in  
an instant.

But this time I can't reveal the end of the work  
to you readers, I would ask you to read it yourself.

And with this, I found it permissible to bring to  
your attention these sentences from the language  
of Sadiq.

Conclusion from yourself...!? The motherland  
will not be bad, my friend. He who insults his  
motherland will be disgraced, and his tongue  
touches the land of his motherland.

But there will be such a person! said Bogun, and  
then told a story.

Instead of saying, "What did my country do to  
me," they look at "What did my country do to me."  
For them, nothing in the world is sacred, they have  
no other desires than stomachache.

Say an animal.

The difference is in speaking, said Sadiq firmly.

## A Description Of True Fortitude



By: Aziza Saparbaeva

"The Old Man and the Sea" is a story created  
by Ernest Hemingway.

While reading it, I remembered that 5 years  
ago, I had closed 1/4 of the book without  
reading it.

Just like today my classmate asked "What  
book are you reading?" When he heard my  
answer, I noticed that the interest in his eyes  
faded. As if he was like me 5 years ago.  
Yes, I did not finish this story many years ago,  
but I was convinced that another classmate  
coldly assessed it as a work about "An Old  
Man and a Child" was wrong. And I was

ashamed of my past self.

It is surprising that the writer was able to  
convey the tenacity, patience and endurance  
of a person through such an image.

I was disgusted with myself, thinking that  
sometimes I would get nervous about a  
problem that seemed like the devil.

The fact that the old man did not lose himself  
in such an impossible situation and did not give  
up is, let's say in the language of a hero:

"I will show what a human child is capable of  
and what he can withstand and endure," he  
said, and he managed to do it.

It's wonderful that the old man was able to  
save himself from the destructive process  
called loneliness by talking sometimes with a  
bird, sometimes with a fish, and sometimes  
with himself.

I'll leave you with the concluding part that I  
came across during my reading, as always, the  
conclusion is from you, my dears..!

"...But the human child was not created to be  
defeated and to be satisfied with the defeat,"  
he said.

"Man can be destroyed, but not defeated."

## It's Raining



It's  
raining,  
When it rains,  
I have a lot of questions.  
Changed inside,  
Gentle winds.

The rain doesn't stop,  
There is no sleep.  
Excitement in my mind,

It hurts like hell.

I wish he would stop now  
Rustling voices.  
Lek did not stop crying,  
Cry like a baby.

These noises will stop,  
Chehra Khan puts flowers.  
Smallpox, tulip, rubella,  
Like flowers want.

Ilhomova Mohichehra is a student of the  
8th grade of the 9th general secondary  
school of Zarafshan city, Navoi region.

# DO YOU WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?

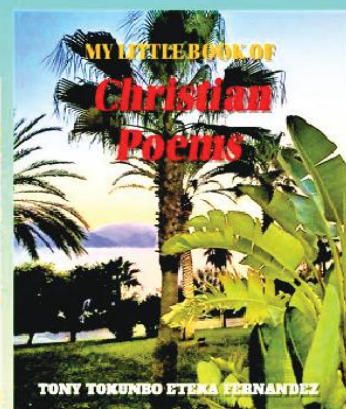
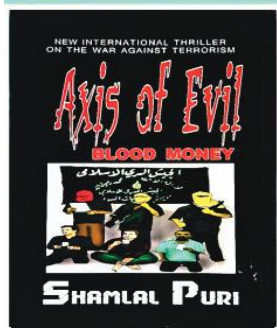
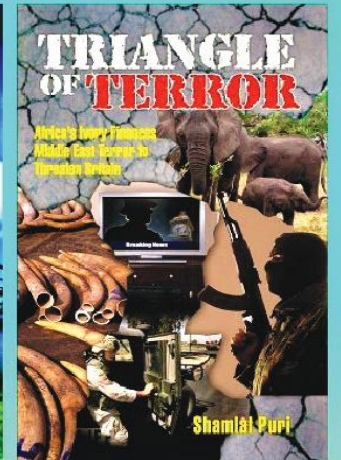
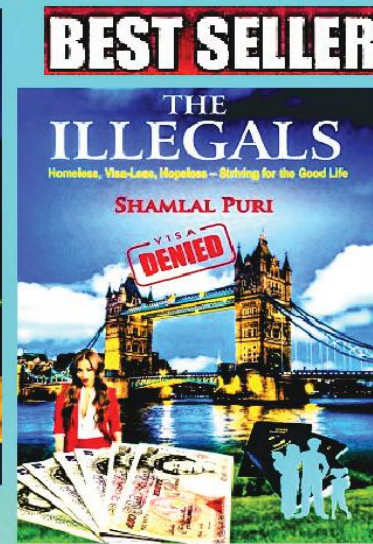
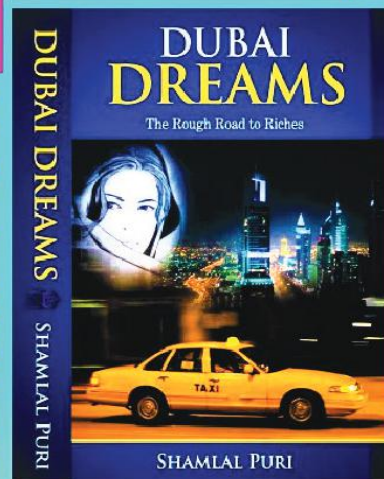
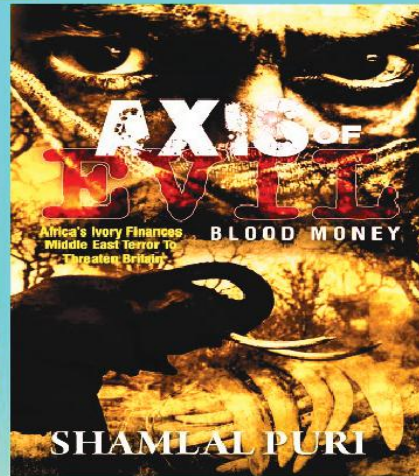
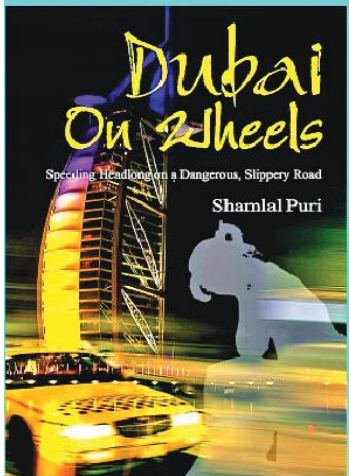
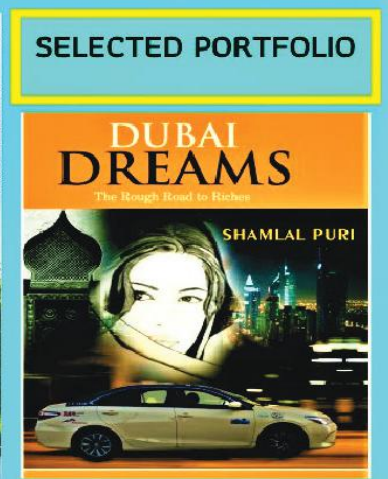
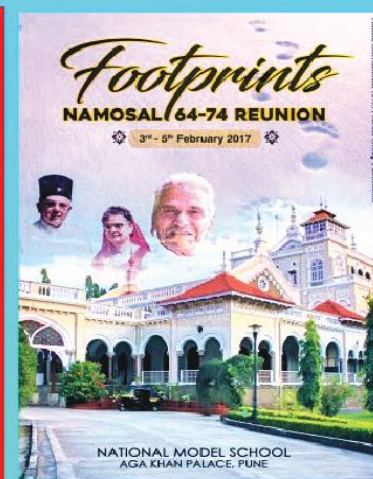
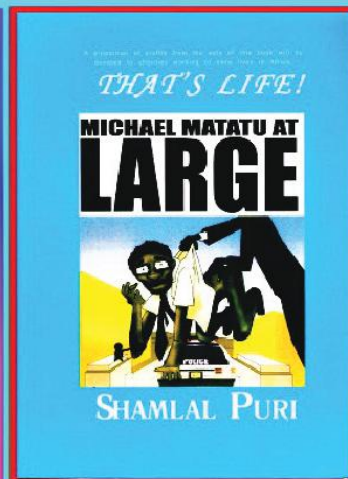
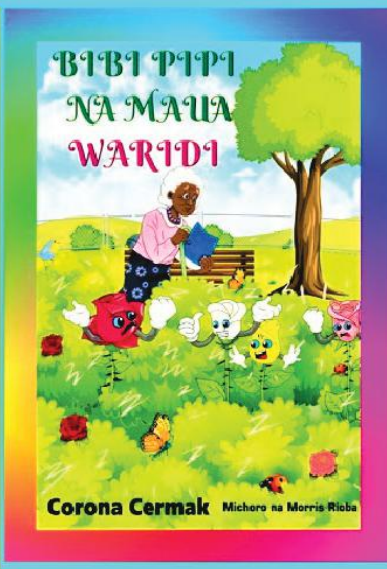
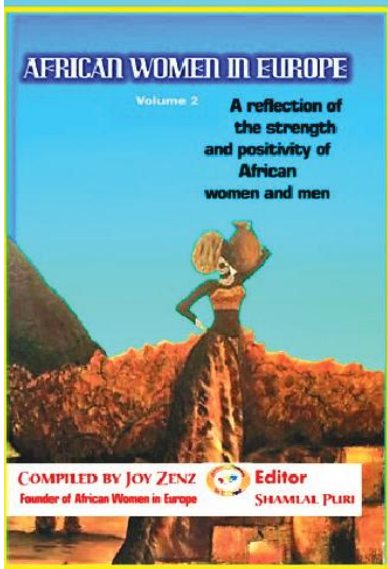
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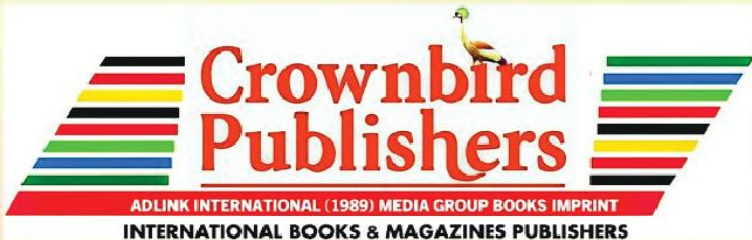
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## BUSINESS

## State Urged To Scale Up Investments In Blue Economy

By: Kenya News Agency



## Worth Noting:

- The DG noted that so far, Nairobi County has contributed about 28 per cent of the country's GDP, with the counties of Kisumu and Mombasa, which are endowed with huge aquatic resources contributing less than five per cent each.
- Speaking during the opening of the second Aquatic Resources and Blue Economy Conference (ARBEK) in Kisumu, Owili lauded the government for the renewed focus on the sector, adding that a lot more needs to be done to unlock the sector's full potential.
- However, the DG decried the slow pace at which blue economy projects were being implemented, while calling on the state agencies involved to move with speed for members of the public to benefit from the initiatives.

The government has been urged to scale up investments in the blue economy sector to spur economic growth and boost the country's revenue base.

Kisumu Deputy Governor Dr. Mathews Owili said Kenya stands to reap big from the sector, which is largely underexploited if proper measures are taken.

Owili said riparian counties in the lake region and the coast can become some of the biggest contributors to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) if the blue economy and aquatic resources are exploited.

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However, the DG decried the slow pace at which blue economy projects were being implemented, while calling on the state agencies involved to move with speed for members of the public to benefit from the initiatives.

He pointed out the Sh3 billion Ka-

bonyo Kanyagwal Fish Project in Kisumu, commissioned by President Dr. William Ruto last year saying the progress was slow.

Other projects which are set to open up blue economy activities in the region including the fish landing sites, were also behind schedule.

"I would like to thank the president for investing Sh1.5 billion in the blue economy sector in this region, but we are a bit concerned about the absorption rate and we are hoping that something will be done," he said.

Kisumu, he added, has benefited from a number of national government projects, which present huge opportunities for the blue economy sector.

He also cited the revamped Kisumu Port, Marine School and the newly established Kenya Shipyards Limited, calling for stakeholder engagements to see how best the facilities can be utilised to boost economic development.

At the same time, the DG called for the organisation of an investment conference, specifically targeting the blue economy to fast track the process.

On his part, KMFRI board chairman John Safari Mumba said the country stands to reap big from the sector especially in maritime.

Safari said the focus has been on fish and fisheries, adding that a lot more

opportunities exist under the waters, which should now attract the attention of the government to harness the sectors' full potential.

KMFRI, he said, has the capacity to spearhead the activities urging the government to allocate the agency more resources to conduct research and develop a roadmap towards harnessing the unexploited resources.

Nyanza Regional Commissioner Flora Mworora said the government was on course to maximize aquatic resources in the area to spur economic growth.

Construction of fish landing sites along Lake Victoria was ongoing with the Homa Bay pier nearing completion, she added.

Additionally, security had been beefed up within the lake to control illegal fishing and smuggling of counterfeit goods.

A multi-agency team had equally been established with representatives from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania to map the boundaries within the water body to tame cases of fishermen being harassed.

"We had a meeting two weeks ago and what we want to do is clearly identify the borders within the lake so that our fishermen can know and we can also be able to properly carry out surveillance," she said.

Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) Chief Ex-

ecutive Officer Prof. James Njiru said the conference which brought together researchers, universities, national and county government agencies from Kenya and other parts of the world will offer a platform to exchange knowledge and at the same time offer science based solutions to problems affecting the blue economy sector.

Meanwhile, pollution was one of the biggest challenges facing the sector including the plastics menace which is posing a great danger to both human and aquatic life.

"It is estimated that by the year 2050, we are going to have more plastics in our waters than fish. Therefore, we must find ways of dealing with this menace," said Njiru.

The problem was biggest at the coast compared to the lake region, however, KMFRI has come up with a mobile application to help manage the waste.

Through the app, communities living around the two water bodies are able to know where to deposit the used plastics, which are then collected and recycled into other products.

"We are also creating awareness so that our people know the dangers of plastics and how they can join the campaign," added Prof. Njiru.



# WIN with Abiria ni Mayai Boda Boda Dabi

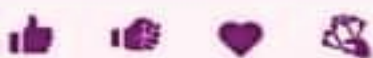


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# Kisiang'ani Urges Public To Support 15 Billion Tree Planting Campaign

By: Kenya News Agency

Broadcasting and Telecommunications Principal Secretary Prof. Edward Kisiang'ani has encouraged the public to rally behind the presidential campaign to plant 15 billion trees across the country by 2032.

Speaking during a tree planting exercise at Nyanturago swamp in Kisii Central Sub-County, Prof. Kisiang'ani said that trees provide several benefits such as timber, fuel, and even absorption of dangerous gases emitted into the atmosphere.

"I am pleading with everyone to support the President's tree-growing initiative so that we can reverse the effects of climate change that can completely wash us off the surface of this earth," urged the PS.

He noted that President Dr. William Ruto has been instrumental in rallying the rest of the world towards Africa's environmental crisis, adding that the country may spend a lot of money tackling the effects of climate change if the challenges are not addressed.



Prof. Edward Kisiang'ani planting a tree

The PS decried the increasing human activities that had destroyed water catchments such as farming and quarrying activities near river sources.

"We are planting crops up to the river banks and conducting quarrying in river sources thereby destroying many sources of water, with some of the permanent rivers becoming seasonal, that is the crisis," he said.

As a result, Prof. Kisiang'ani encouraged the national administration

and county government officials to sensitise the public on the dangers of climate degradation and the gains that can be achieved through conserving and restoring the environment.

At the same time, he lauded Kisii County for achieving one of the highest forest covers in the country and urged the residents to replace eucalyptus trees with the largely untapped indigenous bamboo that can be used for animal feed or making

furniture.

The PS added the Ministry of Information, Communications, and the Digital Economy has several state corporations that are willing to engage and support the growing of trees in Kisii and Nandi regions by providing tree seedlings for planting. Further, he urged the leadership of the national and county governments in Kisii to hold a stakeholders' meeting to address the protection of tree seedlings, once they have been planted.

According to the PS, the involvement of the community members, especially the young people in the tree-growing exercise will ensure they look after the trees until they grow.

"Let us encourage the youth to form small groups and set up tree nurseries in the region so that we can support them by purchasing the tree seedlings from them and enabling them to earn an income," he affirmed.

The Information Ministry staff led by the PS planted 3050 tree seedlings in various locations within Kisii Central Sub-County during the tree-growing exercise.

Speaking at the same event, the County Executive Committee Mem-

ber for Environment, Leah Ogega said the county is committed to planting 7.4 million trees yearly to achieve the national target of 15 billion trees.

Ogega encouraged the residents to plant more fruit trees for their nutritional value and take advantage of the subsidized Hass avocado tree seedlings available at the Agricultural Training Centre (ATC) on the outskirts of Kisii town.

The Information Ministry launched the National Tree Growing Day in Kisii in November 2023 by planting 110,000 tree seedlings in various sub-counties including Nyansaria Hills in Kisii South Sub County and Nyangweta forest in Etago Sub County.

In April 2024, the Ministry planted another 6500 trees at Kanunda (2500 trees), Sakawa (3,000 trees) and Kiamwasi (1000 trees) primary schools in Kitutu Central Sub County in an exercise geared towards meeting the 5 million target of trees planted by the Ministry every year.

According to statistics from the Kisii County Forest Office, the county has a tree cover of 26.6 percent and aims to achieve 30 percent tree cover by 2032.

# Kenya And U.S. Forge Stronger Legislative Ties

By: PSCU

In a significant move to bolster democratic governance and legislative collaboration, Kenya's National Assembly and the House Democracy Partnership (HDP) of the U.S. House of Representatives have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

This agreement, signed by the National Assembly Speaker, Moses Wetang'ula and Congressman Vern Buchanan, Chairman of the U.S. delegation, underscores a commitment to nurturing stronger legislative ties and democratic development.

The HDP of the U.S. House of Representatives engages with Parliaments worldwide to promote democratic values and effective governance. The newly signed MoU aims to enhance

cooperation between the National Assembly and US House of Representatives through the exchange of legislative information, knowledge sharing, and capacity enhancement and training programs.

Key focus areas shall include constituent relations, legislative oversight, research and analysis, and leveraging information and communication technology for legislative innovation.

During the meeting, Wetang'ula highlighted the broader implications of the MoU, stating, "This MoU not only opens a new chapter between our legislatures, it also bridges the gap of increasing economic and job opportunities in this great country."

Kenyan lawmakers also stressed the need for capital investment in small businesses and expanded markets for the country's agro-based economy.

Congressman Jodey Arrington affirmed the mutual benefits of the partnership, noting, "Kenya has tal-



ent and with that, capital will come. There's a needed job growth, we have things that can help Kenya and Kenya has things that can help America." The signing of this MoU marks a

pivotal moment in the relationship between the National Assembly and the U.S. House of Representatives.

It reflects a shared dedication to strengthening democratic institu-

tions, promoting good governance, and enhancing legislative capabilities in both countries.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Works Versus Words

By: **Irfan Tareen**

Obviously, works accentuate extremely fruitful as compared to words which lack reality and rationality. Cheap words invariably disseminate criticism as well as cause tussles among individuals. For getting rid of alien compulsions whether related to life or society, works should be exhibited and strongly prompted as they speak louder than words.

Undeniably, our societies confront an exorbitant shred of crisis, elicited by not others but by the same societal individuals. These may include domestic violence, rampant corruption, ingrained culture of bribery and dearth of respect for law as well as for individuals. Surely, rouse voices are echoed against all these aforementioned confusions, but unluckily they bear no constructive consequences.

The fact when one puts a bird's eye view, regarding the reactions manifested by people against politicians

and bureaucrats, one remains highly marvellous, but too bleak. Where these (Politicians) come from? Do they secure high positions through the assistance of God? No, never and not at all.

People's support and encouragement lead politicians, of good or bad nature, to dignified positions. Many of us are dodged without differentiating amidst competent and ineligible politicians (running after vested interests) at the time of casting votes, but later when capricious policies are exhibited by the politicians (in government), the former exert all blame on latter and similarly wink at their own committed blunders before. In such scenario, politicians (who are not too angels) can not be accused but individuals themselves.

Bleakness arises in heart when one observes individuals putting monstrous recriminations on municipal committees for leaving cities and streets in wretched-cleanliness conditions. The latter situation is, no doubt, altered into worst ones by many illit-

erate individuals not all, who ostensibly seem throwing dusts in streets as well as on roads (passing by vehicles). Thus, we neglect our brazen atrocities and deliberately accuse others for the mistakes we ourselves do.

Corruption, strikingly, impeding national development, is thoroughly condemned by all and sundry in strong words. But instead of these efforts, there appears an extensive surge of corruption in our societies. And question arises 'Why'. Actually, there is great contradiction between the words we speak and works we show, a leading cause for all undesirable outcomes. This is too regarded as 'Munafiqat' (hypocrisy) which is great sin. In adopting this despicable nature, it will perennially keep us between devil and deep sea as well as it will indeed grab the ability to differentiate between what is fair and what is foul. The focal point is to strive to plug this stated discrepancy and remain careful and truthful to the words we render in order to

enjoy good results.

Likewise, catering bribery plagues country's overall economic growth and unleashes dejection among people, but still our societies navigate in this culture as no substantial strategies are yet undertaken against it. Hampering this deep rooted culture will be hard but not unfeasible. We can detain it, if we remain truthful to our words and believe in our actions against all sort of mal-practices, giving up greasing the palms of others also comes in this category.

Moreover, domestic violence, involving sexual harassment are too perpetrated by societal Individuals. The more disappointing is to observe individuals, driving cars recklessly, dismantling the traffic's rules. A rich can easily receive treatment in hospital, but a poor in the latter is kept waiting for hours. All these underscore our blunders. The list of such agonising feats in not shortlisted.

Assuredly, we are indeed proud

of our religion (Islam), but unfortunately we have not practised its values in real sense with the purity of heart. Religion's greatness does not make individuals great. One will be considered great when one remains allegiant and obedient to religious values.

Inshort, works (actions) are sublimely imperious and fruitful rather than illustrating words, which lack rationality. Particularly, self-critique should be undertaken to highlight all those aspects that need attention. No doubt, a large chunk of societal evils will undoubtedly steer to the bottom of the ladder, if we search out our own mistakes, encroaching others' rights. "Let us all endeavour to bring enlightenment and happiness in our societies with each passing day."

*The writer is a student, and can be reached at irfantareen10@gmail.com*



## Navigating Nairobi's Drainage System: Challenges And Solution

Nairobi, the bustling capital of Kenya, is not only a hub of economic activity but also faces significant challenges related to its drainage system. As the city continues to expand rapidly, the strain on its infrastructure becomes increasingly evident, particularly during the rainy seasons. The drainage system plays a crucial role in mitigating flooding and ensuring the well-being of its residents.

The drainage system in Nairobi comprises a network of open channels, culverts, stormwater drains, and sewage systems designed to manage rainwater runoff and wastewater.

However, several factors contribute to its inefficiency and susceptibility to flooding.

One of the primary challenges is inadequate maintenance. Due to limited resources and capacity, many drainage channels become clogged with solid waste, silt, and debris, impeding the flow of water. Additionally, informal settlements, which lack proper sanitation facilities, often dispose of waste directly into the drainage system, exacerbating blockages and contaminating waterways.

Furthermore, rapid urbanization and informal construction exacerbate the

strain on the drainage infrastructure. As new buildings and roads are constructed without proper planning and adherence to regulations, they disrupt natural drainage patterns and increase surface runoff, leading to localized flooding in low-lying areas.

To address these challenges, the government of Kenya, in collaboration with international organizations and local stakeholders, has initiated various projects aimed at improving the drainage system in Nairobi. These efforts include infrastructure upgrades, such as the construction of new drainage channels, rehabilitation

of existing ones, and installation of trash traps to capture solid waste.

Moreover, community engagement and public awareness campaigns are essential components of these initiatives. By educating residents about the importance of proper waste disposal and the impact of urbanization on drainage systems, authorities aim to foster a sense of ownership and encourage sustainable practices.

Additionally, incorporating green infrastructure solutions, such as permeable pavements and green roofs, can help reduce surface runoff and enhance the city's resilience to cli-

mate change.

While significant progress has been made, challenges persist, and continued investment and collaboration are necessary to ensure the long-term effectiveness of Nairobi's drainage system. By prioritizing maintenance, adopting sustainable practices, and involving communities in decision-making processes, Nairobi can build a more resilient and sustainable urban environment for its residents.

*Saumu Pili and Wanjiru Jane  
Media student, Rongo University  
Migori county*

## Urgent Action Needed To Save Mt. Elgon Forest

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the alarming situation unfolding in Mt. Elgon Forest. It is distressing to witness the continued human encroachment and destruction of this vital ecosystem while the Kenyan government remains silent.

Mt. Elgon Forest is not just a collection of trees; it is a critical part of Kenya's natural heritage, providing essential ecosystem services such as

water regulation, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity conservation. The forest is not only home to numerous plant and animal species but also serves as a source of livelihood for local communities.

However, recent reports of human demolitions within Mt. Elgon Forest paint a grim picture of environmental degradation and habitat loss. Illegal logging, encroachment for agricul-

tural purposes, and other destructive activities are ravaging this precious ecosystem, putting its delicate balance at risk.

Despite the clear and present danger to Mt. Elgon Forest, the government's inaction is both puzzling and concerning. It is imperative that the relevant authorities take immediate and decisive action to halt further destruction and safeguard the future of

this invaluable natural resource.

I urge the Kenyan government to enforce existing laws and regulations to prevent illegal logging and land encroachment in Mt. Elgon Forest, increase patrols and surveillance to monitor and deter illegal activities within the forest, and collaborate with local communities, conservation organizations, and other stakeholders to develop sustainable management

plans for Mt. Elgon Forest that prioritize conservation and community well-being.

Time is of the essence, and decisive action is needed to save Mt. Elgon Forest from irreversible damage. Failure to act now will have far-reaching consequences for the environment, biodiversity, and future.

*Samuel Masika*

# President Ramaphosa's Inauguration Day

By: Dr. Paula O.M.Otukile  
Gaborone, Botswana  
Correspondence

Pretoria-Parliament.  
At the Union buildings President Cyril Ramaphosa was sworn in yesterday to resume his term after being re-elected on a second term in parliament as the president of the Republic of South Africa.  
It was the battle of parties, with various parties such as Mkhonto we sizwe (MK) dominating the KZN, Democratic alliance taking over western cape but all was not lost for ANC on this elections.  
ANC won the elections under Ramaphosa's leadership, despite the loadshedding, electric power problems that hit South Africa over half a decade.  
President Cyril Ramaphosa says "he is committed to working with all political parties and sectors to find solutions to the challenges faced by the country."  
Multitudes came to witness his inauguration and it was a blessing to see President Joao Lorenço from Angola, Vice President Slumber Tsogwane

from Botswana and many more this morning.  
His Excellency, President-Elect, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa arrived at the Union Buildings with his spouse, Dr Tshepo Motsepe for the Presidential Inauguration. This is the 30th year of South Africa's independence, and it was such a joy for the 7th parliament to witness with the world such a beautiful inauguration ceremony.  
The hearts of the citizens expects better things such as employment opportunities to increase, on the second term of Ramaphosa, Load shedding to reduce and the economy to be better.  
South Africa having greater industries and infrastructure as well as producing a lot in Africa it is the center of the southern African economic center.  
However as the hub or cradle of business and Tourism, all hope is not lost and economists worldwide continue to hold thumbs for betterment of the economic situation.  
More people were interviewed after the event and during and it shows that more people are optimistic about Ramaphosa being re-elected.



President Cyril Ramaphosa being sworn in yesterday in the republic of South Africa

# KEPSA Celebrates Dropping Of Contentious Clauses On Finance Bill 2024

By: John Kariuki  
@themkenyatimes

The Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) is proud to announce a series of major victories in shaping the Finance Bill 2024 following the advocacy efforts with the three arms of the Government. The active public participation has led to the Finance and National Planning Committee of the National Assembly making critical adjustments to the proposed Bill. Impressively, 10 out of the 16 amendments were directly influenced by submissions from the private sector and KEPSA Members through KEPSA.  
"We, as businesses, acknowledge and take seriously paying taxes as our civic duty. We know the country needs to grow economically and are doing our best to generate revenue. However, we also know that a predictable tax regime and focus on revenue generation policies in the short to long term will give the country both job opportunities and revenue rather than a focus on tax policies alone. We, therefore, applaud the National Assembly through the Finance and National Planning Committee, the Senate through the Speaker's Roundtable held last week, and the President through the Presidential Roundtable, which we also held last week, for the opportunities to make our proposals leading to these gains," said Ms Carole Kariuki, the KEPSA CEO.  
Some of the gains for KEPSA include: The removal of VAT on normal bread, The removal of VAT on sugar transportation, The removal of VAT on financial services and foreign exchange transactions, There will be no increase in mobile money transfers, The 2.5 percent proposed on Motor Vehicle Tax has been removed, and Excise duty on vegetable oil removed.  
The Eco Levy will be levied only

on imported finished products. Locally manufactured products will, therefore, not attract the Eco Levy. As a result, local assembly and manufacturing will help boost Kenya's manufacturing capacity, create jobs, and eliminate the pressure on foreign exchange.  
Locally manufactured products, including sanitary towels, diapers, phones, computers, tyres, and motor cycles, will not attract the Eco Levy.  
The excise duty for alcoholic beverages will be calculated based on alcohol content rather than volume. This means that beverages with higher alcohol content will incur a higher excise duty. As a result, alcohol producers are anticipated to produce safer and more cost-effective alcoholic beverages.  
Pension contributions exemption from tax will now increase from Ksh. 20,000 per month to Ksh. 30,000.  
KEPSA also welcomes the proposal to increase the threshold for VAT registration from KSh5 million to KSh8

million. This means that more small and medium businesses will not be required to register and file for VAT, thus enhancing the business environment.  
In addition to KEPSA's proposals, other adjustments have been made to the Finance Bill 2024.  
The levies on the Housing Fund and Social Health Insurance will become income tax deductible. This means the levies will not attract income tax, enhancing households' disposable income.



Eng. James Mwangi, KEPSA Director, Energy and Professional Services.

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# SPORTS NEWS

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**Sports >>** \*Germany captain Ilkay Gundogan lauded forward Jamal Musiala after yesterday's 2-0 win over Hungary, calling him "incredible" and "a joy to play with".

## Musiala 'Our Most Important' Player, Says Germany Captain Gundogan



Germany's midfielder #21 Ilkay Gundogan (L) and Germany's midfielder #10 Jamal Musiala celebrate after winning the UEFA Euro 2024 Group A football match between Germany and Hungary at the Stuttgart Arena in Stuttgart on June 19, 2024. (Photo by DAMIEN MEYER / AFP).

Germany captain Ilkay Gundogan lauded forward Jamal Musiala after yesterday's 2-0 win over Hungary, calling him "incredible" and "a joy to play with".

Musiala turned in an assist from Gundogan to open the scoring in the first half and then played a key role in creating a match-sealing goal for his captain in the second.

The 21-year-old also scored a goal and was named man of the match in Germany's 5-1 tournament-opening win against Scotland on Friday.

Speaking yesterday, Gundogan lavished praise on Musiala, who was playing in his city of birth in

German colours for just the second time.

"For me he's incredible. It's such a joy to play with him. He's someone who can do the unexpected in every single situation and is such a difference-maker for our team.

"He is maybe the most important one at the moment for us and at such a young age as well, especially when it comes to creating, putting in the final pass and scoring goals which is something he's added to his game as well."

Germany coach Julian Nagelsmann also praised the young attacker, while revealing how he has guided Musiala through his

young career.

Nagelsmann coached Musiala at club side Bayern Munich, before taking over as Germany boss last September.

"I have had a lot of meetings with Jamal at Bayern and now," the coach said, revealing his advice to the young attacker.

"He just should play like he's on any small pitch, anywhere, everywhere in Germany or England.

"He should think about playing with his friends and not think about the pressure. He did a brilliant job today as he did against the Scottish."

AFP

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*National women's volleyball team, Malkia Strikers, will face two-time Olympic champions Brazil, former champions Japan and former European champions Poland in Group B of the Paris Olympics which is set to run from July 26 to August 11

# Malkia Strikers Draw Brazil, Japan In Paris Olympics



Malkia Strikers attacker Sharon Chepchumba celebrates a points with her teammates on Sunday, September 25, 2022 during a Pool 'A' match against Belgium at Geldredome Arena in Arnhem, Netherlands. Photo-Courtesy FIVB.

National women's volleyball team, Malkia Strikers, will face two-time Olympic champions Brazil, former champions Japan and former European champions Poland in Group B of the Paris Olympics which is set to run from July 26 to August 11.

Malkia Strikers punched the Africa's sole ticket for the Summer Games during last year's African Nations Championships held in Cameroon where they defeated the hosts 3-1 sets to clinch their record extending tenth continental

title.

Kenya performed dismally at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics losing all the group matches with straight sets against Japan, South Korea, Serbia and Dominican Republic to finish bottom in Pool A in what was their first appearance at the games since back to back appearances in 2000 and 2004.

Group A has hosts France, reigning champions the United States, three-time Olympic champions China and current world champions Serbia.

The United States defeated their nemesis Brazil 3-0 sets at the Tokyo Games to win their first ever gold after finishing runners-up three times.

Volleyball Nations League (VNL) defending champions Turkey will headline Group C that also has the Netherlands, Dominican Republic and Italy.

The Olympic volleyball tournament will take place from July 27 to August 11 at the South Paris Arena in the French capital.

Citizen Sport

# SPORTS NEWS



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# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



The Mt Kenya Times



375778 201602

## Nepal's Best Education Hub



By: Paula Otukile  
Gaborone, Botswana

### Worth Noting:

- Distinguished as Nepal's only multiple intelligence-based school, our mission is to cultivate an inspiring environment where every student is valued and empowered to realize their fullest potential. We aspire for our graduates to become responsible global citizens, dedicated to making a positive impact on society. Our commitment to holistic development and educational excellence guides every aspect of our school's operations.

- Beyond intellectual growth, we prioritize the mental, physical, emotional, and social well-being of our students. Our educators, known for their creative thinking and commitment to integrated learning, employ methodologies that encourage learning through practical experience. By focusing on psychological development, we equip our students with the skills and resilience needed to navigate an ever-changing world.

Balkunja Secondary School stands as a beacon of progressive education in Lalitpur district, Mahalaxmi Municipality-8, Nepal. Founded under the visionary guidance of Balchandra Bogati, and led by the dynamic Principal Sushil Bogati, the school is committed to fostering educational excellence and the holistic development of every child. Emphasizing a well-rounded approach to education, Balkunja Secondary School nurtures the hands, heads, and hearts of its students through innovative teaching methods, hands-on activities, and a comprehensive curriculum.

At our school, every child is encouraged to thrive without being left behind. We believe in the power of co-curricular and extracurricular activities to complement academic learning, preparing students for the ever-changing world. In line with our philosophy of local action with global impact, Balkunja Secondary School actively seeks collaborations with national and international educational institutions.

Distinguished as Nepal's only multiple intelligence-based school, our mission is to cultivate an inspiring environment where every student is valued and empowered to realize their fullest potential. We aspire for our graduates to become responsible global citizens, dedicated to making a positive impact on society. Our commitment to holistic development and educational excellence guides every aspect of our school's operations.

Beyond intellectual growth, we prioritize the mental, physical, emotional, and social well-being of our students. Our educators, known for their creative thinking and commitment to integrated learning, employ methodologies that encourage learning through practical experience. By focusing on psychological development, we equip our students with the skills and resilience needed to navigate an ever-changing world.

In essence, Balkunja Secondary School is not just an educational institution; it is a nurturing community dedicated to shaping compassionate, innovative leaders of tomorrow. We believe in fostering a culture of learning and sharing, where each member—teachers and students

alike—contributes to a vibrant learning environment. Our journey toward excellence in education continues, driven by our passion for creating a brighter future for all.

The school has a mission of creating an inspiring environment where every student is valued and given equal opportunity to reach their full potential so they become a positively contributing global citizen and make this world a better place to live in.

The school is building the vision that the holistic development of a child and educational excellence is at the heart of everything we do. We envision an environment where children become dutiful and compassionate and create

Our commitment to excellence extends beyond academics. Balkunja Secondary School places a strong emphasis on cultivating values of empathy, responsibility, and cultural awareness among its students. Through community service initiatives and cultural exchange programs, we encourage students to appreciate diversity and develop a global perspective. These experiences not only enrich their understanding of the world but also instill in them a sense of social responsibility.

The school's dedication to innovation is evident in its state-of-the-art facilities and technology-integrated classrooms. We believe in harnessing the power of modern tools and resources to enhance learning outcomes and prepare students for the challenges of the digital age. From robotics workshops to entrepreneurial projects, our curriculum is designed to foster creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

The teaching methodologies of the teachers make the learning different. The way of learning is by experiencing, visiting the real field and market areas, fun-based learning, problem-based learning, learning by doing, learning to live in real life and society by emphasizing the core moral values and skills, and many more. These techniques of sharing knowledge are helping in the overall growth of the children.

In collaboration with parents and the wider community, we strive to create a supportive network that nurtures the growth and well-being of



every student. Our holistic approach to education ensures that each child receives personalized attention and support, enabling them to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

As we look to the future, Balkunja Secondary School remains steadfast in its mission to uphold educational

excellence and empower students to become leaders of positive change. Through continuous innovation and a steadfast commitment to our core values, we are shaping a generation of lifelong learners who are prepared to make a meaningful impact on the world.