



**Align Wage Policies With ILO Standards**  
 The traction of finance bill 2024 raises the significance of public participation fora in decision making and the need for a closer eye in the law making process.  
 The ability to grasp, probe and vary between a policy, bill, an Act of parliament and successive phases associated with formulating a bill to an Act, is key.

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**News>>KANU Leader Condemns Abduction Of Kenyans Protesting Finance Bill**

P. 8. KANU chairperson has decried the ongoing trend where a section of Kenyans suspected to have masterminded anti-tax demonstrations are being taken hostage.



**News>>Listen To The Voices Of Kenyans, NCKK Urges State**

P. 12. The National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCKK) has urged the Kenya Kwanza Government to give a listening ear to protesters opposed to the contentious Finance Bill 2024.

# Ruto Flags Off First 400 Police Officers To Haiti



**President William Ruto has flagged off the first 400 police officers headed to Haiti. The officers are due to travel to Haiti on Tuesday to lead a United Nations-backed mission aimed at addressing gang violence. Kenya has offered to send approximately 1,000 police officers to stabilize Haiti, alongside personnel from several other countries. However, the deployment has faced legal obstacles within Kenya.**



*Kenya's president William Ruto flags off the first batch of 400 police officers who will depart for Haiti yesterday on a UN-backed peace mission.*

STORY ON PAGE 9

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# Students To Be Covered Under The New Insurance Scheme -PS Muthoni

By: KNA



Public Health and Professional Standards PS Muthoni Muriuki .

**Worth Noting:**

- Speaking at St. Bakhita Kiburia Girls in Kianyaga, Kirinyaga County, during prize giving day, the PS asked the parents to duly register their households, when the program finally starts off, as it will ensure that no adult or child, will be denied health care services due to lack of funds.
- On education, Muriuki noted that the parents' role in education cannot be overstated as they are close confidants to their children, apart from paying the requisite school fees, while urging them to guide and speak to the young ones in a language they understand most.

The government has assured parents that their school going children will be fully insured under the new Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF), scheduled to replace NHIF.

Public Health and Professional Standards PS Muthoni Muriuki has said Primary Healthcare Fund under the new scheme will cover learners alongside their households.

Learners have since 2018 enjoyed insurance cover through EduAfy introduced following a directive from former President Uhuru Kenyatta to cater for learners in public secondary schools across the country, facilitated by the Ministry of Education.

Speaking at St. Bakhita Kiburia Girls in Kianyaga, Kirinyaga County, during prize giving day, the PS asked the parents to duly register their households, when the program finally starts off, as it will ensure that no adult or child, will be denied health care services due to lack of

funds.

On education, Muriuki noted that the parents' role in education cannot be overstated as they are close confidants to their children, apart from paying the requisite school fees, while urging them to guide and speak to the young ones in a language they understand most.

"To the parents and guardians, your role in this success cannot be overstated. Your encouragement, support and involvement in your children's education have been vital. You have created an environment that fosters learning and growth ensuring that your children have every opportunity to succeed," she said

The PS affirmed the government commitment in providing quality education, calling on all stakeholders and partners including the church and banking sector to provide all the support they can.

"To members of the community, your support for these students is invaluable. Whether through partnerships, resources

or simply showing up to events like this, your involvement helps create a thriving educational ecosystem. Together we are building a brighter future for our young generation and consequently our country Kenya," noted Muriuki.

"We must remain committed to providing our students with the best possible educational experiences. This means investing in our schools, supporting our teachers and creating an environment, where every student can thrive. It means embracing innovation, fostering inclusivity and ensuring that no student is left behind," she added.

Murang'a Diocese Catholic Bishop James Wainaina who was among guests and sponsor of the school congratulated the institution on their continuous good performance and urged them to do even better.

The prelate said the church is a key stakeholder in education and will continue to provide all the necessary support

to ensure further improvement of performance.

He called upon the students to be people who can be trusted and relied on in the society.

Bishop Wainaina requested the alumni of the school to come together and modernize the school to meet the current standards and give a good studying environment.

"We realize this school was started long ago and we should look for ways to improve the school's equipment and structures. We request partners to assist us in face-lifting, which will in turn improve the performance of the girls.

During the function, the Catholic Church availed a modern laboratory, which was officially opened by the PS as part of modernizing the school facilities for science practicals.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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

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# NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS

# The Mount Kenya Times

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



Kilifi County has launched a primary health outreach campaign called ‘Afya Mashinani’, which aims to reduce the cost of medication for residents from remote areas who have been travelling long distances to access specialised medical services. The campaign is being funded by the County Government of Kilifi and executed by primary health care networks (PCNs) established by the Ministry of Health. The campaign aims to reach patients with chronic diseases such as diabetes and high blood pressure who have been receiving treatment at hospitals. The campaign aims to implement the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) championed by the Ministry of Health, which has been embraced by County Governor Gideon Mung’aro. The campaign has been praised by Jilore Ward Representative Hamisi Jambo, and patients who spoke to journalists called on the authorities to increase the frequency of such visits.



An Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) specialist examines a patient in a tent at the Baolala Health Centre in Kilifi County, where more than 250 patients were examined and treated during the launch of Afya Mashinani, a grassroots approach to providing healthcare services to the remote areas of Kilifi County. Photo/Emmanuel Masha



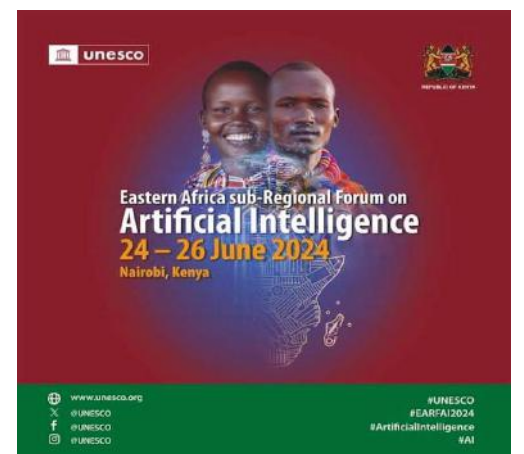
Environmental experts warn that electronic devices kept at home can be harmful to human health due to the presence of hazardous substances like lead, mercury, and cadmium. According to the Information, Communication, and Technology Authority (ICTA), Kenya produces over 51,300 metric tonnes of e-waste annually, with only 5% being recycled properly. To combat this issue, the Information Communication and Technology Authority (ICTA) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Centre (WEEE Centre) have held an e-waste awareness and training session in Kisumu County. Stephen Shitandi, coordinator at the WEEE Centre in Kisumu County, cites lack of awareness as a major challenge in managing e-waste. He explains that people keep electronic equipment they do not use for up to ten years, unaware of the dangers they are predisposed to. However, the programme has empowered many people and played a key role in environmental conservation.



Jubilee Life Insurance Company has launched its 4th annual art competition, with a Sh3 million scholarship prize, at Victoria Primary School in Kisumu County. The competition, which has been held annually since 2017, aims to celebrate the company’s 8th anniversary with the theme “Dream without Limits.” The competition is open to primary school pupils, with the goal of nurturing their talents. Jubilee Life Insurance Chief Executive Officer Asman Mugambi expressed confidence in the growing appreciation and enthusiasm for art, stating that the competition will have a significant impact on the personal development of young learners and the nation as a whole.



The Head of Public Service and Chief of Staff, Felix Koskei, has called on the best-performing schools to support and mentor neighbouring upcoming schools to ensure academic excellence. Koskei underscored the importance of teamwork and teaching strategies in good-performing schools for all students. He urged teachers from performing schools to extend their teaching talents to neighbouring schools to achieve self-actualization in the education sector. Koskei commended the efforts of students and parents, stating that education is the best thing a parent should give to children for a bright future. Tinderet MP Julius Melly called on parents to support the students, school administration, and teachers in excelling in academics.



The Eastern Africa Regional Forum on Artificial Intelligence (EARFAI) has successfully kicked off in Nairobi, following a four-year postponement due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event, hosted by Kenya, was organised by UNESCO and its agencies in collaboration with line ministries in the Eastern Africa regional governments.

The Kenyan Ambassador and permanent delegate to UNESCO, Prof. Peter Ngunjiri, praised the organisers for their efforts and urged the media to tell the EARFAI story to the highest level, appealing for potential investors in technical and financial support for AI implementation in the region.

“Kenya operates at very high standards, and this is an opportunity to demonstrate the spirit of excellence in our country, which is a privilege for UNESCO to allow us to host the AI conference,” he said.

The event will inform Africa’s future in terms of AI, with the findings set to set the pace for the rest of Africa and the world.

The event, chaired by Dr. Joel Ogoto, will involve UNESCO, various ministries, including Education, Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Interior, Information Communications, and Digital Economy.

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**MAISHA NI**  
kuchungana.



# Boda Ni Life

Chagua usalama, chagua kuwa hapo kwa ajili ya familia yako



# Governor Njuki Accuses Some Mt Kenya Politicians Of Using A Tribal Card For Their Interest

By: MKT Reporter  
@themkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- The Governor, a close ally of President Ruto noted that Kenya is a united nation and asked politicians to stop rallying support along tribal lines.
- The county chief, who was accompanied by his deputy and the county assembly Speaker, John Mbabu among several ward representatives, said Kenyans are waiting for the leaders to deliver the promises made during the last campaigns and it is unfair for the leaders to start campaigns for the 2027 elections barely two years after elections.



Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki addressing some of his constituents. Photo/Mwenda Njeru

Tharaka Nithi County Governor Muthomi Njuki has told off politicians from Mt Kenya trying to push the region into opposition on claims that it is being sidelined.

In a statement that seemed to be directed to Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Governor Njuki said 'leaders claiming to be championing the interests of Mt Kenya region are using the tribal card just for their selfish gain'.

Mr Gachagua is pushing for a 'one man-one vote-one shilling' revenue sharing formula claiming that Mt Kenya region contributes a huge share of the country's revenue yet it gets back a small share.

He is also on record claiming that

the region made a huge contribution in forming the Kenya Kwanza government by voting President William Ruto overwhelmingly and the gesture should be reciprocated with resources.

He said if Mr Gachagua or any other Mt Kenya leader has an issue with the President, it must be personal and they should settle the matter in the boardroom and not drag the residents on claims of 'our people'.

"If we have differences with my deputy, Mr Nyaga Muisrael, he should face me and not go back to his village to incite the villagers against me," he said.

The Governor, a close ally of President Ruto noted that Kenya is a united nation and asked politicians to stop

rallying support along tribal lines.

The county chief, who was accompanied by his deputy and the county assembly Speaker, John Mbabu among several ward representatives, said Kenyans are waiting for the leaders to deliver the promises made during the last campaigns and it is unfair for the leaders to start campaigns for the 2027 elections barely two years after elections.

He added that in the last elections, the Mt Kenya region ran away from the government that it had voted overwhelmingly giving the opposition a field day and that they cannot afford to make a similar mistake.

He said that the region should remain faithful to President Ruto so that the

several projects that were started by the last government but stalled after they ran away from the government can be completed.

"If I start fighting the government, the stalled; Chiakariga-Gatunga, Keria-Magutuni, Marima-Weru, and Kirubua-Kairini roads that have stalled for many years will not be completed," he said.

Governor Njuki was in Mwimbi ward in Maara constituency during the burial of Mr Humphrey Riungu Mwangera the father of the county's Chief Officer for Health Services and ICT, Mr Karani Riungu.

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# KANU Leader Condemns Abduction Of Kenyans Protesting Finance Bill

By: Eric Biegon

Kenya African National Union (KANU) chairperson has decried the ongoing trend where a section of Kenyans suspected to have master-minded anti-tax demonstrations are being taken hostage.

According to Moi, the emerging pattern where young people are being violently abducted on account of engineering the protests against the Finance Bill, 2024 is deeply troubling and warrants unequivocal condemnation.

“We are a country of the rule of law and not that of the rule of men. If anyone is suspected of having committed any crime, they must be arrested in accordance with the law and be produced in a court of competent jurisdiction,” the KANU boss said in a statement yesterday morning

He said Kenyans are suffering the burden of unbearable taxes and should not be impeded while voicing

their concerns.

“An attempt to suppress the voices of those who bear the brunt of over-taxation, unresponsive economic policies, and lack of accountability on the part of the government through unlawful tactics is unacceptable,” said Moi

While reiterating that his party is opposed to the Finance Bill, Moi asked the Kenya Kwanza administration to instead create more opportunities for Kenyans to access employment to increase the number of those who are taxed.

“We reject the Finance Bill, urge the government to prioritise Industrialisation over Taxation, and stop viewing the young people with grievances as the enemies yet they are victims of harsh economic policies,” he said



KANU chairperson Gideon Moi

# NGAAF Warns Officials Against Corruption

By: MKT Reporter  
@themtkenyatimes

National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) Chairperson Rachael Musyoki has urged officials to stop corruption and ensure women can access grants.

Musyoki revealed that they are investigating several cases of fraud and will soon apprehend and charge unethical officers. Some cases were from the Coast region, where women face difficulties when applying for funds to boost their businesses.

Musyoki praised Mariakani Member of County Assembly Martha Koki for bringing together over 2000 widows to register them into groups.

She ordered the simplification of the application process to ensure accessibility for more women at the grass-roots.

Koki promised to work with both governmental and non-governmental organisations to empower widows in her area.

Koki also condemned the discrimination faced by widows in the Coast region, stating that she will follow laws to ensure they receive what is rightfully theirs.



# President Ruto Flags Off First 400 Police Officers To Haiti

By: Capital Correspondent

President William Ruto has flagged off the first 400 police officers headed to Haiti.

The officers are due to travel to Haiti on Tuesday to lead a United Nations-backed mission aimed at addressing gang violence.

Kenya has offered to send approximately 1,000 police officers to stabilize Haiti, alongside personnel from several other countries. However, the deployment has faced legal obstacles within Kenya.

President Ruto has been a strong proponent of the mission, stating earlier this month that the deployment would begin within weeks.

The UN Security Council approved the mission in October, but a Kenyan court delayed the deployment in January, ruling that the Kenyan

government had no authority to send police officers abroad without a prior agreement.

The Kenyan government secured the necessary agreement on March 1, but a small opposition party in Kenya has since filed a fresh lawsuit to try to block the deployment.

In addition to Kenya, other countries that have expressed willingness to join the mission include Benin, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, and Chad. The United States is providing funding and logistical support for the mission but will not deploy personnel on the ground in Haiti, the poorest country in the Americas.

### Human Rights Concerns

Global monitor Human Rights Watch has raised concerns about the mission and its funding. Rights groups have accused Kenyan police of using excessive force and carrying out unlawful killings.

On Friday, a police watchdog announced it was investigating allega-



Kenya's president William Ruto flags off the first batch of 400 police officers who will depart for Haiti yesterday on a UN-backed peace mission.

tions that officers shot a 29-year-old man in Nairobi following youth-led demonstrations against proposed tax hikes. A second protester later succumbed to his injuries in hospital.

# Makadara Court To Resume July 1 Amid Heightened Security Measures

By: Prudence Wanja  
@themtkenyatimes

Chief Justice Martha Koome has announced new dates for the planned resumption of services at the Makadara Law Courts.

Koome stated that after extensive consultations with security agencies, the leadership of the Makadara Law Courts, Judiciary management, and various judicial associations, the Makadara Law Courts will reopen on July 1, 2024.

This follows the tragic shooting incident at the Makadara Law Courts that claimed the life of Principal Magistrate Monica Kivuti.

Koome had initially said the court would remain closed until June 24 to allow for the dismantling of makeshift court structures and reorganisation for security reasons.

"Starting July 1, 2024, plea-taking will resume in secured and fit-for-purpose courtrooms," said Koome.

From June 24 to 26, 2024, all judicial officers and court staff at the

Makadara Law Courts will undergo individual and group trauma counseling sessions conducted by professional counselors.

On June 27, a meeting of the Makadara Law Courts Court Users Committee (CUC) will discuss the modalities of resuming court operations and review new security measures.

The CUC will also provide guidelines on hearing modalities and the use of virtual courts to reduce congestion.

Additionally, on June 28, court diaries will be reorganised to assign new dates for pending matters.

Koome directed that until the resumption of services at the Makadara Law Courts, all matters will continue to be handled at the Milimani Law Courts.

Enhanced security measures for all courts

The Chief Justice further outlined enhanced security measures for all courts across the country, including the Makadara Law Courts, effective June 24.

Going forward, the Judiciary Police



Chief Justice Martha Koome..

Unit will enforce strict search protocols, and no unauthorized persons will be allowed to access court premises while armed with firearms.

Judicial officers and staff will be required to wear name tags at all times, while other court users will need to provide identification documents.

Only vehicles with serialized Judiciary car stickers will be allowed to

access court parking, with searches conducted before entry.

To reduce the number of court users who have to visit the registry and court, Koome said customer care desks shall be strengthened through the deployment of adequate staff and ICT equipment.

Additionally, each court station, in consultation with the Court Users

Committees, shall submit requests for the facilitation of any security infrastructure required to address identified gaps.

Koome said the Judiciary Leadership Team and various committees will collaborate with other agencies to implement comprehensive long-term security measures.

# How To Defeat Demons



By: Eric Musa  
 EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

Devils do not listen to weak Christians. He beats them to the ground in spite of the authority Jesus has given them. Consider Luke 10:19: “[19] Behold! I have given you AUTHORITY AND POWER to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and [physical and mental strength and ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you.” Oh, my God, Selah!

Having authority and exercising it are two different things. It is commendable to just speak words as the Spirit gives them to you, pray without ceasing, coupled with praying in tongues.

Do not be worried about the appearance of people who come to church. God will deal with that. It is not your

business. Do not worry about the outward person. Be concerned about the inward man. I have seen some people so messed up that even the devil did not want them. When you get too bad, the devil’s crowd does not want you anymore. Just remember that Jesus will accept you the way you are, if you will bow down before Him and ask for mercy. Ask for mercy, and you will get it.

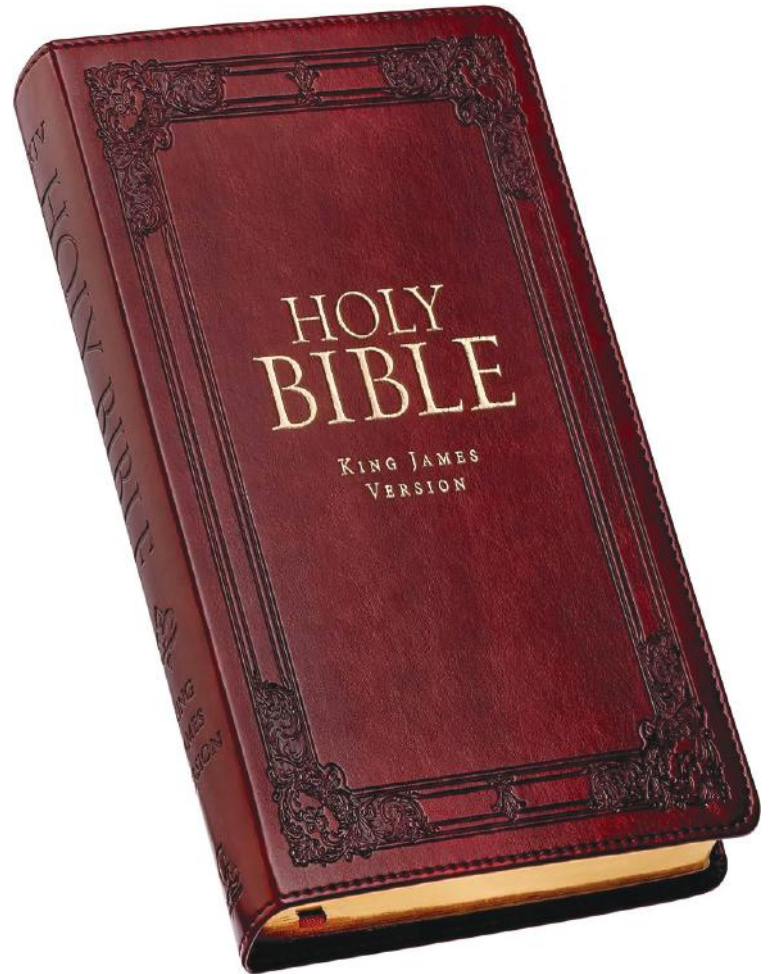
If you do not want to get involved in casting out devils because it is “weird,” you are already involved in weird stuff—and that weird stuff is you. Casting out demons and laying hands on the sick is supposed to be the normal Christian life. Learn about the power that is in you. The Holy Spirit does not think as we think. He thinks according to the reality of heaven: no sickness, no confusion, no nervousness, no cripples, and no blindness. Until you get your mind renewed with the Word of God and stop thinking about yourself, you cannot even get healed.

Remember: the Holy Spirit is not ignorant. If you are not receiving the blessings of God, it should be evi-

dent to you that you are ignorant. The Kingdom of God is total victory, and if you are born again, you have inherited heaven. The entire Kingdom of Heaven lives in you.

**WHAT A MIGHTY WONDERFUL GOD WE SERVE.**

**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



# Anti Finance Bill Protests Should End By 6.30pm, Or At Sunset, CS Kindiki Announces

By: Capital Correspondent

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki has announced that the anti-Finance Bill demonstrations set for today must end by 6.30pm or sunset. Speaking during a press conference where he outlined a raft of measures to be followed, CS Kindiki urged the protestors not to breach public order. He further encouraged them not to provoke, harass the police who will be providing security or the or the public. "The government of Kenya will respect, uphold, promote and fulfil the inalienable constitutional right of every person peaceably and unarmed to assemble, to demonstrate, to picket and to present petitions to authorities," Kindiki stated. He indicated that the government will deal firmly with criminals who may infiltrate the demonstrations. Kindiki dared protesters to breach peace saying protesters "must not in-

terfere with road, rail, sea or air transport in any manner whatsoever." He also warned those who have dared to march to State House, or forcefully access Parliament buildings and other government areas. The CS further said that protesters must not interfere with the non-protesters since while Kenyans have a right to demonstrate, they are limited by the law. "They must make sure that the enjoyment of these rights does not prejudice the rights and freedoms of others," he said. Kindiki said that protesters must remain peaceful and unarmed during the protests. CS Kindiki added that demonstrators must engage without promoting violence or riots. "They must not interfere with road rail, sea or air transport in any manner whatsoever. Whatever the demands, the issues, grievances or whatever the matter, the rule of law and public order must be maintained by all persons," he said. He further urged that non-protesters who hold a contrary view must also



Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki .

follow the law.

He said the security agencies will remain neutral but firm in enforcing the rule of law.

Kindiki, however, said that the rule

of law must be followed at all times.

He said that Kenyans are free to exercise their constitutional rights and are free to demonstrate within the law.

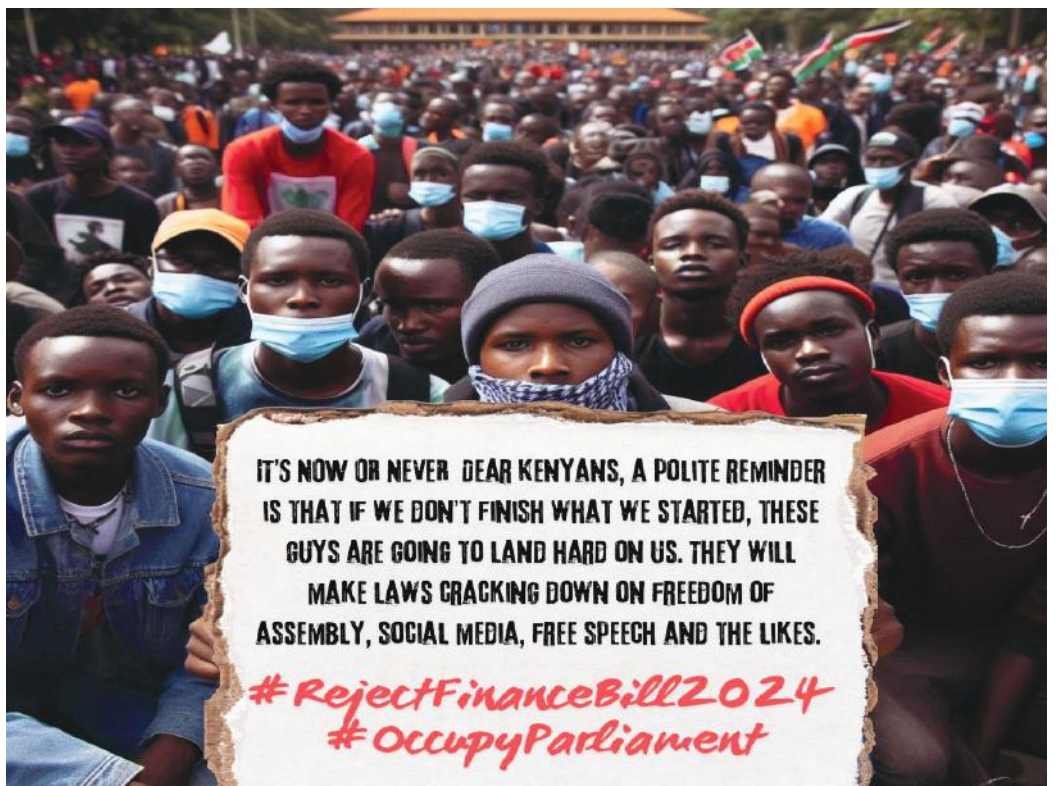
The CS wants demonstrators not to breach public order, intimidate, harass or inconvenience other Kenyans.

# Groups Warn Against Internet Shutdown Amid Anti-Finance Bill Protests

By: Capital Correspondent

A group of national and international organizations has warned the government against limiting access to social and mass media during the anti-Finance Bill 2024 protests. They have urged the government to uphold the freedoms guaranteed by Kenya's Constitution and international human rights norms. The group of 27 international organizations and Kenyan associations representing content creators, lawyers, medical officers, and human rights defenders cautioned about potential disruptions to the internet and mass media throughout the week. "Shutting down or throttling of the internet, shadow-banning hashtags, or a mass media ban on live reporting would be a gross violation of fundamental human rights," they said in a statement. They stated that the internet and mass media are critical for the enjoyment of

the public's right to be informed, citizen's self-expression, e-commerce, and the digital economy that is responsible for close to 10 percent of the GDP. Should the government attempt to block or restrict social and mass media during the protests, they have urged social media platforms to push back and uphold freedoms enshrined in the constitution and international human rights standards. "Censorship or restricting access to social and mass media will be unlawful and counterproductive at this time," they said. The Finance Bill 2024 continues to trigger widespread public outcry and protests due to its proposed tax measures. The protests, which have garnered diverse participation, are marked by a predominantly young demographic known as Generation Z and have spread nationwide, prompting police intervention. In response to the demonstrations, the government announced the removal of some controversial provisions in the bill, following pressure from various stakeholders.



Dozens were injured and others arrested during protests by GenZs against the Finance Bill 2024 on June 20, 2024/CFM.

# Listen To The Voices Of Kenyans, NCCK Urges State

By: KBC Correspondent

The National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) has urged the Kenya Kwanza Government to give a listening ear to protesters opposed to the contentious Finance Bill 2024.

They called upon the elected leaders in Parliament to listen to voices of the people and resist any urge to pass the bill in its current state.

Through a statement read to congregants Sunday, NCCK also urged the Government address the challenge of brutality meted on the unarmed protesters by police officers.

At the Methodist Church of Kenya – Isiolo Town Church, the Superintendent Minister of Isiolo Circuit who is also the Secretary of NCCK Isiolo County Rev. David Muthuiya termed the Finance Bill 2024 as punitive and a heavy burden on the shoulders of Kenyans who are already struggling due to heavy taxation that has had a huge impact on the cost of living.

Rev. Muthuiya noted that the government and other social structures exist to give people hope, and to help them develop both as individuals and as a community, arguing that

overtaxing the same Kenyans goes against that expectation.

He said that it was the duty of citizens to fund the government operations through payment of taxes, but the government should also not impose taxes that become a very heavy burden for the people to bear,


NCCK cited the proposed excise tax on bread, motor vehicle levy and tax on mobile money transfers as very punitive proposals that will have a huge impact on the livelihoods of poor Kenyans.

According to the cleric, Kenyans have also witnessed businesses close down because of heavy taxation, noting that it was time the government listened to the voices of the young crop of demonstrators dubbed GEN Z who have embarked on street protests to make their voices heard.

Rev. Muthuiya noted that the expressions by GEN Z protesters depicted the feelings of majority of Kenyans over the controversial bill, asking the police to exercise restraint and avoid using excessive force to contain them. He also termed the demonstrators as peaceful, organized and unarmed, arguing that they were within their rights to picket, carrying only water bottles and their mobile phones.



Gen Z demonstrators protesting against the Finance Bill 2024..



LAW SOCIETY OF KENYA

## DOs and Don'ts During Demonstrations

### DOs

- 1** Express your views peacefully  
Sing, chant, dance, march and make any other motion or sound that is not offensive to and does not interfere with the peace of your immediate surrounding.
- 2** Stay within the designated zones of the protest  
Ensure that you are at all times within the areas declared as protest zones to avoid being targeted for veering into restricted areas or being outside secured protest zones
- 3** Move with the group of protestors  
There is safety in masses. Moving alone can result to profiling and reduce accountability for actions against an individual.
- 4** Protest within the legally allowed time  
The law sets a timeframe between 6am and 6pm for all protests. Adhere to the timelines.
- 5** Document your location and events occurring  
Take photos and keep updates of your whereabouts and the environment to ensure there can be trackable accountability for any incidences.
- 6** Communicate  
Take photos and keep updates of your whereabouts and the environment to ensure there can be trackable accountability for any incidences.

### DON'TS

- 1** Do not provoke police  
Avoid threatening, attacking or in any way giving police officers potential justification to hurt or be aggressive against you.
- 2** Do not interfere with peace of non-protestors  
Avoid confronting other members of the public for their preference in not participating in the protests, or doing anything that would lead to discomfort, fear of harm or actual harm to non-protesting members of the public.
- 3** Do not damage property or break into private places of business  
Respect the property of all people and do not insist to be allowed into business premises that are not open or willing to admit you. Desist from any desire to break or in any way disrupt the property of other people.
- 4** Do not carry any instruments that can be used as weapons  
The law disallows wielding of weapons during protests. Do not carry any guns, stones, knives, whips, rods or tools that can be used to cause harm to yourself, other protestors, the police or other members of the public.
- 5** Do not attempt to breach protected areas  
Any building or premises designated as protected areas are out of bounds unless due authorization is granted. Attempts to enter or break into areas such as parliament grounds, the supreme court, military barracks or state house is an offence and can lead to serious repercussions.
- 6** Do not spread propaganda or hate speech  
The right to freedom of expression is limited, and does not allow propaganda or hate speech that can amount to incitement. Avoid engaging in any remarks that may appear as direct slurs against personalities or that are clearly misleading to increase public rage through misinformation.

LSK TOLL FREE NUMBER: 0800 720 434

# Authority Urges Organisations To File Annual Returns

By: MKT Correspondent  
 @themkenyatimes

The Public Benefit Organisations Regulatory Authority (PBORA), formerly the NGO Coordination Board, is urging registered organisations to file annual returns, as only 2,829 out of 12,000 have done so. PBORA Director Mwangangi Mwanja underscored the importance of returns as they will help the government plan and trace the money NGOs have pumped into the country. He also urged organisations to be accountable by performing their mandated functions to avoid sanctions. The government is committed to implementing the Public Benefit Organisations Act, 2013, which came into force on May 14, 2024, after court cases halted its operationaliza-

tion. The act repealed the Non-Governmental Organisations Co-ordination Act of 1990, and all NGOs will now be known as Public Benefits Organisations (PBOs). “We note that in the year 2022-2023, they spent close to Sh200 billion on development initiatives in this country. They employ a large number of Kenyans in the implementation of these programmes,” said Mwanja. The new law encourages self-regulation and progressiveness, and Mwanja praised PBOs for augmenting government efforts to develop the country. PBOs are encouraged to align their programmes with the government agenda, as espoused in the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). PBORA Director Jacob Odari emphasised the importance of filing returns for the government to ascertain their activities.



PBORA Director Mwangangi Mwanja

# Meru: Ksh 6.5M Facility Launched To Boost Healthcare Provision

By: KBC Digital

Residents of Nkuene Ward in Meru County will now have easier access to healthcare services following the commissioning of a state-of-the-art healthcare facility constructed by the KPC Foundation. The facility was constructed and equipped at a cost of Ksh 6.5 million and is expected to enhance access to basic healthcare needs for the 58,000 members of Nkuene Ward community. KPC Managing Director, Mr. Joe Sang, said as a responsible corporate citizen, KPC through the Foundation partners with communities and other organisations to address some of the pressing day-to-day needs like healthcare which he said, was out of reach for millions of Kenyans. “Many Kenyans cannot afford quality healthcare services, and that is why KPC Foundation is taking deliberate steps to advance healthcare delivery at the community level. Only

about 20% of Kenyans have access to medical covers leaving the majority excluded from quality healthcare coverage. Consequently, most Kenyans spend a huge amount of their income on health,” he said. KPC Foundation partnered with Agha Khan Hospital and conducted a two-day free medical camp at the newly unveiled dispensary. This was the 14th medical camp since the KPC Foundation was founded. Mr Martin Makasi, the Nkuene Ward MCA said the dispensary had brought healthcare closer to the doorsteps of Ukuu community members and thanked KPC Foundation for the kind gesture. “We appreciate the KPC Foundation for the commissioning of this facility which will be of great benefit to this community. This facility will help reduce the distance the locals travel to access essential medical services.” The facility is equipped with modern medical infrastructure, diagnostic equipment, consultation rooms and specialized treatment areas.



KPC Foundation partnered with Agha Khan Hospital and conducted a two-day free medical camp at the newly unveiled dispensary.

# I Am In Love With Beauty



Encompassing the crimson glow,  
I look at the red roses  
This sun entered my heart without  
telling me  
If you are charmed, it will be good.

Everything around is beautiful  
Gives peace to thirsty souls  
Nature is so beautiful  
My eyes are happy with the color

I was the daughter of Artikbayeva Shahzoda Saidkarim, born on June 18, 2009 in the New Life district of Tashkent. Currently, I am a student of the 9th B class of school 292. In 2022, I got an honorable second place in the young reader city stage and became the owner of a laptop. My poems were also published in the newspapers "Tong syztari", "Yangi yer tongi" and "Izhytov" newspapers. I participated in many events and competitions and won certificates and diplomas.

The world of flowers surrounding the world,  
It's my peace of mind when I stay awake  
The yolk is evenly opened and fresh  
Is it love or fire that surrounds my heart.

Everywhere is overflowing with flowers  
When I look at it, it burns like coal  
The girl opened and revealed her beauty,  
So nature is a source of magic.

# My Mother

Mom, you are for us  
You are both great and honorable.  
There is a folk saying:  
Learn From Cradle to Grave"

We are your beloved children  
Three girls, one male shunkor.  
We boldly promise  
Now we can help you!

Now we put aside  
The joys of childhood,  
"We won't tell you  
About my father's death..."

stay home (covid 19)  
Dear relatives,  
Dear blood relatives,  
My classmate, my confidants,  
Please stay at home

shed less tears now  
Read more books  
Write meaningful poems,  
Please stay at home

Memorizing from Navoi,  
put wisdom in your heart,  
Enjoy your time  
Please stay at home

Brave as our countryman  
Man does not exist in the world.  
He gives his life for us

This is God's test  
We will definitely win.  
That's why my people  
Let's be patient  
Be sensitive for now  
Please stay home!

Faizullayeva Gulasal was born on January 28, 2009 in Gijduvan district, Bukhara region. The author of "My father's dream" and "My mother's paradise".

In addition, he made many achievements in chemistry and biology. English language, literature, mother tongue are among his favorite subjects. Participated in the "Festival of Book Lovers" - "Festival of Literature" and won a 3-day trip to Tashkent. There are 6 people in their family. His father died. She is a very talented, smart and beautiful girl. She has many plans, dreams, and goals for the future, so Gulasal is studying biology and chemistry and making every effort to achieve them. He wants to become a good doctor in the future and send his mother to Hajj. Her future dreams are to take IELTS, win student of the year, Zulfiya award and open a course and teach students.

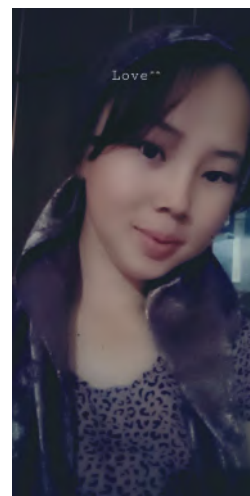
# My Love

I slowly tapped the pillow of my heart  
I wonder if someone will answer  
My heart is sick my love  
I am in pain in sorrow

I did not believe that you would leave me  
I really want you to stay with me  
I just believed to your words  
I have noticed I was wrong

You used to tell me that you loved me  
Do not disappoint other person  
One day troubles will come to you  
Because everything in this world is reversible

Author: Sevinch Qadamboyeva  
Bogot District, Khorazm Region, Republic of Uzbekistan.



Humanity has lived in harmony with each other since ancient times. But at the beginning of the 20th century, the emergence of the FTI revolution, the rapid development of plants and factories, has a negative impact on the environment. Chlorine and fluorine gases combine to form freon gases. It is destroying the ozone layer located 15-25 km above the earth's surface. The exhaust gas emitted from industrial enterprises rises into the atmosphere and creates the "greenhouse effect", as a result of which the average temperature of the globe is increasing.

# Earth Is Lonely

This, in turn, is causing the melting of permafrost and global ocean level rise. Our country recognizes and strictly adheres to the internationally accepted normative documents on ecology and environmental protection.

Today, we need to further develop environmental culture in the general public. After all, if we misuse the water resources and forest natural resources, if we poison the environment, there is no other planet in the universe. "Earth is one - lonely".

Author: Safarova Marjona  
Translator: Bahodirova Laylo

Nurabad district, Samarkand region of the Republic of Uzbekistan



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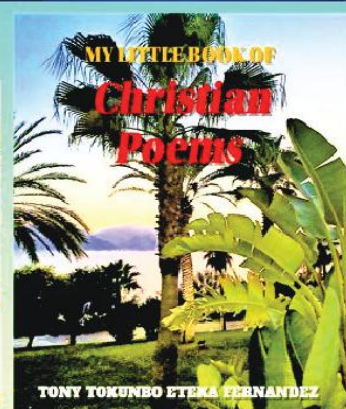
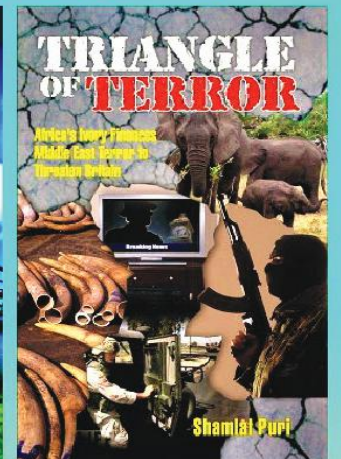
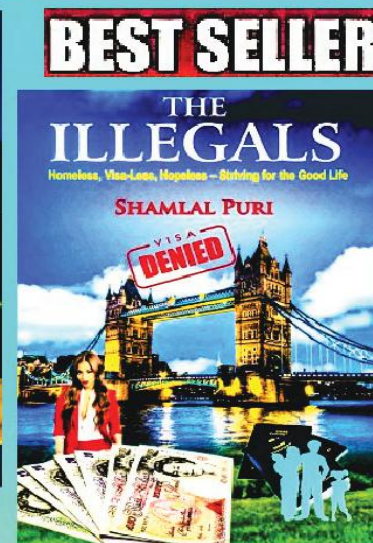
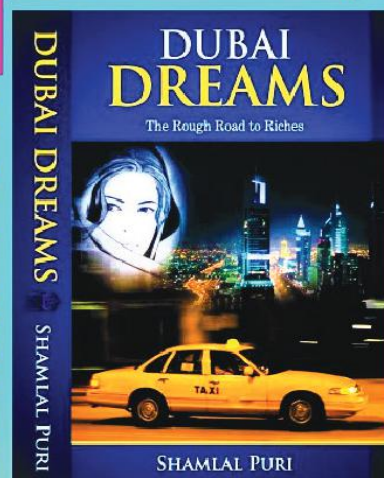
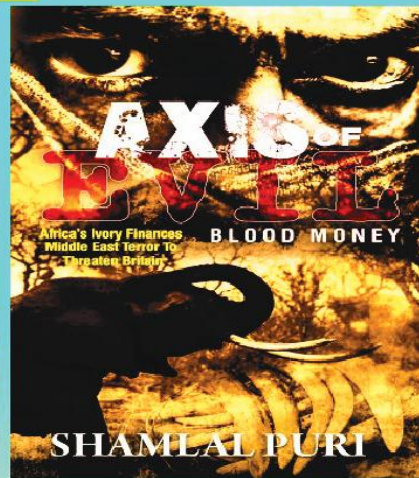
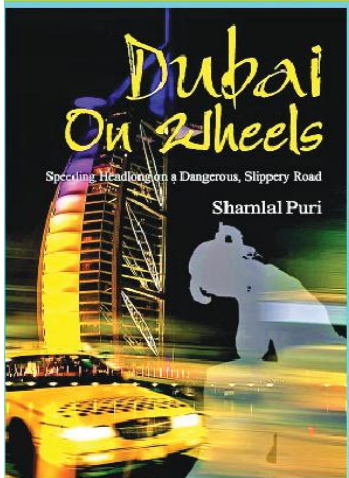
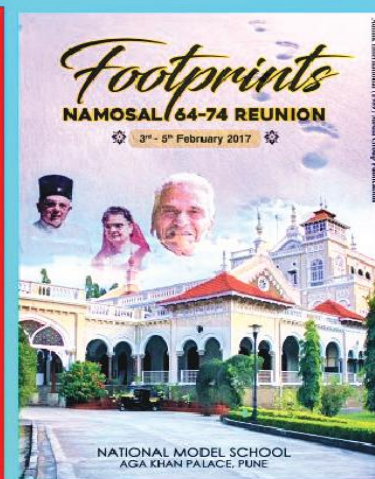
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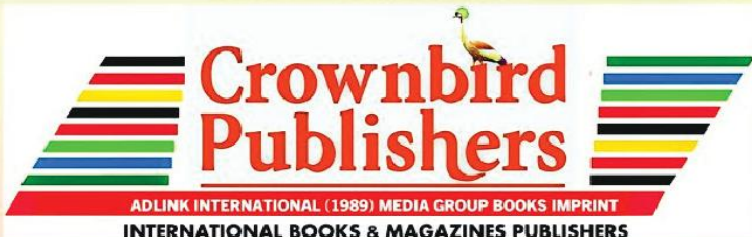
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# Kiambu Farmer Earns Sh760,000 From Short-Term Crops

By: Our Reporter  
@themkenyentimes

Peter Kimani, a 25-year-old from Kiambu County, was selected to participate in an 11-month practical training programme at the Arava International Centre for Agriculture Training (AICAT) in Israel in 2016.

The programme, signed by former President Uhuru Kenyatta and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, involved recent graduates from Kenyan universities participating in an 11-month practical training course in the foreign country.

Kimani, a Bachelor of Science degree holder in Land Resources Planning and Management from Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology (JKUAT), and his partner were given loan-based air tickets to participate in farm production activities.

After returning to Kenya, Kimani invested Sh500,000 in his new venture, setting up two 8x30-metre greenhouses and a net house to cultivate tomatoes and cucumbers.

They chose to plant the high-yielding Tylka F1 tomato variety and the super marketer cucumber variety, earning approximately Sh1500 per plant.

During his first season, he earned approximately Sh1.7 million from tomatoes and Sh750,000 from cucumbers, both of which took three months to reach maturity.

Kimani and his partner have since expanded their production and have ventured into vegetable farming, cultivating kale, broccoli, capsicum, and carrots.

They also serve as horticulture consultants, offering tours and classes on their Thika farm.

Kimani's future aspiration is to delve into the value addition of tomatoes to address wastage during times of crop surplus in the market.



# MCK Calls For Formation Of A Media-Specialised Legal Network

By: KBC Digital

The Media Council of Kenya (MCK) is rallying lawyers to establish a network of legal experts in media law.

MCK Director for Media Training and Development Victor Bwire has pointed out Kenya's critical shortage in this expertise, which he says, is creating a gap in defending freedom of expression and press freedom.

Mr Bwire told a recent sensitisation forum in Nairobi that the Complaints Commission is mandated to tackle legal issues impacting media and journalists, and urged lawyers, particularly those in media houses, to stay abreast of emerging issues shaping Kenya's media landscape.

"It's disheartening to see inadequate legal representation in press freedom cases. Many lawyers lack knowledge of current media trends", he said.

He mentioned the Council's plans to collaborate with the Law Society of Kenya to offer media law as a specialty to fill this gap.



MCK Director for Media Training and Development Victor Bwire

"We need specialised media lawyers. Some organisations have had to import lawyers for representation due to our local shortfall", he stressed.

He also called for urgent legal reforms to keep pace with rapid media developments and urged lawyers to familiarise themselves with laws on

technology and internet governance. Chairperson of the Media Law Association Ibrahim Oduor echoed the call for a specialised network, emphasising its role in tackling emerging needs and proposing democratic governance tenets.

Mr Oduor called for the amendment of the Media Council Act 2013 to

grant it constitutional commission status, ensuring its independence while clarifying the Complaints Commission's functions.

"There is a need to amend the Media Council Act 2013 to confer it a constitutional commission status. Amending the Act will ensure the independence of the Council as en-

visaged in the constitution while at the same time giving clarity to the functions of the Complaints Commission", he advised.

Alvin Kosgey of KMK Africa Advocates highlighted constitutional protections for journalism under Articles 31 and 34, voicing concerns about digital media laws and their enforcement.

"The rubber is meeting the road as we are now talking about whether the laws stipulated in the Constitution are sufficient in handling the wider media landscape in its current state", noted Mr Kosgey.

Legal Practitioner Ian Olwana stressed the importance of complying with data protection laws, particularly those regarding image rights under the Data Protection Act 2019. He highlighted the need for media practitioners to meet exemption criteria under Article 51.

"Compliance with Data Protection regulations and media guidelines dictate what is required in the collection, storage, processing and dissemination of personal Data", he said.



# WIN with Abiria ni Mayai Boda Boda Dabi

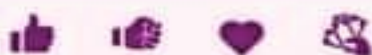


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# Align Wage Policies With ILO Standards



By: Dennis Wendo  
 Email: [dambehi@gmail.com](mailto:dambehi@gmail.com)

**Worth Noting:**

- Rationally, the country's perennial minimum wage policy has failed; it has not kept pace with the rising cost of living, inflation and the emerging socio economic challenges. There is a need to adopt a research based living or general wage policy that is fairly commensurate with the actual cost of living among the various workforce cadres.
- Kenya is a member of the International Labor Organization (ILO) whose Constitution at the preamble calls for the provision of an adequate living wage. The Declaration of Philadelphia, 1944 calls on the ILO to promote policies in regard to wages and earnings, hours and other conditions of work calculated to ensure a just share of the fruits of progress and a minimum living wage to all employed.



The traction of finance bill 2024 raises the significance of public participation fora in decision making and the need for a closer eye in the law making process.

The ability to grasp, probe and vary between a policy, bill, an Act of parliament and successive phases associated with formulating a bill to an Act, is key. It promotes inclusivity and collective responsibility on matters of leadership and governance.

The bill has engendered spontaneous reprisal from various quarters with many denouncing high cost of living, over taxation, unemployment and corruption.

Though the Government indicates

the country is on a faithful economic recovery, the majority feel it is headed in the wrong direction, observed by the ongoing nationwide protests. In reality the shopping baskets for Kenyans have immensely shrunk, lest for some. Households are facing impracticable tough choices in affording mandatory needs such as food and water, rent, clothes, transport, school fees and medicine.

Notably, there has been a positive long-term global trend in average wages, however millions of workers in both formal and informal economies live in poverty and continue to earn very low wages compared to the cost of living.

Rationally, the country's perennial minimum wage policy has failed; it has not kept pace with the rising cost of living, inflation and the emerging socio economic challenges. There is a need to adopt a research based living or general wage policy that is fairly commensurate with the actual cost of living among the various workforce cadres.

Kenya is a member of the International Labor Organization (ILO) whose Constitution at the preamble calls for the provision of an adequate living wage. The Declaration of Philadelphia, 1944 calls on the ILO to promote policies in regard to wages and earnings, hours and other conditions of work calculated to ensure a just share of the fruits of progress and a minimum living wage to all employed.

The recent decision by the ILO's Governing Body to reach an agreement on living wage is commendable and needs to be adopted and enshrined in policies by member countries.

ILO denotes a living wage as that which is necessary to enable workers and their families affords a decent standard of living. It is calculated in accordance with the ILO's principles for the work performed during the normal hours of work.

In the endorsed ILO agreement, the

estimation of living wages should tread on the heels of a number of principles that include the usage of evidence-based methodologies and robust data, consultations with workers' and employers' organizations, transparency, public availability, consideration of regional, local contexts, socio-economic and cultural realities.

Furthermore, the operationalization of the concept should be evidence-based and take into account the ILO key principles of wage-setting. These include strengthening social dialogue and collective bargaining and empowering wage-setting institutions, promoting incremental progression from minimum wages to living wages, ensuring national or local ownership and recognizing the role of the state.

Adopting the living wage policy will be a major boost to workers. The Government and related stakeholders such as the labor movement, federation of Kenya employers and associations should focus their synergies towards making Kenyans' lives better by putting in place intervention measures to cushion the population against social, economic turbulence.

Dennis Wendo  
 Integrated Development Network  
 Email: [dambehi@gmail.com](mailto:dambehi@gmail.com)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Police Keeness Essential In Handling Ongoing Protests For Citizen's Rights



The current wave of protests sweeping across various regions has spotlighted a crucial issue: the conduct of law enforcement agencies during civil demonstrations. As citizens, particularly the younger generation known as Gen Z, take to the streets to fight for their rights, it is imperative that police maintain a stance of restraint and professionalism. The alarming reports of police-induced fatalities underline the urgent need for a paradigm shift in how protests are managed.

Protests, at their core, are a fundamental aspect of democratic expression. They provide a platform for individuals to voice grievances, demand justice, and seek reform. The issues propelling these protests range from political transparency and economic equality to climate action and social justice—concerns that resonate deeply with Gen Z. This generation, characterized by its digital savviness and heightened social awareness, is particularly vocal about systemic injustices and unafraid to challenge the status quo.

However, the response from law enforcement has not always reflected an understanding of these legitimate concerns. Instances of excessive force, and in some tragic cases, police-induced fatalities, have marred the legitimacy of the police's role in maintaining public order. These actions not only exacerbate tensions but also undermine the trust between the police and the community they serve.

munity they serve.

The primary role of the police during protests should be to facilitate peaceful demonstrations, ensuring the safety of all participants. This involves protecting protesters from potential harm, managing traffic to prevent accidents, and diffusing any situations that could lead to violence. However, when the approach shifts towards aggression and violence, it contradicts the very essence of their duty to protect and serve.

Recent incidents where young protesters have lost their lives due to police actions are a stark reminder of the consequences of mishandling such situations. These events not only devastate families and communities but also provoke further unrest and resentment towards law enforcement agencies. Each incident of brutality serves as a catalyst for more profound anger and disillusionment, propelling the cycle of protest and repression.

To break this cycle, police forces must adopt a strategy rooted in empathy, communication, and restraint. Training programs should emphasize de-escalation techniques, the importance of protecting human rights, and the value of community engagement. Officers should be equipped not just with physical tools but with the psychological skills to manage tense situations calmly and constructively.

Moreover, accountability is paramount. When officers overstep their



bounds, there must be transparent investigations and appropriate consequences. This accountability fosters trust and demonstrates a commitment to justice, both within the police force and in the eyes of the public.

The police must also recognize that the protesters, particularly Gen Z, are not adversaries but citizens exercising their democratic rights. Their demands for justice, equality, and a sustainable future should be met with respect and consideration, not hostility. By view-

ing protesters as partners in the quest for a better society, rather than threats to public order, police can transform protests from battlegrounds into platforms for constructive dialogue and meaningful change.

In conclusion, the ongoing protests highlight a pivotal moment for law enforcement agencies. The need for keeness in handling these demonstrations cannot be overstated. Police must ensure that their actions preserve the peace and uphold the rights of the

citizens they serve. As Gen Z continues to fight for their rights, it is the responsibility of the police to facilitate these peaceful expressions of democracy, not suppress them through violence. The path forward lies in empathy, respect, and a steadfast commitment to protecting the very rights that define a just and democratic society.

*Emmaculate Kerubo,  
Nakuru Girls High.*

## How Many Languages Do You Know?

By: Charos Toshpulatova

How many languages do you know? One or two, maybe more. But do you know how many languages there are in the world? According to estimates, 7,100 to 7,164 languages are spoken in the world today. This number is taken from the Ethnologue directory, which catalogs the world's known languages. It is important to remember that this estimate and the exact number are constantly changing. New languages are always being discovered, especially in remote areas, while others are disappearing. Unfortunately, many languages are in danger of disappearing. According to some data, half of the world's languages have already disappeared. As you can see, there are more languages than countries, and each language has its origin and history. Everyone loves, respects, and honors their native language. It is only through this language that we can know how

any nation is living, developing, or, on the contrary, lagging and getting poorer. That is why it is not for nothing that they say: "Language is the mirror of the nation."

But would you believe me when I say that there is such a language that our tongue becomes weak when we speak it? Yes, there is such a language and it is Sign Language. Sign languages are not a single universal language, but rather a complete and complex set of languages used by deaf and hard of hearing communities around the world. Sign language relies on hand shapes, facial expressions, body language, and movement to convey meaning. They have their own grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, which are completely different from spoken languages. More than 300 different sign languages are used worldwide, with each country usually having its language. But sign languages are not mutually intelli-

gible, meaning that someone who knows American Sign Language will not understand someone signing in French Sign Language (FSF).

But if we look at history, Gesture was born in 1951, when the World Federation of the Deaf (WFG) was born. The participants of the first World Congress of the Deaf decided to standardize the language of communication in international events. The need for such a unique "Esperanto sign" is connected with the participation of social workers and public figures from among the deaf together with laryngologists, audiologists, and psychologists in the work of congresses, conferences, and symposia devoted to the problems of deafness, teachers, engineers, and other professionals. On behalf of the WFM Bureau, a group of experts, with the participation of a Soviet representative, based on the generality of the speech gestures of the deaf in different coun-

tries during the course (similar gestures were selected or assigned from various European countries), developed a common international sign language over a quarter of a century. In 1973, the World Federation of the Deaf issued a simplified sign language dictionary. In 1975, at the VII World Congress of the Deaf in Washington, the International Sign (IS) was adopted and approved (along with English and French, the official languages of the World Federation of the Deaf), as well as at international events, at events of the World Federation of the Deaf.

In general, the reason I decided to write this article was because of the news information channels that I came across, and as a child, I remembered that in most TV news broadcasts or daily news, Sign language interpreters would also deliver the news together. But for some reason, it seems that it is difficult to find it now.

Because we should not forget that this is also a language and hundreds of millions of people in the world use sign language to communicate.

*Charos Toshpulatova was born in Uzbekistan on 2003 November 19.*

*Currently, she is studying at Soonchunhyang University (SCH) in South Korea. In addition in 2022, she was selected by the United Nations General Assembly as a delegate the Arab Youth International Model United Nations in Dubai, United Arab Emirates for represent Diplomat of Uzbekistan And 2023 she has been selected again to join the Best Diplomats*

*United Nations Simulation Conference Crafting Future Leaders in the Post-Pandemic Era, 2023 in Istanbul, Türkiye.*

# CFAO Mobility Kenya And NCBA Unveil Beauty Meets The Bonnet Initiative To Support Women Car Enthusiasts

By: John Kariuki  
@themkenyatimes

CFAO Mobility Kenya Kenya and NCBA have announced an exciting partnership aimed at enhancing the driving experience for women through the innovative “Beauty Meets the Bonnet” (BMB) initiative. This strategic alliance seeks to provide women with boutique experiences that align with their aspirations and lifestyle.

This initiative will not only enhance their driving experience but also provide valuable resources and benefits to help them maintain and enjoy their vehicles to the fullest. Some of the benefits that come with being a member of the Beauty Meets the Bonnet include; offers and offers on routine maintenance services and spare parts, access to exclusive Beauty Meets the Bonnet themed events and networking opportunities.

Speaking at the launch event, CFAO Mobility Kenya Kenya General Manager-Human Resources, Jose-

phine Bekoe, expressed her excitement about the partnership. “We are excited to collaborate with NCBA Bank on this groundbreaking initiative. This partnership underscores our commitment to providing strong asset finance solutions to our customers. By focusing on the unique needs of women drivers, we aim to make vehicle ownership more convenient, empowering them to achieve their dreams,” said Bekoe.

This strategic partnership between CFAO Mobility Kenya Kenya and NCBA represents a significant step forward in empowering women drivers and promoting gender inclusivity in the automotive industry. Together, they are committed to delivering exceptional value and support to their customers.

At NCBA, we are dedicated to empowering women, and our collaboration with CFAO Mobility Kenya highlights this commitment. We value forming strategic alliances like this one to solidify our partnership. We are confident that this initiative will further assist our customers in pursuing their dreams and aspirations as members of the Beauty Meets The



Bonnet club. Said Mr. John Gachora, NCBA Group Managing Director

This initiative was born out of a vision to foster a more inclusive environment within the automotive industry, where women are not only

seen and heard but are also leading and innovating. We aim to provide women with the tools, knowledge, and opportunities to excel in all areas of motoring – from driving and maintaining vehicles to pursuing careers

in automotive design, engineering, and leadership.

# M-PESA Foundation Invests KES 11.3 Million In Learning Infrastructure At Bar Anding’o Primary School In Kisumu

By: John Kariuki  
@themkenyatimes

The project is part of the Foundation’s Citizens of the Future programme, which seeks to impact three million learners over the next three years.

Learners at Bar Anding’o Primary School in Kisumu County are set to improve their education outcomes after the M-PESA Foundation carried out renovation and construction of infrastructure worth KES 11.3 million.

The Foundation renovated 12 classrooms, constructed and equipped a kitchen and constructed 2 blocks of latrines. The school further received 300 lockers as well as furniture for teaching staff in a bid to empower both learners and teachers. The renovations have resolved the challenge of dilapidated infrastructure which caused congestion among learners.

“At M-PESA Foundation, we believe in investing in our communities, and we have worked with various part-

ners to impact millions of Kenyans across the country. Education is one of the most pressing issues that are critical for socioeconomic development. We want to expand education opportunities by supporting schools with infrastructure, focusing on the neediest cases,” said Mr. John Ohaga, Trustee, M-PESA Foundation.

Since its inception in 2010, M-PESA Foundation’s education programmes have benefitted over 1.3 million learners in all 47 counties through initiatives such as the M-PESA Foundation Academy, which enrolls disadvantaged children. The Foundation also renovates schools to enable access to education in all counties.

In the next three years, three million learners are expected to benefit from M-PESA Foundation initiatives, including a scholarship programme for senior school students and a comprehensive technical and vocational education and training (TVET) programme that will contribute to improving employability among the youth.



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# SPORTS NEWS

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**Sports >>** \*France appear almost certain to reach the last 16 at Euro 2024 but they are hoping to have Kylian Mbappe back, and rediscover their goal-scoring touch, when they face Poland in their final group game today.

## France Wait For Mbappe To Return And The Goals To Flow At Euro 2024



France's forward Kylian Mbappe, wearing a protective mask, looks on as he takes part in a MD-1 training session at the Home Deluxe Arena Stadium in Paderborn, western Germany, on June 24, 2024, on the eve of their UEFA Euro 2024 Group D football match against Poland. (Photo by FRANCK FIFE / AFP).

France appear almost certain to reach the last 16 at Euro 2024 but they are hoping to have Kylian Mbappe back, and rediscover their goal-scoring touch, when they face Poland in their final group game today.

One of the leading favourites coming into the tournament, France have four points from two matches in Group D but have only scored one goal, and that was courtesy of Austrian defender Maximilian Woeber putting through his own net.

That gave France a 1-0 win against Austria in their opening match in Dusseldorf, before they drew 0-0 with the Netherlands in Leipzig on Friday in the absence of Mbappe.

The new Real Madrid signing played no part against the Dutch as he recovers from the broken nose he suffered in a collision late on against Austria.

He will need to wear a protective mask over his nose when he returns to action but he trained on Sunday at the French team's

base in Paderborn and his teammates are optimistic of having their captain back against the Poles.

"I think everyone knows he is really eager to play in the next match. That won't surprise anyone," said midfielder Aurelien Tchouameni.

"As for the mask, I think he is starting to get used to it. Of course he would rather not wear it but I think if you ask the doctor he would say there is no choice.

"But that won't change anything for him. We know that when he is on the field he will bring a lot to the team."

It was Mbappe whose cross was headed in by Woeber for France's only goal so far at the Euros and he is by a long way the biggest attacking threat available to coach Didier Deschamps.

Marcus Thuram led the line against the Dutch, but he has scored only twice in 22 appearances for his country.

Antoine Griezmann has only netted twice in his last 30 caps,

while Ousmane Dembele's only goal for France in the last three years came against Gibraltar.

Kingsley Coman is still building up his fitness after missing the end of the season with Bayern Munich due to injury, and Randal Kolo Muani is coming off a difficult campaign in Mbappe's shadow at Paris Saint-Germain.

"It is frustrating but nothing to be alarmed about," Griezmann said after the Netherlands game in reference to his own missed chances.

"The defence and midfield are doing a remarkable job, we are leaving very little to the opposition, but we must improve in attack and be more deadly."

- Almost through -

That defensive solidity is important and could take them a long way, even if the goals do not flow at the other end.

The centre-back pairing of Dayot Upamecano and William Saliba have impressed in front of goalkeeper Mike Maignan,

while N'Golo Kante has been outstanding in midfield on his return to the international stage after two years out of the picture.

"It is important to underline how solid we have been defensively because I think that is vital when you are trying to win titles," insisted Tchouameni.

"Obviously we will need to score goals if we are to win matches. That will make things a little easier, but we are not having doubts about that.

"The most important thing is that we are creating chances, so we just need to start putting some of them away."

France just need a draw to be certain of reaching the last 16 against a Poland team who have already been eliminated after two defeats in their first two outings.

Even a defeat will not stop them going through, as long as Austria do not beat the Dutch.

However, the 2022 World Cup runners-up need to better the Netherlands' result against Austria -- or at least win by a wider margin -- in order to take top spot.

Wherever they finish in the group may not change too much in terms of their potential last-16 opponents, but it could have an impact further down the line in terms of possible ties in the quarter-finals and beyond.

Poland's veteran striker Robert Lewandowski, now 35, will hope to start after returning from injury as a substitute against Austria.

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**Sports >>** \*Portugal outclassed Turkey to secure their place in the last 16 of Euro 2024 with a 3-0 win in Dortmund on Saturday, while Belgium kept their hopes alive with a 2-0 victory over Romania.

# Portugal Cruise Into Euro 2024 Knockout Stages, Belgium Bounce Back



Portugal's forward Cristiano Ronaldo (L) celebrates after winning the UEFA Euro 2024 Group F football match between Turkey and Portugal at the BVB Stadion in Dortmund on June 22, 2024. (Photo by FRANCK FIFE / AFP).

Portugal outclassed Turkey to secure their place in the last 16 of Euro 2024 with a 3-0 win in Dortmund on Saturday, while Belgium kept their hopes alive with a 2-0 victory over Romania.

Cristiano Ronaldo's Portuguese side, European champions in 2016, are among the favourites to win the title in Germany and they lived up to their status with a comprehensive victory in front of a partisan crowd to secure first place in Group F.

Bernardo Silva of Manchester City opened the scoring midway through the first half, sweeping the ball home after a low Nuno Mendes cross was deflected into his path.

Portugal then doubled their lead just before the half-hour mark in comical fashion.

There appeared no danger for the Turkey defence following a poor pass by Joao Cancelo aimed at Ronaldo, but Samet Akaydin's attempted backpass rolled beyond the reach of goalkeeper Altay Bayindir and crossed the line despite the efforts of Zeki Celik to clear.

Turkey never looked like getting back into the game and Portugal got their third goal early in the second half as Ronaldo found himself in on goal but unselfishly squared for Bruno Fernandes to finish.

Having already beaten the Czech Republic 2-1, Portugal are one of only three sides to have a maximum six points from their opening two games and are now certain to win the section even before playing Georgia in Gelsenkirchen on Wednesday.

They therefore know they will play a last-16 tie in Frankfurt on July 1 against one of the best third-place finishers.

"We are first in the group and we can make changes in the next game which for me is very important as there are lots of players in the dressing room who deserve to play," said Portugal coach Roberto Martinez.

**- Ronaldo safety concerns -**

Ronaldo, appearing at his sixth Euros at the age of 39, will become the tournament's oldest ever goal-scorer if he finds the net in

Germany but he failed to add to his competition record tally of 14 here.

The superstar forward, now playing in Saudi Arabia, was also approached for a selfie by several pitch invaders in the second half.

While he enjoyed the attention the first time, posing with a smile for a photograph in the centre circle, he appeared visibly irritated as the number of invaders grew.

Martinez admitted the ease with which so many fans got into the playing area was a concern.

"It is a concern because today we were lucky that the intentions of the fans were good," he added.

Earlier, Georgia claimed a historic first ever point at a major tournament in a 1-1 draw with the Czechs.

Georges Mikautadze's penalty late in the first half put Georgia in front but Patrik Schick chested in an equaliser after the break.

A point does little for either side's hopes of qualification.

Turkey remain second on three points, two ahead of the Czech Republic and Georgia.

**- De Bruyne inspires Belgium recovery -**

Belgium's 1-0 defeat to Slovakia was the major shock of the opening round, but they made the most of a fast start in Cologne to get their tournament back on track.

Youri Tielemans blasted in inside two minutes from Romelu Lukaku's lay-off to burst Romania's bubble after their impressive 3-0 win over Ukraine in the opening game in Group E.

Lukaku, who had two goals disallowed against Slovakia, was again denied by the finest of offside calls in a pulsating second half.

Valentin Mihaile and Dennis Man had chances to level for Romania, but Belgium captain Kevin De Bruyne rounded off a fine individual display with the second goal to seal victory 10 minutes from time.

"I'm very relieved that we won the game," said Belgium boss Domenico Tedesco.

"I think it was possible to score three, four or five goals tonight. It's great we create these kinds of chances and we need to say patient."

The group is now fascinatingly poised with all four sides on three points after Ukraine beat Slovakia 2-1 on Friday.

Belgium face Ukraine next, while Romania take on Slovakia with all to play for.

Scotland will aim to reach the knockout stages of a major tournament for the first time on Sunday when they take on Hungary in Stuttgart.

Hosts Germany have already secured their place in the last 16 but can guarantee winning Group A by avoiding defeat against Switzerland.

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You & Literature Today



## IAWA CULTURAL CONTEST 2024: Africa Needs To Keep Its Diversity Intact - Alinafe, IAWA Malawi President



By: **Munyal Markus Manunyi**  
@themkenyatimes

The National President of the International African Writers Association (IAWA) Malawi Chapter, Miss Alinafe Mhone Kaweche, has said Africa needs to keep its diversity intact by organising cultural events which showcases its true culture.

Kaweche said it is the need to keep this diversity intact that made IAWA, a writing organisation which seeks to rewrite the African narrative through literature, to organise its annual cultural contest in order to showcase the rich African culture.

In 2023, IAWA Malawi had also organised the cultural contest at Grand Palace Hotel in Mzuzu, Malawi, with Loveness Peace Chirambo emerging as winner in the category of Miss IAWA Malawi, while Wisdom Msimuko emerged as Mr IAWA Malawi.

Speaking about this year's upcoming contest, the IAWA National President said it's their branch's plan to get prepared on time and source enough funds from sponsors and partners, to make the event better than it was last time.

She said: "There were a lot of challenges during the 2023 contest, and the biggest thing that I learnt is that an event like this needs enough time to be well planned.

"Africa needs more events like these to keep its rich diversity intact. I hope by the end of the event, we will manage to get IAWA known to Malawians and the world at large, as an organisation that promotes African culture."

Kaweche also highlighted some of the activities to take place, saying for a start, the organisation will announce a call for models interested in participating, followed by auditions, and those who are selected would participate during the main event.

"As for participants, apart from prizes for the winners, they also get to be part of an event that promotes culture.

"Therefore, expect a lot of activities including poetry, book exhibition, African music and more," she said.

Meanwhile, Tadala Nkanaunena, the National Vice President IAWA Malawi, who also doubles as IAWA-Global Secretary, highlighted that IAWA Malawi plans "to rock Africa and African writers by implementing the core mission of IAWA, 'chang-



Crowning Mr IAWA Malawi by Miss Mzuzu 2022

ing the narratives' into its craft and activities."

He said last year's cultural contest "was just a tip of the iceberg in what IAWA Malawi has in store, as more creatives aim for the podium to narrate their stories.

"Just as the name suggests, the events looks at how one dresses and the culture they carry behind each attire.

"And just as how songs carries an identity, an attire also does the same, asking for outlookers to go beyond just how one looks with the attire on," Nkanaunena said.

He explained that the event also plays on bringing together people of all cultures, to a single place where they get to know more about each other's cultures and the narratives beyond.

"Setting aside the contest part, we would love to bring narratives of different cultures through the attires and every single accompanying piece for people to understand more about who Malawi is, and what she looks like in the cultures that make her.

"Every creative needs a space, and IAWA in general has provided that as such. The branch allows each creative to narrate themselves with activities such as poetries and stories, where comfortable artists showcase their art. The IAWA Magazine is also an outlet for each creative to voice out," the vice president said.

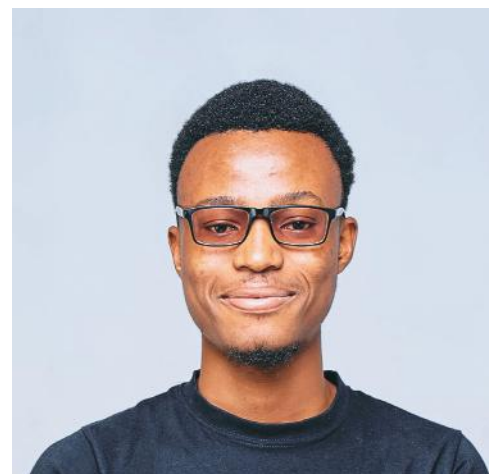
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Alinafe Mhone Kaweche, National President IAWA Malawi.



L- R: An official from the contest posing beside the winners of Mr and Miss IAWA Malawi



Tadala Nkanaunena, National Vice President IAWA Malawi Chapter

### Worth Noting:

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