



Dissent And Disillusionment: Mapping The Decline Of Ruto's Popular Support In Kenya
 In a striking parallel to Chinua Achebe's satirical portrayal of political leadership in "A Man of the People," Kenya's President William Ruto finds himself at the center of a growing storm of public discontent.

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 Daily ePAPER

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

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News>> Remote Village In Kirinyaga Gets A TVET Institution, Anticipates Economic Growth

P. 8. A remote village in Gichugu Constituency in Kirinyaga County is set to experience tremendous economic growth as the government introduces an ultra-modern TVET institution.



News>> Initialing Of Protocols For The Tumaini Initiative Consensus: A Landmark Event In South Sudan

P. 12. In a significant step towards peace and development, the protocols for the Tumaini Initiative Consensus were officially initialed yesterday in a grand ceremony held in Juba.

Ruto: Ford Foundation Sponsoring Violence

President William Ruto has accused the Ford Foundation of sponsoring the recent anti-government protests in Kenya. Speaking yesterday, the President took to task the American foundation for its alleged role in destabilizing the country, following nationwide protests against the Finance Bill 2024 which has since been dropped.



President William Ruto

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Meru And Tharaka Nithi Leaders Ask The President To Reconsider Prof Kindiki

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatices



Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki (centre) with his county's assembly speaker, John Mbabu (right) Meru County Assembly Speaker Ajubu Bundi at PCEA Jennifer Njuki Memorial Church in Chuka/Igambang'ombe Constituency.

Worth Noting:

- Governor Njuki said Prof Kindiki had managed to reduce security threats in the country including banditry in the North Rift and terrorism cases which have been a big challenge for many years.
- "The President has promised to consult with all stakeholders before the appointment of the next cabinet and because the CS position that was given to Prof Kindiki was a regional position, we have all agreed that he remains our best", Governor Njuki said.

Elected leaders from Tharaka Nithi and Meru counties have asked President William Ruto to reconsider former Interior Cabinet Secretary Prof Kithure Kindiki in his next cabinet.

Speaking yesterday during a thanksgiving service at PCEA Jennifer Njuki Memorial Church in Chuka/Igambang'ombe Constituency, the leaders led by Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki, said Prof Kindiki was severally featured as the top performer in the dissolved cabinet.

They said there is no other person from the region qualified enough to replace Prof Kindiki whose performance record has also been appreciated by most Kenyans from across the country.

Governor Njuki said Prof Kindiki had managed to reduce security threats in the

country including banditry in the North Rift and terrorism cases which have been a big challenge for many years.

"The President has promised to consult with all stakeholders before the appointment of the next cabinet and because the CS position that was given to Prof Kindiki was a regional position, we have all agreed that he remains our best", Governor Njuki said.

He noted that Prof Kindiki had not been found guilty of abuse of office or any other offense within the Ministry of Interior. He asked the President not to be incited by the Opposition leader Raila Odinga who is calling for his prosecution.

"Japhet Koome, the former Inspector General of police took full responsibility for any wrongdoing of the National Police Service by resigning. Our President

should not accept incitement from Mr Odinga whom I heard saying that Prof Kindiki should be charged for the killings associated with the police", he said.

Tharaka Nithi County Assembly Speaker, Mr John Mbabu said Prof Kindiki had severally been rated the top performing CS in Ruto's former cabinet and that the county assemblies of Tharaka Nithi and Meru plead with the Head of State to reconsider him.

"We are set to issue a joint statement in support of Kindiki's reinstatement when the President is picking his next cabinet", said Mr Mbabu.

Meru County Assembly Speaker, Mr Ayub Bundi said the two counties had agreed to work together for regional unity and prosperity and that Prof Kindiki and Governor Njuki have been champi-

oning the regional unity.

"We have agreed to unify Ameru region to speak in one voice and we have all agreed that Prof Kindiki remains our best option for the CS position," said Mr Bundi.

The leaders appreciated the appeal of the young people, popularity identified as Gen-Zs for championing a corrupt free country but faulted politicians who are now using them politically.

Mr Mbabu said some leaders from the county are paying some youths to burn the county assembly at Kathwana.

"The young people have genuine issues to address and rogue politicians should stop hijacking their agenda," he said.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Busia Sub County Assistant County Commissioner Eunice Ochieng has called for collaboration between chiefs and police officers to combat illicit brew dealers. She said the illicit brew business has caused so many problems, urging administrators to be servant leaders and serve local residents fairly and without favouritism. Busia County Administration Officer 1 Joseph Achumi called on parents to report suspicious individuals to security agencies for investigation. Achumi advocated for equal rights for both boys and girls, stating that all children are equal and deserve equal opportunities. Evans Otieno, the new Bugengi Assistant Chief, expressed readiness to serve the people and the Kenyan government, requesting cooperation and servant leadership.



He urged counties to work with relevant stakeholders and foster partnerships that lead to sustainable development in the tourism sector. Ololuaa visited the Tiwi Map of Africa pool, a hidden gem with a pool shaped like the African continent, and called on coastal counties like Kwale, Mombasa, Kilifi, and Lamu to create an enabling environment for the tourism sector to thrive. He urged devolved governments to prioritise tourism products to enhance their revenues and work closely with these counties to position their sites as sought-after tourist destinations. The Ministry of Tourism has embarked on beach access roads and solar street lighting projects to attract tourists and create an enabling environment for tourism to thrive. Ololuaa added that Kwale is a great destination for beach, safari, culture, and nature lovers, but urged the county government to focus on developing new destinations to enrich the tourism landscape.

Director of the Network for Research and Governance (NRG), Paul Odongo, has urged the Kakamega county government to prioritise clearing pending bills that have caused delays in the completion of infrastructure projects. He emphasised that failure to clear these bills could lead to stalled projects, poor workmanship, and residents not realising value for money. Odongo advised the county leadership to prioritise projects and indicate a specific timeframe and budget for completion. He also urged the county government to publish all budget documents for public access to enhance transparency.

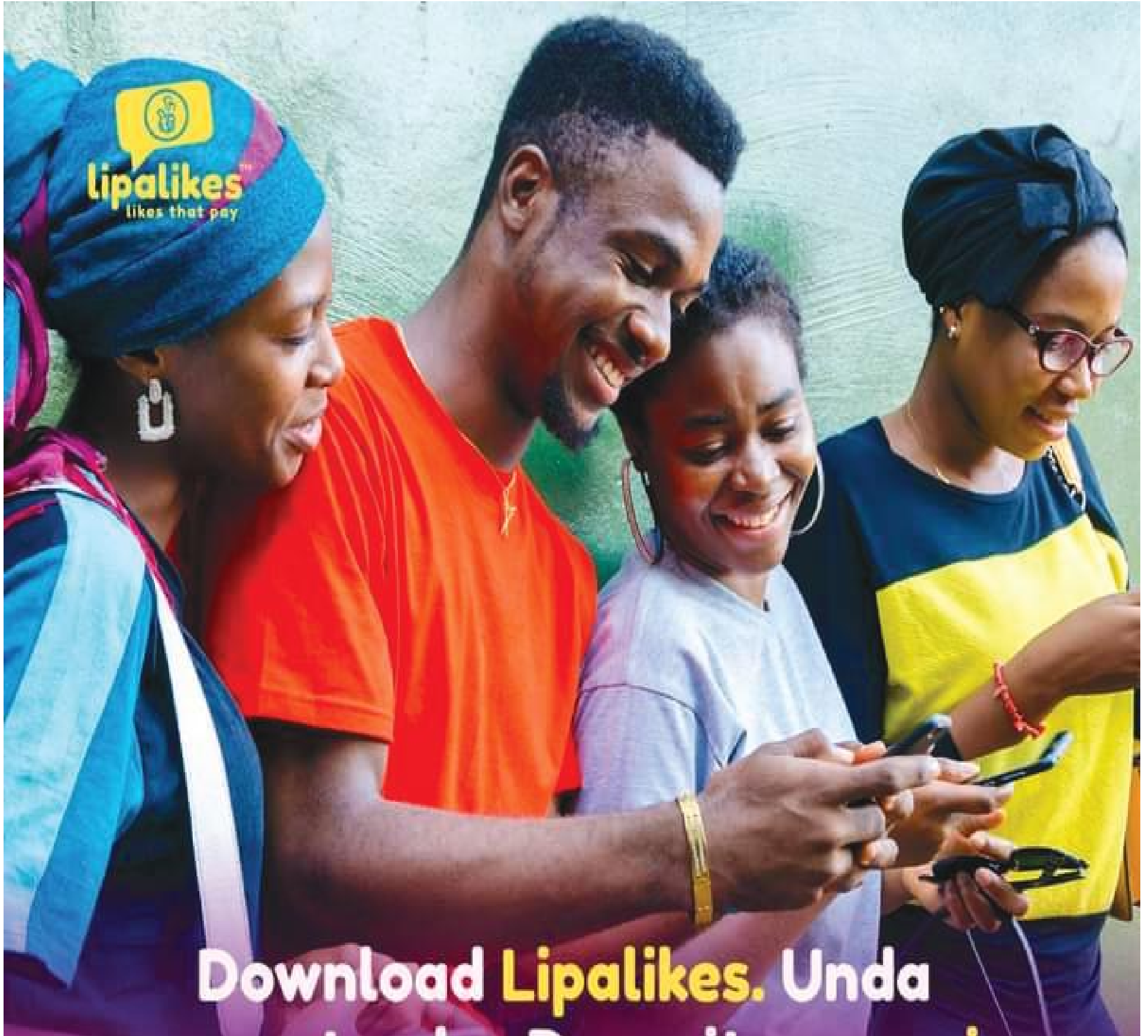


Kisumu residents have expressed concerns over ongoing insecurity in Katito, where a man was critically injured and his phone snatched. The residents have called for increased security measures and development initiatives in the area. "My name is Millicent Akoth, and we were inside the compound where we reside when some of our children came to summon us, and upon reaching where they were, we found blood everywhere and an unidentified man lying in the pool of blood," recounted a resident. The residents have also warned locals to be wary of strangers and report any incidents to authorities.



Nakuru County Executive Member for Infrastructure Eng. Michael Kamau has inspected the ongoing works at Shabab Stage in Biashara Ward, Nakuru City, with the aim of improving working conditions and safety for matatu saccos and commuters. The project is a crucial development for the area. Eng. Kamau also assessed progress at Naloki Stage, where cabro works have been done. The improvements are expected to enhance accessibility and ensure durability in the frequently used stage. The Chief Officer for Roads and Public Transport, Samuel Ndegwa, urged the contractor to expedite the project while maintaining high standards of quality. The Naloki stage will also reduce city congestion and make the area more attractive to investors and businesspeople.





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KEWOPA Condemns The Recent Brutal Murders In Kware, Mukuru Kwa Njenga

By: ohn Kariuki

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

• “We appreciate the swift response by the Embakasi Division Police and the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI),” Sankaire acknowledged. “However, we urge for a transparent and expedited investigation to bring the perpetrators to justice without delay.”

• The statement also emphasized the urgent need for enhanced security measures in vulnerable areas. KEWOPA has called on the government to take immediate steps to increase patrols, improve surveillance, and ensure that communities, particularly those in high-risk areas, feel safe and protected.



KEWOPA chair Leah Sankaire.

The Kenya Women Parliamentarians Association (KEWOPA) has issued a powerful statement condemning the recent brutal murders discovered in an abandoned quarry near Kware, Mukuru Kwa Njenga.

The statement, delivered by KEWOPA Chairperson and MP Hon. Leah Sankaire, expressed deep shock and sorrow over the horrific discovery of mutilated bodies and called for urgent action to address both the immediate and long-term issues surrounding the case.

In her statement, Hon. Sankaire extended heartfelt condolences to the victims’ families and condemned the “heinous acts of violence” that led to this tragedy. “Our hearts go out to the families and friends of the victims

during this incredibly difficult time,” Sankaire said. “No one should have to endure such pain and loss.”

KEWOPA has demanded an immediate and thorough investigation into the murders, calling on authorities to ensure that those responsible are swiftly brought to justice. The statement highlighted the critical need for accountability from security personnel responsible for patrolling the Mukuru Kwa Njenga area, insisting that any negligence by these officials should be investigated and addressed.

“We appreciate the swift response by the Embakasi Division Police and the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI),” Sankaire acknowledged. “However, we urge for a transparent and expedited investigation to bring

the perpetrators to justice without delay.”

The statement also emphasized the urgent need for enhanced security measures in vulnerable areas. KEWOPA has called on the government to take immediate steps to increase patrols, improve surveillance, and ensure that communities, particularly those in high-risk areas, feel safe and protected.

In addition, KEWOPA urged the public to cooperate with the police by providing any information that could aid the investigation. The organization underscored that only through collective effort can justice be achieved for the victims and their families.

Hon. Sankaire also highlighted the need for the government to provide

support and counseling services to the grieving families. “It is essential that we come together as a community to support those who are mourning,” she stated.

KEWOPA reaffirmed its commitment to advocating for the protection and empowerment of all individuals across Kenya. “We will work tirelessly to ensure that the rights and safety of all citizens are upheld and that violence is eradicated from our society,” Sankaire concluded.

The association’s statement underscores a broader call for reform and improved safety measures in the wake of this tragic incident, reflecting a collective demand for justice and security from both the government and the community.

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Remote Village In Kirinyaga Gets A TVET Institution, Anticipates Economic Growth

By: Raymond Wanjohi
 @themtkenyatimes

A remote village in Gichugu Constituency in Kirinyaga County is set to experience tremendous economic growth as the government introduces an ultra-modern Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) institution.

The Ministry of Education, through the State department for TVET, has constructed Gichugu Technical and Vocational College at Kiambatha village with an aim of entrenching TVET training at the grassroots.

The institution is expected to be officially opened by President William Ruto in September this year so as to tap more youths who will contribute to the development of the country's economy.

Already, the government has re-skilled 4,840 trainers on the new Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) program and will be dispatched to all the TVET institutions countrywide.

The college's principal Joseph Kimemia said the government equipment worth Sh100 million will be allocated to the institution to enhance learning.

So far, he said, they have registered more than 400 trainees who have ap-



Gichugu Technical and Vocational College principal Joseph Kimemia addressing the media. PHOTO BY RAYMOND WANJOHI.

plied for various courses. He targets to register 1,000 learners by the time the institution opens up, adding that it has a capacity to accommodate 3,000 of them

"This college will not only transform this village but the entire Central Kenya region because it is one of the colleges earmarked by the government to be centers of mechanical engineering training in the country," Kimemia said.

He said that TVET learning has been supported by President Ruto's administration as a key driving engine to the country's transformation.

"We have over the years tried to

convince our young people to let go of the belief injected to them by their forefathers that TVET learning was meant for failures. We are at a moment where TVET learning is no longer an option but a choice. Under the technical training program, we no longer discuss grades but what individual students can do," he said.

Rose Thiguku, a resident, said they have started constructing houses that will host the growing population that will result from the institution.

"We are determined to uproot our tea and coffee plantations so as to construct hostels and rental houses for our children and trainers. We are hap-



Gichugu Technical and Vocational College at Kiambatha village, Gichugu constituency, Kirinyaga County. PHOTO BY RAYMOND WANJOHI.

py because our talented youths will get the opportunity of exploring them and amassing more knowledge," Thiguku said.

Sarah Njoki, another resident, said the college will also contribute to the growth of the economy in the remote village and create wealth.

"We are grateful because this college will transform our lifestyle positively. When we were giving out this piece of land to the government, we were optimistic that our local youths would one day join their counterparts who have been playing a critical role in building this country after completing their training," Njoki said.

Already, investors have started purchasing land to build rental houses and hostels for the anticipated rise in population.

Now, the residents are urging the government to construct feeder roads that lead to the institution.

"The road connectivity from Kiambu town to Kiambatha village is in a deplorable condition. We want the government to tarmac the rough road so as to enhance connectivity and precipitate growth in this village," said Njoki.

Kiambu Officially Takes Charge Of Karuri MAT Clinic

By: Our Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has handed over the Karuri Medically Assisted Therapy (MAT) clinic to Kiambu County, which has been managing it for the last five years in collaboration with the county government and Kenya Prisons Services. The clinic, located in Kiambaa Sub County, specialises in rehabilitating drug addicts, particularly those using opioids like heroin.

Dr. Edi Atte, MSF's Country Director in Kenya, highlighted the clinic's comprehensive approach, which includes preventing infections, treating tuberculosis, offering mental health support, and facilitating reintegration

into families and communities.

The clinic also emphasises harm reduction, providing up to two weeks' worth of dosage for stable patients in school or employment.

Since its inception, the Karuri MAT clinic has benefitted 1,619 people who use drugs (PWUDs), with 556 currently under its care.

MSF has handed over two more MAT clinics to Kenya Prison Services, serving both incarcerated individuals and community members.

Kiambu County's Executive Committee Member for Health, Dr. Elias Maina, affirmed the county's commitment to continuing MAT services post-MSF's departure.



Kiambu governor Kimani Wamatangi.

Ruto Questions Ford Foundation Alleged Role In Recent Protests

By: Margaret Kalekye

President William Ruto has accused the Ford Foundation of sponsoring the recent anti-government protests in Kenya.

Speaking yesterday, the President took to task the American foundation for its alleged role in destabilizing the country, following countrywide protests against the Finance Bill 2024 which has since been dropped.

President William Ruto who put on notice organisations that are sponsoring violence in the country has vowed to call out all those who are bent on rolling back Kenya's hard-won democracy, while at the same urging the young people to shun those using them for their selfish interests.

He said Kenya is a democratic country that is governed by rule of law, and asked the Ford Foundation what it was out to gain by sponsoring violence, mayhem and chaos.

He asked the Ford Foundation to explain to Kenyans its role in the recent protests that rocked some parts of the country.

Speaking in Nakuru County during an inspection tour of development projects on Monday, President Ruto warned that those sponsoring violence and anarchy in Kenya will not be tolerated.

The President made it clear that Kenyan youth was not available for retrogressive assignments, saying investigations have been launched into the activities of some organisations working in the country.

"The Ford Foundation must explain its role in the recent protests," he said.

Saying the government was aware of those behind anarchy in Kenya, President Ruto said they should be ashamed for sponsoring the youth to cause chaos and violence to achieve their selfish ends.

"We will call out those bent on rolling back our hard-won democracy. We want to tell them that our young people are not ready for anarchy and chaos. Kenyans want peace," the President said.

He warned: "We will deal firmly with foundations and organisations fuelling anarchy."

He said Kenyans elect their leaders every five years democratically and no one should dictate to them on the nature of their leaders because the country is guided by the rule of law," the President pointed out.

He said organisations whose only interest is to sabotage our democracy should style up or leave the country.



President William Ruto (center), Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Governor Susan Kihika.



Worth Noting:

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- The President made it clear that Kenyan youth was not available for retrogressive assignments, saying investigations have been launched into the activities of some organisations working in the country.

- "The Ford Foundation must explain its role in the recent protests," he said.

- Saying the government was aware of those behind anarchy in Kenya, President Ruto said they should be ashamed for sponsoring the youth to cause chaos and violence to achieve their selfish ends.

President Ruto cautioned the youth not to be incited to acts of violence individuals who do not wish Kenya well.

"Don't be misused to engage in chaos. Those who bring money to incite the youth to engage in violence will not go unpunished," he said.

He added: "As your President, I will make sure that those who want to cause chaos will face the full force of the law."

President Ruto, at the same time, assured Kenyans that he was ready to consult leaders from diverse political backgrounds ready to work with him in sorting out problems facing the country.

He said the challenges facing the country, including the debt burden incurred during the previous administration and fighting corruption, required collective responsibility from all leaders.

"I am ready, willing and available to consult with leaders who are ready to work with us in exploring ways of addressing the challenges facing our country," said President Ruto.

On development, President Ruto told the residents of Nakuru that KSh2 billion has been set aside for the last mile electricity connectivity

programme in which 30,000 households will benefit.

The President said the government has lifted the caveat placed on settlement schemes in Nakuru County of up to 20,000 acres.

He regretted that a case before the Africa court in Arusha has become a stumbling block to resolving the matter.

He said he had asked for the withdrawal of the case to pave the way for the resolution of issue.

Meanwhile, President Ruto assured coffee, tea, pyrethrum, maize, potato and dairy farmers that the government has transformed the sectors.

He said the construction of 20 modern fresh produce markets in Nakuru County will provide safe and decent trading areas for Mama Mboga pledged in the Kenya Kwanza Plan.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua said President Ruto was committed to uniting the country.

He said the move by the President to dismiss the Cabinet to pave way for a broad based-government was part of his efforts to unite the country.

Mr Gachagua thanked the people of Nakuru, a cosmopolitan county, for embracing peace.

"I thank the people of Nakuru for voting for Kenya Kwanza in the last General Election despite some selfish leaders spearheading the politics of tribalism," the DP said.

During his tour of the county, President Ruto inspected the Nakuru Multi-Purpose Market that will serve more than 2,000 traders in the county. The project will employ over 500 people.

Earlier in Nakuru East Constituency, he launched the construction of the Nakuru Bus Park that will accommodate 5,000 matatus.

President Ruto also laid the foundation stone for the construction of the Keringet fresh produce market in Kuresoi South Constituency and also opened the Njoro Technical Training Institute in Njoro Constituency.

Governor Susan Kihika, MPs and MCAs were present at the functions.

Additional reporting by PCS

National Assembly Invites Memoranda On The Supplementary Estimates

By: PSCU

The National Assembly is inviting members of the public and stakeholders to submit memoranda on the Supplementary Estimates 1 for the Financial Year 2024/2025, through the Clerk of the National Assembly, by Monday next week.

This follows the submission of the Estimates comprising of the Programme Based Budget, Recurrent Estimates, Development Estimates and the memorandum; by the Principal Secretary, National Treasury and Economic Planning, on Friday last week.

The Speaker of the National Assembly Moses Wetang'ula upon reception of the Supplementary Estimates referred them to the Budget and Appropriations Committee for consideration and reporting to the House.

The Supplementary Estimates for the Financial Year 2024/2025 seeks

to implement necessary austerity measures and actualize expenditure cuts across the three arms of Government, Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices.

The Estimates propose to reduce the budget for the three arms of Government by Ksh156.39 billion, out of which Ksh34.04 billion constitutes approved recurrent expenditure, and Ksh122.35 billion constitutes approved development expenditure.

Further, the Estimates seek to rationalize the expenditure for this financial year, to align with the revised fiscal framework and cater for the last financial year's carry overs.

The proposed revision is underpinned by an envisaged shortfall of revenues for the current financial year amounting to Ksh344.3 billion.

For further reference, the Supplementary Estimates and attendant documents are available at the Parliament's website through this link: <http://parliament.go.ke>



National Assembly

The Mt. Kenya Times



Samsung Unboxes Latest TV Line-Up, Bringing A New Era Of Samsung AI TV To Kenya

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes



Samsung Unboxes Latest TV Line-Up.

Worth Noting:

The Neo QLED 8K also boasts AI features that understand and adapt to user needs. The AI Auto Game Mode kicks in during gaming, optimising the visuals and audio for an even more immersive and engaging gaming experience. The AI Customization Mode adjusts the picture for each scene based on user preference, while the AI Energy Mode saves power without compromising picture quality. These features ensure that Neo QLED 8K is easy, personalised, and energy efficient for all entertainment needs. Samsung's latest TVs are designed with SmartThings AI capabilities to save energy. The new AI Energy Saving mode can reduce energy use by 23% compared to the standard mode.

Samsung Electronics East Africa Ltd. unveiled the 2024 TV and sound device line-up at the local Unbox & Discover event at Capital Club in Nairobi. The event showcased the latest Neo QLED 8K and 4K, OLED TVs, and sound devices.

As the world's leading TV manufacturer for 18 consecutive years, Samsung's offerings this year elevate the home entertainment experience with a range of powerful, AI-driven solutions.

Rahul Kochhar, Business Head of the Consumer Electronics Division at Samsung Electronics East Africa, said, "We are pushing the boundaries of home entertainment by integrating AI to enhance traditional viewing experiences. This year's TV lineup demonstrates our commitment to innovation, offering products that provide premium viewing quality while significantly enhancing our consumers' lifestyles."

Elevating Senses With Neo QLED 8K: Clarity, Sound and Smart Experiences

Neo QLED 8K is the flagship of Samsung's latest TV line-up. It is equipped with the advanced NQ8 AI Gen2 processor, marking a significant leap in AI TV technology. This processor features a Neural Processing Unit (NPU) and an eightfold increase in neural networks from 64 to 256, ensuring an exceptional viewing experience with crisp details, regardless of the input source.

Every scene on the Neo QLED 8K is a feast for the eyes, thanks to its AI-driven picture technology. It brings out the finest details with outstanding clarity and naturalness, from facial expressions to subtle nuances. With 8K AI Upscaling Pro, users' favourite shows and movies are transformed to match the 8K display closely, allowing them to enjoy the level of detail and picture clarity surpassing

conventional 4K TVs. Additionally, AI Motion Enhancer Pro makes fast action smoother and clearer — a dream for sports fans — while Real Depth Enhancer Pro adds a lifelike depth to the picture and pulls viewers into the scene every time. All these features come together to redefine the big-screen experience.

The Neo QLED 8K also delivers audio powered by AI sound technology. This year's Active Voice Amplifier Pro now excels at extracting dialogue from background noise, ensuring every word is heard clearly. Object Tracking Sound Pro also enriches the audio experience by syncing the sound with on-screen action, creating a more dynamic and engaging viewing experience. Adaptive Sound Pro refines the audio experience by intelligently adjusting the audio to the content and room acoustics for a genuinely rich and lifelike sound.

The Neo QLED 8K also boasts AI features that understand and adapt to user needs. The AI Auto Game Mode kicks in during gaming, optimising the visuals and audio for an even more immersive and engaging gaming experience. The AI Customization Mode adjusts the picture for each scene based on user preference, while the AI Energy Mode saves power without compromising picture quality. These features ensure that Neo QLED 8K is easy, personalised, and energy efficient for all entertainment needs.

Samsung's latest TVs are designed with SmartThings AI capabilities to save energy. The new AI Energy Saving mode can reduce energy use by 23% compared to the standard mode. Thanks to SmartThings integration, various Samsung TVs can automatically adjust colour validation based on the viewing environment to enhance energy efficiency. Samsung has also unveiled an up-

graded Frame TV with dynamic screen refresh rates and better colour validations for improved energy efficiency.

The Neo QLED 8K QN800D is available in sizes of 65, 75, and 85 inches. The Neo QLED 4K is available in one model, QN85 D, and in sizes of, 55, 65, 75, 85,. The Neo QLED 8K and 4K line-up promises an unparalleled viewing experience in the premium large-screen category.

Smart Features with Samsung Tizen OS for Enhanced Integration and Personalisation

In 2024, Samsung's AI screens are set to redefine the user experience with advanced connectivity and a suite of smart features, apps and platforms. Leveraging the powerful Tizen OS, these innovations have created an ecosystem that is connected, personalised, and secure through Knox Security. This allows devices to integrate effortlessly into users' digital worlds, transforming screens into a central hub for all their needs.

Samsung's latest TVs are designed to connect with a smart ecosystem immediately upon setup. The moment users turn on their new Samsung TV, the TV recognises and connects to existing networks and devices, all orchestrated through a simple notification on users' smartphones. This effortless setup extends to all Samsung devices at home, third-party appliances, and IoT devices, thanks to its compatibility with HCA and Matter. This eliminates the need for extra hubs, so everything from lighting to security sensors can be managed directly from the screen.

Samsung's 2024 screen line-up also brings integration with users' smartphones to new heights. Users can bring their smartphone near the TV to activate Smart Mobile Connect, which turns the device into a universal remote for the TV and connected home appliances. Additionally, in 2024, users can use their smartphones as game controllers with a customisable user interface (UI) and haptic feedback, offering convenient and enhanced gameplay at their fingertips.

Beyond connectivity, Samsung's 2024 Smart TVs provide a highly personalised experience with its apps and platforms. With the latest addition of widgets, TV screens are now personalised dashboards that allow users to easily monitor home status, camera feeds, energy usage, weather updates and more.

Security is paramount, and with Samsung Knox, every feature, app, and platform benefits from robust protection, allowing connected experiences to remain private and secure.

Expansive Line-up for All Entertainment Needs: Neo QLED 4K, OLED and Sound Devices

Samsung is introducing an expanded and enhanced range of TVs and sound devices this year, designed to offer consumers a wider array of choices to suit diverse lifestyles and preferences. This

comprehensive line-up underscores Samsung's commitment to innovation and a customer-centric approach.

The 2024 Neo QLED 4K lineup brings cutting-edge innovations from the latest Neo QLED 8K flagship TVs, elevating the viewing experience with ground-breaking features powered by the NQ4 AI Gen2 Processor. This advanced chip breathes life into almost any content, rendering it in stunning 4K resolution. With the world's first Pantone Validated display for colour accuracy and Dolby Atmos for an immersive audio experience, Neo QLED 4K sets the bar for the ultimate 4K UHD experience. Neo QLED 4K will be available in sizes ranging from 55 to 98 inches, catering to diverse viewing environments.

Samsung is also introducing the world's first Glare-Free OLED, eliminating unnecessary reflection while preserving deep blacks and clear images under lighting conditions. Powered by the same formidable NQ4 AI Gen2 Processor as the Neo QLED 4K lineup, Samsung's OLED TVs boast features like the Real Depth Enhancer and OLED HDR Pro, bringing picture quality to new heights.

Additionally, with features such as Motion Xcelerator 144Hz ensuring smooth motion and quick response rates, Samsung OLED is the ultimate choice for gaming. Complemented by sleek designs, these OLED TVs elevate the viewing space. Available in Kenya in two models —S90D — ranging from 55 to 83 inches, there's a perfect fit for every home.

The 2024 line-up also includes the latest Q-Series Soundbar, Q800D, which boasts an 11.1.4-channel setup with Wireless Dolby Atmos. This model comes with a host of features that stand as a testament to Samsung's continued leadership as the world's best-selling soundbar brand for the past 10 years, featuring innovations such as Sound Grouping for pulsating, room-filling sound and an option for personal listening that allows users to enjoy their content through rear speakers without disturbing others.

Samsung is pleased to announce the availability of pre-orders for its AI-powered TVs. Buy the 2024 Samsung AI TVs now and get amazing deals. The offer is available at participating retailers. For more information or to pre-order Samsung's 2024 TV products.

Initialing Of Protocols For The Tumaini Initiative Consensus: A Landmark Event In South Sudan



By: Cynthia Masibo
@themtkenyatimes

In a significant step towards peace and development, the protocols for the Tumaini Initiative Consensus were officially initialed yesterday in a grand ceremony held in Juba. The event saw the attendance of various dignitaries from the Office of the Secretariat of South Sudan, marking a milestone in the nation's ongoing efforts to foster unity and sustainable growth.

The Tumaini Initiative, named after the Swahili word for "hope," aims to address the multifaceted challenges faced by South Sudan through comprehensive and inclusive strategies. The consensus protocols are designed to enhance cooperation among various stakeholders, including government bodies, civil society organizations, and international partners. These protocols are seen as a blueprint for the country's future, emphasizing peacebuilding, economic development, and social cohesion.

The ceremony, was a blend of traditional and modern elements, reflecting South Sudan's rich cultural heritage and its aspirations for a brighter future. The attendees included high-ranking officials from the Office

of the Secretariat of South Sudan, representatives from international organizations, diplomats, and members of the civil society.

In his opening remarks, the Secretary-General of South Sudan, James Wani Igga, emphasized the significance of the Tumaini Initiative in the nation's journey towards lasting peace and prosperity. "Today, we are not just signing a document; we are laying the foundation for a future where every South Sudanese can thrive in peace and dignity," he stated. "The Tumaini Initiative is a testament to our collective commitment to overcome the challenges that have hindered our progress."

The protocols cover a wide range of issues, including conflict resolution, economic reforms, infrastructure development, education, and healthcare. One of the key components is the establishment of a National Reconciliation Commission, which will work towards healing the divisions caused by years of conflict. The commission will focus on truth-telling, justice, and reparations, ensuring that the voices of all communities are heard and respected.

Another significant aspect of the protocols is the emphasis on economic development. The Tumaini Initiative outlines strategies for diversifying South Sudan's economy, reducing dependency on oil revenues, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. It also highlights the importance of investing in education and healthcare to build a resilient and self-sufficient nation.

International support was evident at



High-ranking officials from the Office of the Secretariat of South Sudan.

the ceremony, with representatives from the United Nations, the African Union, and various donor countries expressing their commitment to assist South Sudan in implementing the Tumaini Initiative. In a message read on behalf of the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, the UN commended South Sudan's leadership and pledged continued support in achieving the goals outlined in the consensus protocols.

The presence of various dignitaries from the Office of the Secretariat of South Sudan underscored the government's dedication to the Tumaini Initiative. Their participation was a clear signal of the administration's resolve to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure the success

of the initiative. Among the notable attendees were the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Beatrice Khamisa Wani, and the Minister of Finance and Planning, Agak Achuil Lual, both of whom highlighted the government's commitment to the initiative in their speeches.

Civil society leaders also played a crucial role in the event, with many expressing optimism about the potential impact of the Tumaini Initiative. John Garang, a prominent activist and leader of the South Sudan Civil Society Forum, described the initialing of the protocols as a "historic moment" for the country. "This initiative rep-

resents a new dawn for South Sudan. It is an opportunity for us to come together, to heal, and to build a future that is inclusive and just," he said.

As the ceremony concluded with the symbolic initialing of the protocols, there was a palpable sense of hope and determination among the attendees. The Tumaini Initiative Consensus is more than a set of protocols; it is a vision for a united, peaceful, and prosperous South Sudan. With the backing of the government, civil society, and international partners, the initiative holds the promise of transforming the nation's future and bringing lasting peace and development to its people.

New General Manager To Drive Growth For Ashok Leyland Trucks And Buses In Kenya

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Deluxe Trucks & Buses East Africa, the official distributor for Ashok Leyland trucks and buses in Kenya has appointed a new General Manager as it gears up for growth in the highly competitive road transport sector.

With over twenty years of experience in the automotive industry Mr. Hussein Kamal, joins Deluxe Trucks and Buses, a subsidiary of Simba Corporation from Truckmart Africa following a 5-year stint as the General Manager for after-sales. He brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to his new position that includes an extensive understanding of the

Kenyan market dynamics and Ashok Leyland products.

"My vision for Ashok Leyland in Kenya is to elevate customer satisfaction through enhanced after-sales assistance, which remains the cornerstone for trucking business excellence in this market. We will fortify our dealer network and enhance training initiatives for customers, supported by aggressive marketing strategies towards establishing Ashok Leyland as the leading commercial trucking brand in Kenya," he said.

In his role, Kamal is Charged with strategic leadership, business operations and growth of Ashok Leyland brand in Kenya while also overseeing the overall performance of the business, and reporting to Naresh Leekha, the Group Managing Director - Motors Division at Simba Cor-

poration.

"We believe that Kamal's comprehensive industry and technical acumen, coupled with an unmatched familiarity with Ashok Leyland positions him well to steer Ashok Leyland's expansion in Kenya", said Naresh leekha.

The appointment comes at a time when the local market is witnessing a growing demand for high-quality and cost-effective automotive products, a niche where Ashok Leyland excels with its competitive pricing alongside a 5-year warranty on service and parts for new vehicles.



Hussein Kamal - GM Deluxe Trucks & Buses E.A Ltd

Five Kenyan Students To Compete In The Prestigious International Math Olympiad

By: MKT Correspondent

@themtkenyatimes

Five Kenyan students will represent Kenya at the 65th edition of the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), a World Championship Mathematics Competition for High School Students held annually in the United Kingdom.

They include Cynthia Kathomi Mworira from Kenya High, Master Gilbert Ongoro from Alliance High School, and Tony Rotich Odhiambo from Light Academy, Nairobi.

Other participants include Nairobi School's Alfred Githui Muriu and Lenny Muriungi Mutuma from Olo-laiser High School in Kajiado County, respectively.

They were selected from a pool of 8,000 students who successfully participated in the 2023 and 2024 Kenya Mathematics Olympiad (KMO) contests.

Master Tony Rotich will also proceed

to the prestigious MIT for undergraduate studies on full scholarship.

The contest will offer Kenyan participants the rare opportunity to interact with some of the world's ace mathematicians, raising their profiles for future career advancement and potentially being an advantage for those aiming to join Ivy League universities such as Harvard.

The students commended CEMAS-TEA and partners for the initiative, saying it will help build the morale and capacity of students in mathematics. At least 112 countries have registered their participation in the contest. The annual competition is tailored to improve performance and promote excellence in mathematics among high school students in Kenya.

The goal is to create a group of critical thinkers who can apply classroom knowledge when solving real-life problems.

The competition has boosted students' ability to solve mathematical problems using critical thinking.

The Pan African Mathematics Olym-



piad (PAMO) is an annual prestigious event of the African Mathematics Union (AMU) organised each year

since 1987, where the best pupils in secondary education are invited to compete.

Global Fusion Fashion Show Celebrates Cultural Diversity At Delight Technical College

By: Aoma Keziah

@themtkenyatimes

Delight Technical College hosted its annual Global Fusion Fashion Show, an event dedicated to celebrating the vibrant tapestry of cultures and fashion styles from around the world. This year's edition showcased an eclectic mix of traditional and contemporary designs, drawing an enthusiastic crowd of fashion enthusiasts, students, and cultural connoisseurs.

The event featured an array of fashion collections that highlighted the unique and intricate craftsmanship from different regions. From the rich textiles of Africa to the elegant silks of Asia, the runway was a visual feast of color, texture, and style. Models strutted down the catwalk in garments that ranged from traditional attire to modern, avant-garde creations, embodying the spirit of glob-

al unity and cultural appreciation.

In her opening remarks, Delight Technical College Principal, Dr. Angela Mwangi, emphasized the importance of cultural diversity and inclusion in the world of fashion. "Fashion is a powerful medium through which we can express our cultural identities and celebrate our differences. The Global Fusion Fashion Show is a testament to the beauty of diversity and the creativity that emerges when we embrace our unique cultural heritages," she said.

The highlight of the evening was the fusion segment, where designers blended elements from different cultures to create innovative and harmonious designs. This segment included collaborations between students and established designers, showcasing how cultural exchange can inspire new trends and ideas in the fashion industry.

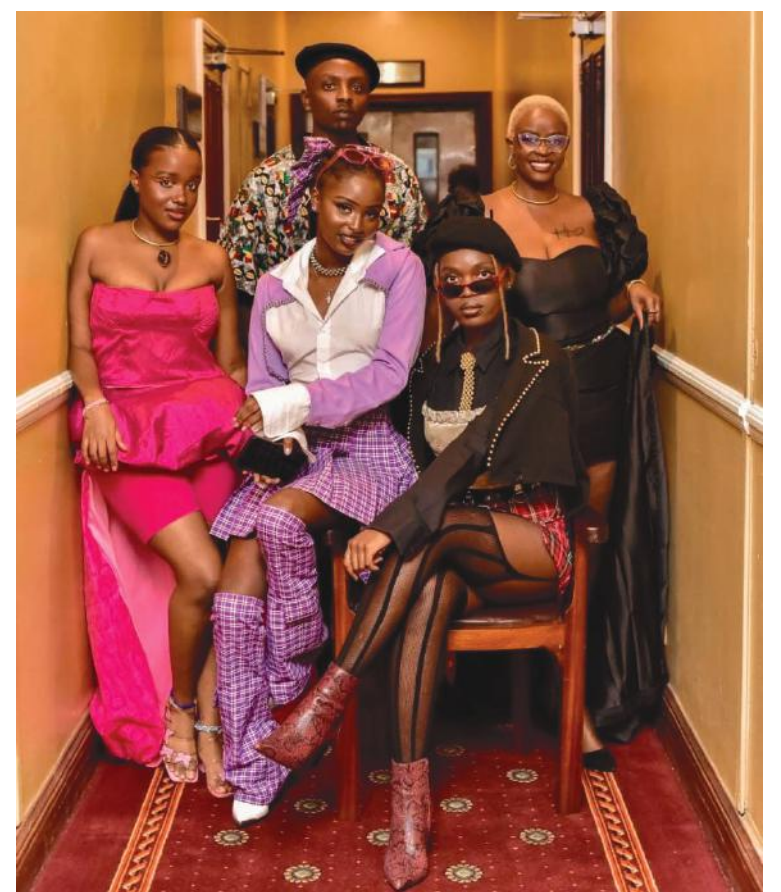
Attendees were also treated to live performances of traditional music and dance from various cultures, adding an immersive and dynamic

element to the event. The evening concluded with an awards ceremony recognizing the most outstanding designs and contributions to cultural fusion.

The Global Fusion Fashion Show not only celebrated the artistic talents of Delight Technical College students but also underscored the institution's commitment to promoting cultural understanding and global unity through the universal language of fashion.

As the curtains closed on this year's event, the message was clear: fashion has the power to bridge cultural divides and create a more inclusive and interconnected world.

The Global Fusion Fashion Show stylists celebrating diverse cultures and fashion styles from around the world, in Nairobi



Spring!



I will not laugh with you when the time comes.

I didn't become your daughter, Marjon,
I don't feel you com, spring..

Spring...

Khushvaktova Marjonabanu Sajil
daughter

We waited for you when we were children,
We used to run down the hill,
Blue-green grass is the strangest corner,
Bud reminded you today.

We would build a tent out of grass,
What a hero Clouds was.
We made wreaths, beautiful,
Your beauty was also a gem.

When I think about it, I don't appreciate you.

Marjonabanu Khushvaktova was born on June 13, 2004 in Kokdala district of Kashkadaryo region. Currently, she is a 2nd year student of Shahrizabz State Pedagogical Institute. Her creative works are in "Taloktepa tolei", "Taloktepa tolei" selection book and "The smart youth of Uzbekistan", "Raven Cage Zine", "Page 3 News", "Youth of Uzbekistan" "Yoshlar bayozi" and has been published in many international books, magazines, newspapers and anthologies, and is the owner of many diplomas and certificates.

Gender Equality



Key words: Gender equality, woman, law, social, person, country, UN General Assembly.

Gender equality and gender equality, more specifically: equality between men and women, is a concept that implies the achievement of equal rights between men and women in the family and society and other legal relations. According to some researchers, gender equality is the next stage of socio-sexual relations after the patriarchal system.

The principle of gender equality is to study and eliminate all social barriers that prevent the emergence of a person as a person, as well as to create equal social opportunities for realizing the personality of men and women in all areas of life.

Uzbekistan began to participate in the list of gender equality indicators from 2019.

According to the status of 2019, the gender equality indicator of Uzbekistan took the 62nd place among 189 countries on the list. According to experts of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA),

29 women out of every 100,000 in Uzbekistan die due to gender inequality, and the birth rate for every thousand teenage girls aged 15-19 is 238. Along with Uzbekistan, Costa Rica and Uruguay are also on the first place with an index of 0.288. Kazakhstan ranks 44th, Kyrgyzstan 82nd, and Tajikistan 70th among the Central Asian countries, and Turkmenistan is not included in this list.

On September 2, 2019, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 562 "On guarantees of equal rights and opportunities for women and men" was adopted in Uzbekistan. The Gender Equality Commission has been operating in Uzbekistan since 2019. The Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis, Tanzila Narbaeva, is the Chairperson of the

Gender Equality Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Nordic Institute for Gender Equality, which finances equal opportunities projects in Norway (founded in 1970 with the support of the Nordic Council of Ministers), in 2015, was recognized by the United Nations Organization for Gender Equality and Women's Rights in Pakistan. a report was prepared by the extension department. This report is known as "UN-Women". One of the central issues of the report was the issue of women's employment. According to the authors of the report, despite the fact that the number of women with higher education has reached a historical maximum, their employment situation looks sad. Young women graduating from universities with honors degrees cannot find work, despite the fact that they are increasingly outperforming young men, especially in subjects such as medicine and mathematics. Even those who manage to find a job do not always feel confident due to social insecurity. This issue is especially relevant in developing countries, where 75 percent of women's jobs are not protected by the employer's legal obligations. As noted in the report, the situation of gender equality in developed countries is not far from the ideal level. For example, in Sweden and France, the difference in women's salaries compared to men is 31% less, in Germany it is 49% less, and in Turkey it is 75%. According to the authors of the report, the main measures to combat gender inequality should be the right to provide women with good jobs around the world. According to the UN, the average wage gap between men and women is 37.8% (this figure varies greatly by country). - Varies from 181% in Great Britain to 596% in Angola.

Gender Equality Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Nordic Institute for Gender Equality, which finances equal opportunities projects in Norway (founded in 1970 with the support of the Nordic Council of Ministers), in 2015, was recognized by the United Nations Organization for Gender Equality and Women's Rights in Pakistan. a report was prepared by the extension department.

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Erkinboeva Hulkar Anvarbek qizi
Uzbekistan



To My Friends



Freedom,
Together, we would ascend the heights.
"Don't let interesting events pass by,"
they say,

Will our past joys remind us?

One's curious, another a bookworm,
One's a novice, another a poet.
One's a dreamer, lost in fantasy,
One's truthful, never speaks falsely.

We joked and conversed until dawn,
Sometimes debating about poets.
With playful banter until morning light,
Those days slipped away unnoticed.

Here we are, stepping into yet another year,
Even if I reach out, my hands won't grasp.

I wrote this, a sentence engraved on a stone,
I won't forget any of you, my friends.

Lazizbek Rakhimov
Student of Bukhara State University

Life isn't just a test but a solitary journey,
Sometimes with worries, sometimes with youthful joy.
Reflecting on the deeds I've done,
I cast my gaze upon the past three years.

If happiness weren't so fleeting,
My heart, with you, would treasure the days gone by.
Now, I must not succumb to loneliness,
I've gathered my golden moments, friends.

Let's heed the call of youth and

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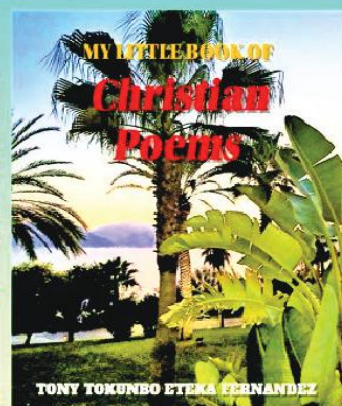
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M-PESA Foundation Invests KES 32 Million In Health Projects In Lamu County

In partnership with the County Government, the Foundation equipped Mokowe Hospital with state-of-the-art equipment and held a multi-specialty medical camp that benefitted close to 900 residents.

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyatimes

M-PESA Foundation, in partnership with the County Government of Lamu equipped Mokowe Sub-County hospital with a Maternal and Child Health Unit as well as a Trauma and Orthopedic Unit at a cost of KES 29 million.

The Foundation further funded a multi-specialty medical camp for KES 3 million at King Fahad Referral Hospital and Mokowe Sub-County Hospital. At King Fahad Referral Hospital, doctors conducted 57 successful surgeries during the 3 day camp.

The hospital was equipped with oxygen machines, nebulizers, medicine trolleys, suction machines, delivery beds, screening equipment, infant monitoring equipment, maternity chairs and an array of surgical equipment among other assorted items.

“Health is one of our key pillars at

M-PESA Foundation, with a major focus on maternal and child health-care. Since 2018, we have invested in Lamu County under this pillar where we have seen over 30,000 people get access to maternal care. This time round, we are expanding health services to residents of Mokowe while at the same time impacting over 900 residents of Lamu through our extensive medical camps,” said Joseph Ogutu, Chairman, Safaricom Foundation.

The facility will now have the capacity to conduct orthopedic, gynecological and ophthalmic surgeries. In addition, patients with specialised cases such as chronic illnesses will access treatment as well as women suffering from fistula can be tracked and corrective surgeries performed.

“It is through such partnerships that we are able to develop and address the key challenges that we face as a county. Access to health care is a critical need among our people and we thank M-PESA Foundation for boosting our efforts in this sector. We look forward to improving



health outcomes with the equipping of Mokowe Sub-County Hospital,” said Issa Timamy, Governor, Lamu County.

The medical camp provided an opportunity for Lamu residents to get orthopedic, pediatric care and specialist care using telemedicine technology.

Furthermore, 100 mama packs were distributed to women who had delivered at King Fahad Referral Hospital as part of maternal care.

KARA Partners With Bingwa.Ke To Enhance Secure Home Services For Residents



By: Aoma Keziah
@themkenyatimes

In a significant move to improve access to secure home services, the Kenya Alliance of Resident Associations (KARA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Bingwa.ke. This partnership introduces an innovative solution designed to benefit Neighborhood and Resident Association members across Kenya.

KARA, the apex body representing the voice and pro-active action of Resident Associations in Kenya, has long been an advocate for better services at the neighborhood, county, and national levels. With the introduction of Bingwa.ke, members now have access to skilled services

through a secure and safe platform.

The Bingwa.ke platform is designed to offer convenience and security, featuring digital traceability of service providers. This ensures that residents can access reliable and vetted services, enhancing the overall safety and satisfaction of homeowners.

Qualified service providers who are members of KARA will also benefit from this partnership. The platform offers dignified and fulfilling work opportunities, providing young, skilled, reliable, vetted, and certified Kenyans with employment. This initiative not only supports the local economy but also ensures that residents receive top-notch services from trusted professionals.

Speaking during the signing, former EACC Chairman, Mumo Matemu, who was the Guest speaker said that the partnership will improve the economic output of Kenya by optimizing the productivity of its young workforce as well as enhance social development by providing meaningful engagement opportunities for Gener-

ation Z Youths.

“Our mission to reduce unemployment by 0.7% in 365 days,” he added. Njihia Njoroge CEO and founder Bingwa services noted that they are not just talking, they are also acting to restore and reconcile the pain of youth as well as the pain of missed opportunities which will come to an end through this partnership.

“Our partnership with KARA is not just about connecting service providers with residents, it’s part of our larger vision to transform Kenya’s economic and social landscape by harnessing the potential of our skilled Generation Z youth.” Njoroge noted The MOU signing ceremony highlighted the shared commitment of both organizations to improve the quality of life for residents by leveraging innovative digital solutions. This collaboration is expected to set a new standard for home services in Kenya, ensuring that residents can access skilled professionals safely and conveniently.



From Left, Lawrence Kinyanjui CEO dorbeleit, Annette kimiti CEO, Seneca EA, dr. Joyce Gikunda MD, Lintons Beauty World, Njihia Njoroge Founder & CEO, Bingwa, Henry Ochieng CEO, KARA

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Dissent And Disillusionment: Mapping The Decline Of Ruto's Popular Support In Kenya

‘No one can deny that Chief the Honourable M.A. Nanga, M.P., was the most approachable politician in the country. Whether you asked in the city or in his home village, Anata, they would tell you he was a man of the people. I have to admit that I was somewhat distant from the people myself at that time, and more disposed to bring down a minister than to sing his praises.’”



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The psychological profile of leadership plays a crucial role in shaping governance outcomes, and in this context, concerns have been raised about President Ruto's leadership style and decision-making processes.
- Critics have employed terms such as “narcissism” and “psychopathy” to describe what they perceive as a detachment from the realities facing ordinary Kenyans. While such characterizations should be approached with caution, they reflect a growing public perception of a leader increasingly isolated from the electorate and surrounded by sycophants unwilling or unable to provide critical feedback.
- This echo chamber effect is particularly dangerous in a diverse and complex society like Kenya, where nuanced and inclusive decision-making is essential for addressing multifaceted challenges.

In a striking parallel to Chinua Achebe's satirical portrayal of political leadership in “A Man of the People,” Kenya's President William Ruto finds himself at the center of a growing storm of public discontent. The initial euphoria that accompanied his ascension to power has rapidly dissipated, replaced by a palpable sense of disillusionment among the Kenyan populace. This shift in public sentiment is not merely a reflection of unfulfilled campaign promises, but rather a complex tapestry of governance issues, human rights concerns, and a perceived disconnect between the administration and the everyday realities of Kenyan citizens. As we examine deeper into the multifaceted reasons behind Ruto's waning popularity, it becomes evident that the very foundations of democratic governance in Kenya are being tested in unprecedented ways.

The cornerstone of any democratic society is the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms, including the right to dissent and peacefully oppose governmental policies. However, under President Ruto's administration, there have been alarming reports of a systematic crackdown on opposition voices. This suppression of dissent has manifested in various forms, ranging from the arbitrary arrest and detention of activists to more sinister allegations of forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings. Such actions, if substantiated, represent a grave violation of the principles enshrined in Kenya's constitution and international human rights treaties to which the country is a signatory. The chilling effect of these measures on civil society and political discourse cannot be overstated, as it erodes the very fabric of democratic participation and accountability.

Moreover, the Ruto administration's approach to governance has been characterized by what critics describe as a selective adherence to constitutional principles, a phenomenon often referred to as “constitutional cherry-picking.” This is exemplified by recent controversies surrounding executive appointments, such as the establishment of a taskforce to appoint the Attorney General, a move that was subsequently struck down by the courts as unconstitutional. Such

actions not only undermine the separation of powers doctrine but also raise serious questions about the administration's commitment to the rule of law. The repeated judicial rebukes of executive decisions paint a picture of a government more interested in consolidating power than in upholding the constitutional order it swore to protect.

The psychological profile of leadership plays a crucial role in shaping governance outcomes, and in this context, concerns have been raised about President Ruto's leadership style and decision-making processes. Critics have employed terms such as “narcissism” and “psychopathy” to describe what they perceive as a detachment from the realities facing ordinary Kenyans. While such characterizations should be approached with caution, they reflect a growing public perception of a leader increasingly isolated from the electorate and surrounded by sycophants unwilling or unable to provide critical feedback. This echo chamber effect is particularly dangerous in a diverse and complex society like Kenya, where nuanced and inclusive decision-making is essential for addressing multifaceted challenges.

The recent public outcry over the Finance Bill and its aftermath serves as a poignant illustration of the growing disconnect between the Ruto administration and the Kenyan public. The initial push to pass the bill, despite widespread concerns about its potential negative impact on the cost of living, demonstrated a lack of sensitivity to the economic pressures facing many Kenyans. It took the tragic loss of over 40 lives during protests across 35 of Kenya's 47 counties, including Ruto's home county, to prompt a reconsideration of the bill. This sequence of events not only highlights the administration's initial failure to gauge public sentiment but also raises questions about the government's responsiveness to citizen concerns and its willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue with diverse stakeholders.

The concentration of power within the executive branch and its apparent influence over the legislative arm of government has further exacerbated concerns about the erosion of democratic checks and balances. With a



President William Ruto

significant majority in the National Assembly, there are fears that the Ruto administration has been using its numerical advantage to push through legislation that serves narrow political interests rather than the broader public good. This consolidation of power challenges the principle of separation of powers and risks turning parliament into a rubber stamp for executive decisions, rather than a forum for robust debate and representation of diverse constituent interests. The long-term implications of this power dynamic for Kenya's democratic development are potentially severe, as it may set precedents that future administrations could exploit to further centralize authority.

The stark contrast between Ruto's populist campaign rhetoric and the realities of his governance has contributed significantly to his declining popularity. During the election campaign, Ruto positioned himself as a champion of the “hustler nation,” promising economic empowerment and opportunities for the marginalized segments of society. However, the implementation of policies that are perceived as favoring the elite and placing additional burdens on the working class has led to accusations of betrayal and hypocrisy. This dissonance between campaign promises and governance actions has eroded public trust and fueled a sense of cynicism about political leadership, po-

tentially undermining the legitimacy of democratic processes in the eyes of the electorate.

The handling of public protests and dissent has been a particularly contentious aspect of Ruto's presidency, with accusations of disproportionate use of force by law enforcement agencies. The tragic loss of life during recent demonstrations has not only resulted in immediate public outrage but has also raised serious questions about the government's commitment to protecting citizens' rights to peaceful assembly and expression. The failure to hold security forces accountable for alleged excesses further perpetuates a culture of impunity that undermines the rule of law and erodes public confidence in state institutions. This heavy-handed approach to managing public dissent risks further polarizing Kenyan society and entrenching political divisions, making it increasingly difficult to build national consensus on critical issues.

The apparent disregard for expert advice, as evidenced by the reported dismissal of the chief legal advisor, points to a troubling pattern of governance that prioritizes political expediency over sound policy-making. In complex modern societies, effec-



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Spiritual Connotations Of LGBTQ And The Inherent Health Issues

Do not just think about what a certain pleasure will give, think about what it will take out of you – Ryan Holiday author of Discipline is Destiny.

Such sentiments become absolutely cogent especially on matters that border on the basic means of heredity actualization: which is coupling. Being straight is not only a healthy act of exchanging conjugal pleasantries, but a means of perpetuating humanity.

While abstinence is avoidance, restraint is a responsibility both of which gear toward self-discipline and a healthy living. No one is even condemned from practising normal (vaginal) sex which is the only vehicle through which procreation is attained. Even priests are called to be partakers of God's only natural gift that gives back. Everything morality, therefore, equates to normality whose subset is healthy living. Hence, one can choose to abstain or restrain from everything immoral that negates self-discipline and healthy living of which homosexuality is one. Homosexuality is a component of LGBTQ that is gaining

traction in the new way of life globally and the Church is seemingly and paradoxically shying away from taking a strong stand on it or - worse still - encourage it.

Some prelates' sentiments border on giving this unnatural act clean bill of morality, seemingly, without the remotest vestige of ego that church is the citadel of divinity. It is one thing to pray for sinners as well as loving them; while it is quite another to embrace the sin itself and champion for its recognition as a way of contemporary lifestyle!

Based on the aforementioned, neither the efficiency of anal sex is scientifically supported as rewarding, nor its efficacy biblically sanctified as enjoyable and divine. If anything, it foments several underlying health risks which I would not hesitate to mention in the subsequent paragraphs.

Firstly, it is one thing to have a running stomach, but quite another to be saddled with faecal incontinence problem. While a running stomach could sometimes be restrained, the faecal

incontinence is nightmarish because of the wobbling rectal tissues. The rectal tissues surrounding the anal opening are not in any way elastic, making it susceptible to tear. Once it's torn, it loses its grip on the stools even after healing. God's creation is such a masterpiece, so much so, that its organs and systems are capable of self regulating. Unlike anus, there are naturally occurring vaginal fluids that are involuntarily secreted at the arousal moment in readiness for the reception of Mr. Dick. This great guy will actually enjoy the unguarded up and down thrush because of the reduced friction by the fluids coupled with the elasticity of muscles surrounding the female gonad (vagina). On the contrary, subjecting anal muscles to such rigorous exercise causes more damage than good to the body.

Secondly, akin to the preceding point, anus is closer to rectum that acts as a holding area for bacteria even as it holds faeces in readiness for excretion. Anal sex is therefore, a vehicle through which harmful bacteria could

be transmitted. Urinary tract infections do come about through such manner together with other more serious bacterial infections.

Lastly, engaging in anal sex encourages sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) especially human papilloma virus (HPV). HPV is rampant because it comes in 40 different strains (species). Continued proliferation of HPV not only encourages growth of warts, but may turn malignant to a point of being cancer. Anal sex is more prone to HIV transmission than vaginal sex due to the friction associated with it that causes tear and hence body fluid exchange between partners.

Whether it is a spiritual or mental malaise, is for the public to assess or the partakers who may be better acquainted to inform us can volunteer; what seems obvious is that it comes as a result of the partakers depriving themselves of conscientiousness either through pressure from peers or pleasure of mere self-indulgence; in this case, drugs being a catalytic component.

Ours is a society that has traded self-control for self-indulgence, a situation that has served to not only overrun the purpose of love making, but to override sanctity and the ecstasy that is enclaved in normal sex. The excitement that gets us into the harnessing of abnormality over normality should be a recipe for the church to retrospect so as to salvage her position in the society if at all we still yearn to catch up with the saviour Jesus Christ in the symphonic trumpet of rapture.

You can now unanimously join me in agreement that love making is not just an existential issue or a trifling mundane escapade that can be tarnished through some orthodoxy. Apart from being divine, it ensures posterity only if practised within the confines of normality. Indulging in sexual abnormality is an assault to the body and detrimental to health.

By Simon Bodo

High School Students Wants Their Principal Removed



By Collins Simiyu

Kitale in the morning, the sun is shining. Everybody looks grounded to his personal duties of the day. Suddenly, school uniformed students known to learn at Farm Prison Secondary school filled the streets carrying placards written the name of their school principal Mrs Loice

Mukhaye demanding her withdrawal as the head of school with different grievances presented by the students. Farm Prison Secondary school located around Kitale farm prison is headed by Loyce Mukhaye who is the principal. It is a day, sub county level secondary school in Transzoia west subcounty, Ttranszoia county in kenya.

"We don't want any dialogue with the principal and she must go or we go". One of the students was singing loudly in the crowd of students.

According to the students in the streets, the school has no water supply despite it being funded a total sum of ksh208500 by the ministry of finance a few months ago where the cabinet secretary for finance in

Transzoia county Mr Bonface Wanyonyi signed a 100k cheque and the remaining amount was sent direct to Mrs Mukhaye's Mpesa in the presence asparents and students.

She was given two days to complete the project but until now nothing has been done. Students are forced to fetch water every morning from Annex River which is 1km away from the school hindering their concentration in class activities. Also, the principal accuses teachers in front of students mostly during school assemblies which annoy students.

The school principal is also accused of misusing school resources for personal gain. Students say that she plants maize and beans in the school farm and uses school students as workers without payment.

Other than that, she also apply corporal punishments to students whereby she uses metals from broken lockers to beat learners especially boys on their heads.

This has resulted to massive school dropouts and the number of students has greatly reduced. up to now, the school has a total population of 120 learners including 13 form ones,30

form twos,47 form threes and 30 in form fours.

The school has only 12 teachers forcing them to overwork and each subject can be taught by only one teacher in the entire school. Students also complains of poor conditions of the school security in that the school fence is in bad conditions as well as the school gate is incomplete despite funds being given for renovations.

Students after visiting the county director of education and shared their grievances, the county director of education Mr Solomon Lesewa promised them some good feedback. He promised to visit the school this week and solve the situation amicably and also help to bring back those learners who dropped out of school because they feared Mrs Mukhaye.

He has told the students that he will call their unwanted principal and talk to her. However, the county director insisted that it is a child's right to be in school the time he or she is required thus he added that they should go back to school as they wait for the feedback anytime this week.

SUPKEM Calls For Structured Dialogue To Reconcile And Restore Kenya



By: Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyatimes

The Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM) issued a statement urging for a structured dialogue aimed at reconciling and restoring the nation. Addressing the press in Kisumu, SUPKEM officials highlighted the need for cohesive efforts to address the ongoing political, social, and economic challenges facing the country.

In their address, SUPKEM leader emphasized the importance of dialogue in fostering unity and healing divisions stating that Kenya is at a critical juncture where political tensions, economic hardships, and social divides threaten the fabric of our nation and it is imperative that the country comes together to engage in structured dialogue that is inclusive, transparent, and aimed at finding sustainable solutions.



Muslim leaders from the larger Western Kenya Region issuing certificates to the youth from Kisumu County, under the umbrella of the Supreme Council Of Kenya Muslims

“The delegates are here to also discuss and develop strategies that will preserve best practices that will enhance peaceful coexistence during this period in our country when there is great call for transparency and accountability from all leaders.” Read the statement

SUPKEM’s statement comes at a time when Kenya is grappling with significant issues, including political unrest, economic instability, and community conflicts. The council

stressed that these challenges cannot be resolved through confrontations and partisan politics but require a collective and inclusive approach.

“Our Gen Z have been largely peaceful and devoid of the dynamics that divide our society including class, tribe, political affiliation, religion and race. They are desirous of ridding this nation of political corruption, opulence, state capture of institutions and the rampant abuse of systems and institutions, especially

by the political class and state functionaries.” It continued to read

They also called upon all political leaders, civil society organizations, religious groups, and citizens to actively participate in the proposed dialogue, to put aside our differences and prioritize the common good of our nation. Structured dialogue provides a platform where all voices can be heard, and where we can work together to chart a path forward for Kenya.

They highlighted the role of religious organizations in peacebuilding and reconciliation, stating that SUPKEM is ready to facilitate and mediate discussions among different stakeholders to ensure that the dialogue process is effective and results-oriented.

In addition to the call for dialogue, SUPKEM outlined several key areas that need immediate attention:

Political Stability, ensuring that political processes are inclusive and fair to prevent future conflicts, Economic Reforms, addressing the economic challenges that have left many Kenyans in poverty and unemployment, and Social Cohesion, promoting unity and understanding among diverse communities to strengthen the social fabric of the nation.

SUPKEM’s call for structured dialogue has been welcomed by various quarters, with many expressing hope that it will pave the way for lasting peace and prosperity in Kenya. As the nation waits to see how different stakeholders respond to this call, the council remains optimistic that dialogue will lead to meaningful and positive change.

Dissent And Disillusionment: Mapping The Decline Of Ruto’s Popular Support In Kenya

Contd from Page 18

tive leadership requires the ability to synthesize diverse perspectives and expert opinions to craft nuanced solutions to multifaceted challenges. The rejection of professional counsel, particularly in legal matters, not only increases the risk of flawed decision-making but also sends a discouraging message to the civil service and policy experts whose input is crucial for effective governance. This approach may lead to a brain drain within government institutions, further compromising the quality of public administration and policy implementation.

The perceived opulence and extravagance of the Ruto administration, set against the backdrop of economic hardship faced by many Kenyans, has further fueled public discontent. In a country grappling with high levels of poverty and inequality, dis-

plays of wealth and lavish spending by political elites are not merely a matter of poor optics but are seen as a moral failing. This disconnect between the lived experiences of ordinary citizens and the perceived lifestyle of the political class undermines the social contract between the government and the governed. It feeds into a narrative of a leadership out of touch with the daily struggles of the populace, potentially exacerbating social tensions and eroding the legitimacy of democratic institutions.

The cumulative effect of these governance issues has been a rapid erosion of President Ruto’s political capital and popular support. The widespread nature of recent protests, encompassing a majority of Kenya’s counties, including areas traditionally considered strongholds of the ruling party, indicates a broad-based dissatisfaction with the current administration. This loss of popularity is not merely a political setback but poses significant challenges for

effective governance and the implementation of crucial reforms. As public trust wanes, the ability of the government to build consensus and mobilize popular support for necessary but potentially difficult policy measures becomes increasingly constrained, potentially leading to policy paralysis and further economic stagnation.

In conclusion, the declining popularity of President Ruto’s government is a multifaceted phenomenon rooted in a complex interplay of governance failures, human rights concerns, and a perceived disconnection from the realities facing ordinary Kenyans. The challenges facing the administration are not insurmountable, but addressing them will require a fundamental recalibration of governance approaches, a renewed commitment to constitutional principles, and a genuine effort to bridge the growing divide between the leadership and the citizenry. The future trajectory of Kenya’s democracy may well hinge on the ability



President William Ruto

of the current administration to heed the voices of dissent, embrace inclusive governance, and recommit to the principles of transparency, accountability, and respect for the rule of law. Failure to do so risks not only further erosion of public trust but po-

tentially more severe consequences for the stability and democratic development of the nation.

The writer is a legal scrivener and researcher.

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Sports >> *Argentina winger Angel Di Maria said Sunday's Copa America triumph over Colombia was the perfect dream ending to his career with the national team.

Copa Final Was Dream Farewell Says Di Maria



Argentina's forward Angel Di Maria leaves the pitch after being substituted during the Conmebol 2024 Copa America tournament final football match between Argentina and Colombia at the Hard Rock Stadium, in Miami, Florida on July 14, 2024. (Photo by JUAN MABROMATA / AFP)

Argentina winger Angel Di Maria said Sunday's Copa America triumph over Colombia was the perfect dream ending to his career with the national team.

A 1-0 win after extra-time secured a third straight major title for the Albiceleste following their 2021 Copa win and their World Cup triumph the following year.

The 36-year-old winger had announced in November that he would retire from international duty after the tournament.

"I dreamt it, that's why I said it was the last Copa America and it ended here. I dreamt that I would

reach the final, I dreamt that I would win it, that I would retire like this," he said.

Argentine coach Lionel Scaloni took Di Maria off in the final minutes of extra-time, ensuring he received a huge farewell from the team's fans which his eyes showed he was moved by.

"I have so many beautiful feelings..I am eternally grateful to this generation, they gave me everything, they made me achieve what I wanted so much, and today I am leaving in this way, how better than this?" he said.

Di Maria, had been part of a generation with Lionel Messi

who won the Olympics in 2008 but then struggled for silverware, missing out in the final stages of tournaments to the frustration of the nation.

But the 'Triple Crown', which also hands Argentine a record 16th Copa, confirms Lionel Scaloni's team's place among the greats of South American football.

"It seems easy but it is very difficult. I know because I lived on the other side too for ten, 11 years, fighting for it," said the Benfica winger.

"It's not easy to reach finals and win them. And now it's happen-

ing, it's like that, at some point it had to happen and I would have liked to have been able to win one too with the previous bunch of lads, we deserved it too but we kept insisting, kept fighting and these guys gave me everything" he said.

Di Maria scored the goal which won the gold medal in Beijing and also grabbed the goal in the 1-0 win over Brazil in the 2021 Copa final.

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GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Germany striker Thomas Mueller said Monday he was retiring from international football after a disappointing Euro 2024 in which the host nation were eliminated in the quarter-finals.

Thomas Mueller Ends Germany Career Following Euro 2024



Germany's forward Thomas Mueller greets the fans after the UEFA Euro 2024 quarter-final football match between Spain and Germany at the Stuttgart Arena in Stuttgart on July 5, 2024. (Photo by Fabrice COFFRINI / AFP).

Germany striker Thomas Mueller said Monday he was retiring from international football after a disappointing Euro 2024 in which the host nation were eliminated in the quarter-finals.

"After 131 national team games and 45 goals, I am saying goodbye," Mueller said in a video statement announcing his decision.

Mueller, who turns 35 in September, was a key member of the German team that won the 2014 World Cup.

The charismatic forward also scored the opening goal in Germany's unforgettable 7-1 win over the hosts Brazil in the semi final.

"When I played my first inter-

national match for the German national team over 14 years ago, I could never have dreamed of all this," Mueller said in the video.

"It always made me very proud to play for my country. We celebrated together and sometimes shed a tear together," he said.

A tearful Mueller had hinted at retirement following Germany's exit from Euro 2024.

The tournament hosts lost 2-1 in the quarter-final to Spain, who went on to lift the trophy on Sunday against England.

After the Spain game, Mueller said he would hold talks with national team coach Julian Nagelsmann and decide whether it was

the "sensible option" to step aside in favour of younger players.

Goalkeeper Manuel Neuer is the only member of Germany's 2014 World Cup-winning side still involved in the national team set up.

Germany and Real Madrid midfielder Toni Kroos announced before Euro 2024 that he would retire from football after the tournament.

Unlike Kroos, Mueller will continue to play for his club Bayern Munich, where he is under contract until 2025.

Only Lothar Matthaeus and Miroslav Klose have played more games for Germany than Mueller, who is also Germany's sixth high-

est goalscorer of all time.

AFP

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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Skincare Firm, Uncover Successfully Closes Oversubscribed \$1.4m Funding Round

Founded in Kenya three years ago, la société Uncover s'est étendue au Nigeria, Uganda, and recently to Ghana, with plans underway to expand to the Democratic Republic of Congo, DRC.

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- I must say we kept on being impressed by Sneha and Jade. As investors in several consumertech businesses over the last 8 years, we've rarely seen such a combination of clarity in the vision and maturity in the execution. We believe Uncover's team has what's required to build a leading skincare & beauty brand for Africa and are looking forward to helping them in this journey."
- Claire Chang from IgniteXL Ventures said: "We are incredibly impressed with Uncover's use of data and technology to understand their core customer's needs. By adopting a data-centric approach, Uncover has built one of Africa's most engaged, loyal digital communities. Africa's beauty and wellness sector is poised for substantial growth and Uncover is disrupting the sector with the first brand made by and for women in Africa."



Uncover COO Jade Oyateru with Uncover CEO Sneha Mehta

Uncover, Africa's emerging beauty brand, successfully closed a \$1.4m Seed II funding round led by EQ2 Ventures and IgniteXL Ventures, with participation from Chui Ventures, Samata Capital and Altree Capital. As part of the round, Uncover also facilitated a significant secondary transaction to accommodate investors' demand.

- EQ2 Ventures is a Dubai-based investment company that invests across innovative B2B and B2C tech-enabled businesses in the Middle East & Africa.

- IgniteXL Ventures, based in Silicon Valley, is a global fund dedicated to fueling innovation at the intersection of health, technology, and consumer experiences. IgniteXL Ventures participated in Uncover's seed round and has followed-on to co-lead the company's round.

- Chui Ventures is an Africa based investment company that backs exceptional African startups at the early stage of their growth. The round brings together global and local investors to support the Uncover team in their plans to further build their tech platform, launch new products, expand to new mar-

kets and continue to leverage data to build the leading skincare brand made with melanin rich skin in mind. Uncover has seen demand for their products not only from Africa, but also from diaspora populations globally and is actively working on partnerships in key diaspora markets in North America.

Patrick Thiriet from EQ2 Ventures said: "We've been following Uncover since the early days, and

I must say we kept on being impressed by Sneha and Jade. As investors in several consumertech businesses over the last 8 years, we've rarely seen such a combination of clarity in the vision and maturity in the execution. We believe Uncover's team has what's required to build a leading skincare & beauty brand for Africa and are looking forward to helping them in this journey."

Claire Chang from IgniteXL Ventures said: "We are incredibly impressed with Uncover's use of data and technology to understand their core customer's needs. By adopting a data-centric approach, Uncover has built one of Africa's most engaged, loyal digital communities. Africa's beauty and wellness sector is poised for substantial growth and Uncover is disrupting the sector with the first brand made by and for women in Africa."

Sneha Mehta, Co-Founder and CEO of Uncover said, "Uncover is much more than a skincare brand. We are a movement to prioritize women of color who have been side-lined by the beauty industry for generations. The industry has represented only a few skin tones in testing and we are one of the first brand's testing on women in Africa. Our data-driven products combined with a tech platform focused personalization have fueled the company's growth. What's exciting is that we are starting in Africa but seeing global demand and opportunity for our solution."

Jade Oyateru, Co-Founder and COO of Uncover said, "We are delighted to partner with a remarkable group of investors who share our

vision for the future of women's skincare and wellness, both on the continent and beyond. They bring a wealth of experience in this industry. This funding will empower us to unlock our next stage of growth, expand our product portfolio, enhance our technology, and reach even more consumers seeking personalized skincare solutions."

World's fastest growing market

The African beauty market is the world's fastest growing market according to McKinsey's 2023 global beauty report, growing 2x the world's average. The continent will be home to the biggest youth population in the next 15 years and yet, the market has been underserved and neglected in both products and knowledge. Today, you find multi-nationals that are simply import plays or niche brands. Uncover is listening to the voice of its customers, leveraging data and tech to disrupt this world's fastest growing beauty market.

Uncover, strong of its loyal and highly engaged digital community of 200,000+ women across Kenya, Nigeria, and the diaspora, has grown its revenue 10x in the last 24 months since their last funding round. The growth was underpinned by their successful expansion to Nigeria, launch of new data-driven products made specifically with melanin rich skin women in mind, and investments in their tech platform.

The cross-pollination between online and offline are critical to scaling within the African beauty market. Uncover leverages an omni-channel approach: Online, building a strong consumer tech platform driven by data to ensure an optimal product discovery, customer education and personalized offering. Offline, the company has built partnerships with top retailers to drive visibility, trust, and availability.