



Empowering Marginalized Women With Locally Led Solutions Will Promote Climate And Gender Justice
 The climate crisis is not “gender neutral”. Women and girls experience the greatest impacts of climate change, which amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, health, and safety.

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News>>Mt Kenya National Park's Sanitation Improved

P. 8. Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), in collaboration with East Africa Breweries Limited (EABL), launched eleven ablution blocks in Mt. Kenya National Park.



News>>Inaugural Kenya National Research Festival To Feature Impact On Societal Challenges And Economic Growth

P. 12. In a bid to underscore the critical role of research in tackling societal issues and fostering economic advancement, the National Research Fund (NRF) and Young Scientists Kenya (YSK) have jointly announced the inaugural Kenya National Research Festival 2024.

PSC Proposes A Cut Of Its Budget

In a very rare occurrence, the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) yesterday proposed reduction of its budget. This is the only institution that has appeared before the budget committee with a proposal on its budget reduction. All other government ministries and agencies have been begging for increase of their budgeted amount in the current financial year.



Speaker of the National Assembly Moses Wetangula

STORY ON PAGE 9

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Dr. President, Furnish The Title Of Your Legacy

By: Gitaũ wa Kũng'ũ
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Now Dr. President, whether foreign auspices are funding demos as per your allegations let the Directorate of Criminal Investigations - DCI focus the gun on the forces behind those goons wreaking havoc and turning peaceful demonstrations into robbery missions, destruction of power and chaotic, bloody battlefields.
- For sure, history agrees with you that foreign auspices have sponsored violence to turn peaceful nations into anarchy. They have done this to continue with the exploitation of African resources, with DRC and our neighbouring Somalia perhaps serving as credible field study.



President William Ruto.

Dear Dr President, turn the 'Zakayo' mockery into your greatest legacy like the way Zakayo turned his bad reputation story into his everlasting legend. Let the world the world wake up to BBC or CNN Headlines that: "President Ruto To Goons Sponsors: Leave Peaceful Demonstrators Alone". Don't threaten to deal with peaceful demonstrators exercising their consti-

tutional right instead smoke out those turning peaceful demonstrations into the horror pulling your administration into disrepute. The future of our nation will be lived by the youth and children of today, including your daughter Charlene Ruto. and her brothers and sisters. Dr. President, can you be funded by your neighbour to fight for the destruction

of your own future? Furthermore, Gen Z and millennials have been holding peaceful demonstrations until good for nothing goons hired by those sons and daughters of Anarchy and chaos get in and do the mayhem, robbery and destruction of property, contrary to the demonstrators objectives.

Now Dr. President, whether foreign auspices are funding demos as per your allegations let the Directorate of Criminal Investigations - DCI focus the gun on the forces behind those goons wreaking havoc and turning peaceful demonstrations into robbery missions, destruction of power and chaotic, bloody battlefields.

For sure, history agrees with you that foreign auspices have sponsored violence to turn peaceful nations into anarchy. They have done this to continue with the exploitation of African resources, with DRC and our neighbouring Somalia perhaps serving as credible field study.

Nevertheless, foreign auspices and governments have also sponsored development projects in Africa. Their objectives have been to expand their economic ties. In 21st century, who would fund violence to destroy a privileged competitive international market for their products?

Well, taking that indeed the said foreign auspices are funding Gen Z to go to streets, use this opportunity to draw your own children closer to your chest rather than banish them. An enemy may sponsor a lost child with booze to destroy their family, but a loving father would bring the child closer to his side, listen to him, offer advice and save his home. He would not chase his child away or kill him. If he decides the former, it's either his vulnerability allows the bad guy to win or he is the bad guy himself.

It is the hired goons who are throwing stones, causing the loss of lives, bringing the #economy to knees and causing you angry all of us sleepless nights. Not Gen Z.

Yes the whole world looks at you now. Threatening the future of the nation will only make your head spin and taint your legacy and comprehension of democracy and Pan African philosophy.

The Gen Z and millennials are your biggest assets into ushering in an era of Kenyan socio-economic development reforms. Turn them into a liability and lose the game.

This is a blessing in disguise, but you can turn it into the curse of your legacy. Revise your advisory board and score the goal successfully. It's not until you roll in the ashes of abyss when you rise up to your greatest self, Don Campbell said. Don't let the abysmal heat and ashes diminish your humanity, your legacy.

And Dr. President, now that all of us are sinners and imperfect, it is never too late to change into a new leaf. Of course, foreign media once called you 'Tax Collector President' after Kenyans contrasted you with Zakayo, tax collector in the bible. Zakayo had a happy ending. He distributed his unfairly gotten wealth to the poor. I bet he's now a guest at the right side of Jesus Christ in paradiso. The hated Zakayo turned into a loved, inspirational beacon of reform. We must all aspire to do like Zakayo, repent and mend our ways.

The ball is on your court.

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



The SportPesa Nationals 7s Rugby Circuit, the second edition of the competition, has received a significant financial boost of Sh16.5 million from SportPesa, the title sponsor. The Kenya Rugby Union (KRU) has emphasised the importance of the circuit, stating that it serves as a platform for showcasing talent and providing a good preparation ground for participating affiliate clubs ahead of the Safari 7s in October 2024. The Division One competition will feature 16 teams, while Division 2 will field up to 24 teams. Host clubs in the six-leg tournament will receive Sh1 million each to enhance their preparations for the high-stakes encounter. Willis Ojwang, the Communications and Partnerships Manager at SportPesa, reiterated the firm's commitment to sports development in Kenya and urged fans to come out in large numbers for the circuit. The 57th edition of the Christie 7s is scheduled for July 27th and 28th, 2024, at the RFUEA Grounds on Ngong Road, Nairobi. The event will feature the Harlequin Ladies in three legs: Christie 7s, Prinsloo 7s, and Kabeberi 7s. The Christie 7s promises to be the best yet, offering an exceptional experience for players, fans, and partners.



Nyeri Deputy Governor David Kinaniri yesterday witnessed the signing of the Performance Contracts between the County Secretary Benjamin Gachichio and Chief Officer Lucy Kiogora. The Chief Officer then cascaded the PCs to the Directors and Deputy Directors; Josphat Wamathai, Carol Nderi, Solomon Chengecha, Boniface Mwangi and Naomi Mathenge. The Deputy Governor emphasized the need to execute what is outlined in the contracts and for the officers to execute their mandate and responsibilities with utmost dedication. Performance contract is a powerful tool for improving efficiency, accountability, and outcomes across various sectors. When designed and implemented effectively, it can drive significant improvements and foster a culture of continuous enhancement. Head of Governor's Service Delivery Unit and Special Advisor to the Governor Dr. Nyoike Wamwea was in attendance and was accompanied by Senior Performance Analyst Patrick Migwi. Administration Officer from the Governor's Service Delivery Service Unit Jane Mercy Wanjiru was also present.



Irrigation Principal Secretary Ephantus Kimotho yesterday chaired the Project Implementation Team (PIT) committee meeting at the Ministry's headquarters. The meeting was convened to discuss the progress as well as the challenges faced by the smallholder irrigation projects in the Mount Kenya Region. The smallholder irrigation schemes are implemented through the blended finance model mainly to bridge the gap between finance and production. The projects cover Muka and Kandeki in Kirinyaga County, Gatene in Embu, Magatianthi and Kiramanti in Tharaka Nithi county, covering a total area of 1,313 acres and benefitting about 1,539 farmers. Also present was the Deputy Director Irrigation Water Management Daniel Odero.



Banana leaves, traditionally used for wrapping food in cultural celebrations, are now being used to preserve the freshness of miraa before it reaches market destinations. This eco-friendly packaging solution contributes to the economy by creating employment opportunities and minimising environmental degradation caused by polythene paper use. Local banana leaf traders, Alice Muthoni and Kobia Kirianki, have seen the product expand beyond livestock fodder to a means of earning a livelihood. The business has seen significant returns for farmers and traders, with prices varying based on size. Kirianki suggests that other sectors should adopt eco-friendly packaging to minimise the use of plastic materials, which are hazardous to the environment.

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Kamala Harris To Seek Democratic Nomination

By: Agencies



Vice President Kamala Harris with President Joe Biden.

Worth Noting:

- Former president Bill Clinton and 2016 Democratic candidate for president Hillary Clinton said they backed Kamala Harris as the party's candidate for November's vote, saying they would "fight with everything we've got to elect her".
- While Mr Obama stated that he had "extraordinary confidence" that an "outstanding nominee emerges", he did not explicitly back Ms Harris or any other candidate.

Vice President Kamala Harris said she plans to seek the Democratic nomination after President Joe Biden stepped aside and endorsed her, setting up a push that could make her the first Black woman and first Asian American to lead the ticket of a major political party.

"I am honored to have the President's endorsement and my intention is to earn and win this nomination," she said in a statement.

A growing number of senior Democrats – including Gavin Newsom and Pete Buttigieg – have backed Kamala Harris to be the party's presidential candidate

Biden's historic endorsement — and Harris's pledge to unite the party behind her — came Sunday after he announced that he is dropping his reelection bid, saying it's "in the best interest of my party and the country"

Biden, 81, had faced increasing calls to step aside since a faltering debate performance against Donald Trump last month.

Former president Bill Clinton and 2016 Democratic candidate for president Hillary Clinton said they backed Kamala Harris as the party's candidate for November's vote, saying they would "fight with everything we've got to elect her".

While Mr Obama stated that he had "extraordinary confidence" that an "outstanding nominee emerges", he did not explicitly back Ms Harris or any other candidate.

Ms Pelosi has not commented.

Peter Welch, the first Democratic senator to call on Biden to drop his reelection run, called for an "open process" to nominate Harris.

But there are already signs that many in the party will unify behind her, includ-

ing from high-profile politicians who had been touted as potential rivals for the nomination in the event Mr Biden stepped aside.

California Governor Gavin Newsom, who is believed to have presidential ambitions, praised Mr Biden as "selfless" and said he backed the "fearless" and "tenacious" Ms Harris to face Trump.

Josh Shapiro, the Pennsylvania governor, said he would do "everything I can to help elect Kamala Harris as the 47th President of the United States".

Pete Buttigieg, the current transport secretary and a former presidential contender, said Mr Biden was "one of the most consequential presidents in American history", adding he would do "all that I can to help elect Kamala Harris the next President."

Gretchen Whitmer, the governor of

Michigan, stated that her job "will remain the same... doing everything I can to elect Democrats and stop Donald Trump."

The Democratic National Committee meanwhile filed to amend the names of its fundraising committees to the Harris Victory Fund and Harris Action Fund.

Two major Democratic donors – LinkedIn co-funder Reid Hoffman and investor Alexander Soros – publicly endorsed Harris.

And within an hour of Mr Biden's announcement, the pro-Trump super-PAC campaign fund Make America Great Again posted an advert attacking Mr Harris, claiming "she covered up Joe's obvious mental decline".

Trump added: "Whoever the Left puts up now will just be more of the same."

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New State-Of-Art Media Centre Planned For Parliament - Wetang'ula

By: PSCU

National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetang'ula has clarified that the media has not been barred or denied access to Parliament Buildings.

He explained that only the media center has been relocated to adjacent Red Cross building.

Addressing a press conference at his office yesterday, Wetang'ula explained that, following repairs to the Parliament Buildings, the management has allocated space for the media covering Parliament at the Red Cross building across the road.

"I've been seeing the media allegations that there is any restriction on the media coming to Parliament. Nothing is far from the truth. And the testimony to that is, you're being here before me, that you have come to Parliament to do your work as you always do," Dr. Wetang'ula



Speaker Moses Wetang'ula.

told a press conference at Parliament Buildings.

"The only issue is that, following the extensive damage to Parliament, we,

as the management of Parliament, have allocated space for the media across the road," he added.

He further explained that Parlia-

ment, through the Parliamentary Broadcasting Unit (PBU), will facilitate live coverage as it has always done as well as continue to have ac-

cess to any material from Parliament.

To ensure the safety and security of Parliament, parliamentarians, visitors, and the media, the Speaker assured that their safety is guaranteed at all times without any inconvenience.

"We have a duty as a house of Parliament to ensure that whatever we do is open to the scrutiny of Kenyans wherever they are in the world through media circulation and coverage," he stated.

The Speaker noted that Parliament has already budgeted for the construction of a state-of-the-art media center within the parliamentary precincts, following consultations the leadership of the Kenya Parliamentary Journalists Association (KPJA).

"We have rolled out plans for a state-of-the-art media center. We have identified a suitable location within this parliamentary compound, and we will soon go to tender. We have been advised that the construction will begin, once the tender process is complete," he stated.

Mt Kenya National Park's Sanitation Improved

By: Alex Matimu
@themtkenyatimes

Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), in collaboration with East Africa Breweries Limited (EABL), launched eleven ablation blocks in Mt. Kenya National Park. The toilets are located in several camping sites along the Chogoria – Narumoru route. This is a great initiative that will immensely improve visitors' experiences and reposition the park as a flagship destination.

EABL, the East Africa's top branded alcohol beverage company, displayed extraordinary commitment to environmental conservation in its unwavering support through the Kijani Environmental Conservation Initiative, which has resulted in the successful planting of approximately 1 million trees within Mt Kenya.

The provision of these essential facilities along the climbing trails, not only enhance the mountain's restoration but also fosters responsible tourism and environmental conservation.

The Chogoria route is undoubtedly the most stunning ascent route to Point Lenana. From gentle hikes to steep ascents, this route passes through fairy forests and moorlands, past magnificent waterfalls and bubbling streams. It provides constantly changing vistas of the summits, glaciers, and tarns, each with its own distinct high-altitude vegetation.

Mt. Kenya, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1997, has been described as "one of the most impressive landscapes of Eastern Africa with its rugged glacier-clad summits, Afro-alpine moorlands, and diverse forests, which illustrate outstanding ecological processes."

Straddling the equator, Mount Kenya is regarded as a holy mountain by all the communities living adjacent to it. It is also the name-sake of our nation, Kenya. The mountain plays a critical role in water catchment for the entire country. With over 30 lakes and tarns, stunning vistas, sceneries and unique peaks, the park is excellent for adventure tourism.

True to KWS's current conservation campaign, Tunza Mali Yako, this partnership enhances engagement be-



KWS and EABL Teams during the launch.

tween the service, EABL, local communities, guides, porters as well as other partners and stakeholders.

KWS assured mountaineers, stakeholders and partners of its commit-

ment to continue improving amenities within the park. The conservation body also encouraged all mountain lovers, hikers and trekkers to continue visiting the mountain and take pride

in the uniqueness of Kenya's natural heritage.

PSC Proposes Reduction Of Its Budget

Parliamentary Service Commission Proposed A KSh2 Billion Cut On Its Allocation Amidst Austerity Measures

By: PSCU and MKT Reporter



Worth Noting:

- “It is therefore proposed that PSC complies with the reduction measures in a manner that takes into account the specific mandates of Parliament and the Commission, to ensure minimal disruption of core functions”, noted Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye, the Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission and Clerk of the Senate.
- PSC Commissioners also urged the Budget Committee to take into account the need for resources for normalization of legislative business and business continuity, as the Houses operations were massively affected by the damage caused by the recent invasion of Parliament.

In a very rare occurrence, the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) yesterday proposed reduction of its budget.

This is the only institution that has appeared before the budget committee with a proposal on its budget reduction.

All other government ministries and agencies have been begging for increase of their budgeted amount in the current financial year.

The Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) has proposed a gross reduction of Ksh 2 billion from budget allocation.

This emerged during a meeting with the Budget and Appropriations Committee chaired by Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro over the Supplementary Estimates 1 for the Financial Year 2024/25.

The proposed Supplementary Estimates seek to reduce the PSC budget by Ksh3.732 billion. The most affected is the development vote, which has been reduced by 50%.

This, according to the Commission, will greatly affect Parliament as it conducts its core functions of representation, legislation and oversight.

“It is therefore proposed that PSC complies with the reduction measures in a manner that takes into account the specific mandates of

Parliament and the Commission, to ensure minimal disruption of core functions”, noted Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye, the Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission and Clerk of the Senate.

PSC Commissioners also urged the Budget Committee to take into account the need for resources for normalization of legislative business and business continuity, as the Houses operations were massively affected by the damage caused by the recent invasion of Parliament.

Members of the Committee further proposed to the Commission areas that allocations could be reduced and reallocated, to finance core projects like the last mile connectivity, for their consideration.

The PSC delegation was led by Commissioner Mavoko MP Patrick Makau who was joined by Commissioner and Chairperson of the Board of the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST), Rachel Ameso, Commissioner Johnson Muthama, Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge, Clerk of the Senate and Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission, Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye and the Director-General, Parliamentary Joint Services, Mr. Clement Nyandiere.

The Committee in the afternoon

also met with the Prime Cabinet Secretary (PCS) Musalia Mudavadi and the Principal Secretary, National Treasury and Economic Planning Dr. Chris Kiptoo, over the Supplementary Estimates.

Nyoro apprised the Treasury officials that the Committee had already received submissions from all the Departmental Committees and MDAs under its purview, and is currently finalizing the report ahead of its tabling today, when the House resumes.

“We have had to look at areas that we can postpone and others that we can cancel, so that we can operate within a fiscal framework that matches the revenue that we make. In that respect, we have been holding meetings with Departmental Committees and all of them have supported the proposed budget cuts”, explained Nyoro.

The Budget Committee Chair also observed that Members had made adjustments in light of the current situation, especially with regards the issuance of Constituency Development Fund (CDF).

“For the first time since I became an MP, I have never heard any time when CDF has been cut and there seems to be no one complaining about it. We are doing so because

we know where we are and we really need to look at our financials and live within our means”, he observed.

To ensure that expenditures contained in the FY 2024/25 Appropriations Act are aligned to the revised fiscal framework, Hon. Mudavadi proposed rationalization of expenditure, adjustment of the projected revenue or borrowing, and implementation of policy measures to contain wastage.

“The National Treasury proposes to rationalize Tax Revenue for the Government of Kenya funded expenditure allocations in the recurrent and development budget for MDAs, including allocations to the Constitutional Commissions, Independent Offices, Parliament, Judiciary and Shareable allocation to County Governments,” said PCS Mudavadi.

The PCS also proposed some additional allocations for critical government programmes including Kshs. 2 billion for coffee debts; Kshs. 1 billion for sugarcane farmers reforms; Kshs. 0.5 billion for KCC factories; Kshs. 0.5 billion for tree planting programme, Kshs. 0.45 billion for Kenanie Leather Factory and Kshs. 0.2 billion for Hides Fund.

Understanding Christ Jesus As The Breaker Pt 1



By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

Now, when we talk about Christ Jesus, the Breaker, we should know that this reference to Jesus was prophesied way before, consider Micah 2:13, "THE BREAKER(THE MESSIAH: CHRIST JESUS) will go up before them. They will break through, pass in through the gate and go out through it, and their King will pass on before them, the Lord at their head." Micah same as Isaiah are prophets of around 700 B.C , who had clear description of Who, Christ Jesus was. Consider, Isaiah 53: 2-9 He grew up before Him like a tender shoot,. He was despised and rejected by men, surely He was pierced for our transgression,. We all, like sheep have gone astray.."

In the new testament we see in 1

Peter 1:12, " ..it was revealed to them(prophets) that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told to you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things."

Christ today is our breaker, that is why when Jesus came Himself He said, "I will build my Church on this Rock, and the gates of hell will NOT prevail against it (Matthew 16:18)". Actually meaning, the breaker will go before them and break the gates(I understand them to be obstacles/ blockages/ "viziizi" of the enemy).

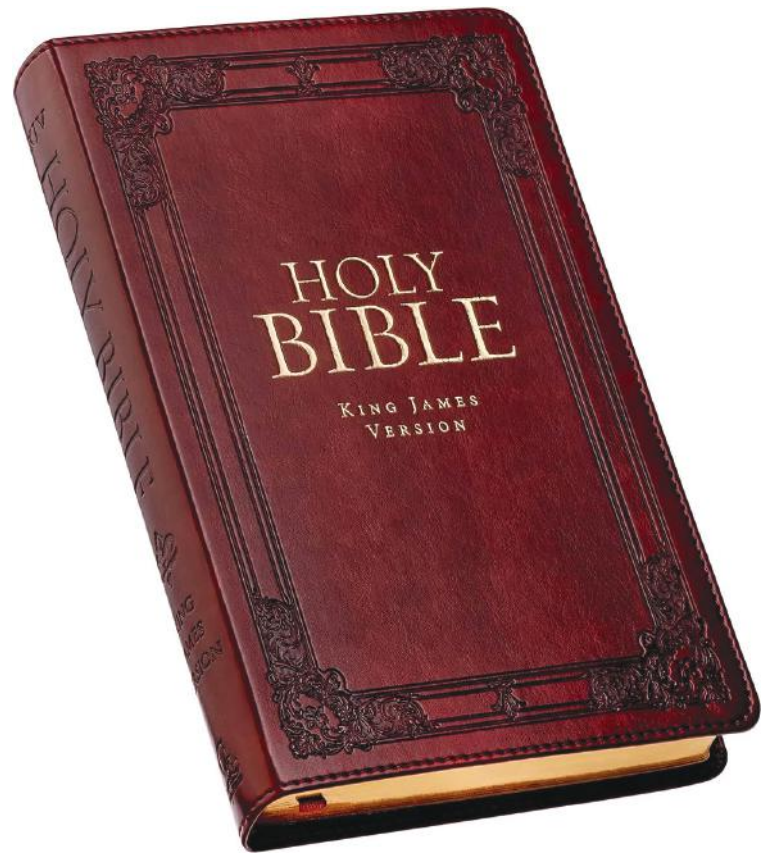
Psalm 24:7-8 " Lift up, your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle." Christ Jesus is our BREAKER today, His work is going ahead of you and destroying the ancient gates, where others were restricted or defeated, He paves the way for you, just as the word declares, "I will go before you

and will level the mountains; I will BREAK DOWN gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron(Isaiah 45:2-3)."that is why we commonly say :#MunguMbele (meaning God goes before us).

That is why when we are saved, we should not only be satisfied that he forgives our sins. May you experience Him, as your Breaker. You should know Christ Jesus, as the ONE WHO goes before you, and breaks ancient gates. Jesus is my BREAKER. Pray and declare Christ Jesus is my Breaker, Who levels every mountain, Who breaks down gates of bronze and cuts through bars of iron. Receive that grace of Christ Jesus The breaker, and walk in this victory: AMEN, AMEN.

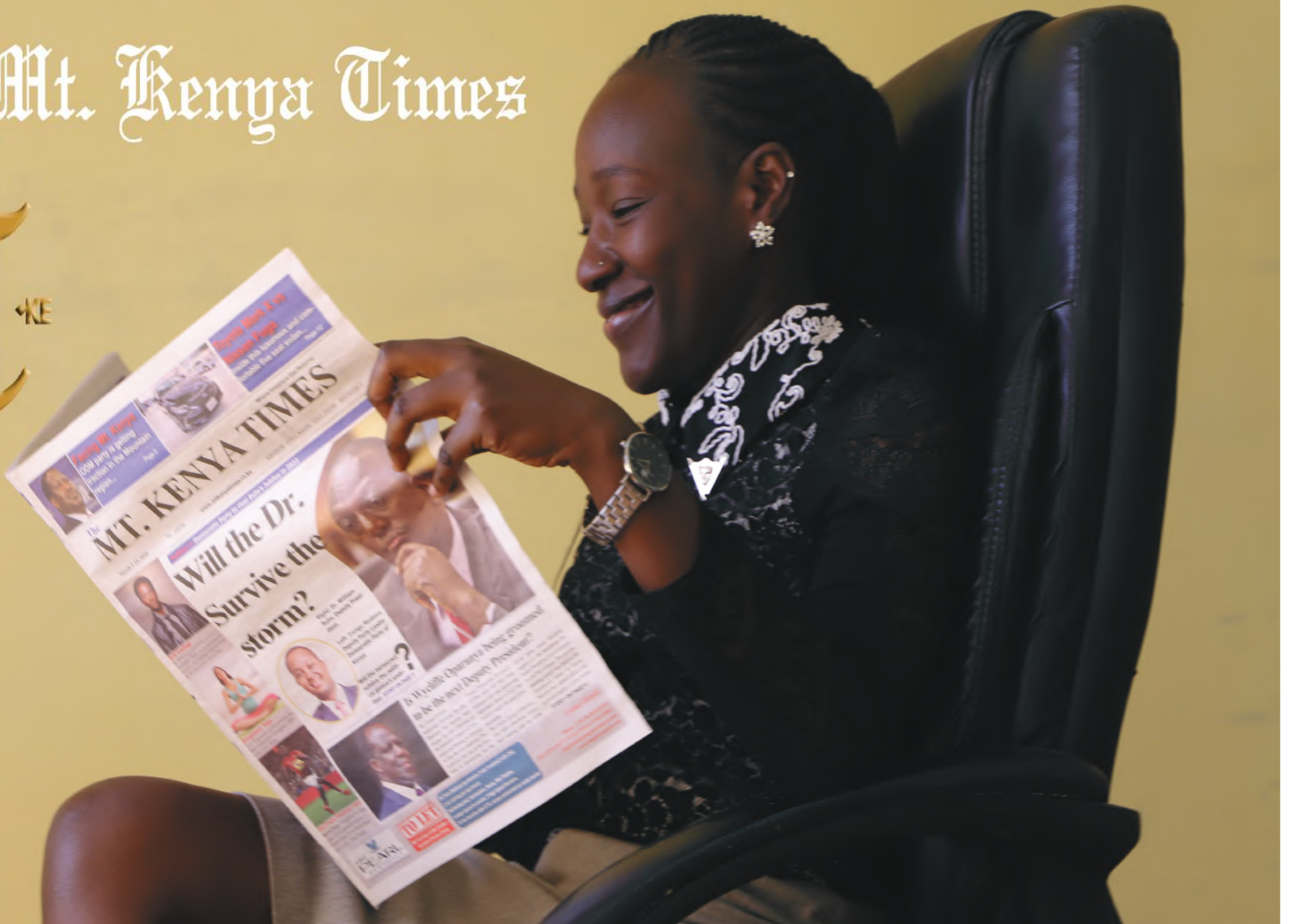
Evangelist Eric Musa:

(My message continuously: The best decision in this earthly life is to receive Christ Jesus as your personal Saviour: Believe and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit:AMEN). As it is written; "NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day



of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2". For ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember, prayers, devotion; to support Evangelism contact Ev. Eric Musa on God Loves you unconditionally, perfectly and forever. +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.

The Mt. Kenya Times



Gen-Z Attempts To Use Unconstitutional Means To Remove President Ruto From Power Is A Recipe For Anarchy And Mayhem



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Gen-Z protests

Worth Noting:

- In the aftermath of 2007 presidential election, President Mwai Kibaki, who had succeeded Moi, faced the worst post-election violence in Kenya's history.
- Again, the solution to this political crisis was achieved through the parameters of the law.
- During President Uhuru Kenyatta's era, there was a handshake. The law was also followed to the letter and spirit in clinching that deal.
- In all these processes, members of parliament would play their role in introducing the changes that were needed.
- Today, we have the Generation-Z. They have asked those who led the previous agitations to stay way. You have failed us. How? As generation of young people, we are going liberate this country and later show you how a government is run.

The history of independent Kenya is replete with popular agitations for institutional, administrative, legal reforms and expansion of democratic space.

The notable ones were the clamor for multiparty democracy and new constitutional dispensation.

The common thread in these struggles was that they were all realized within the framework of the constitution and other laws of the land.

In 1991, then President Daniel Arap Moi steered the process that led to repeal of Section 2A ushering in political pluralism.

This paved the way for the first multiparty election held in 1992. President Moi won this election and he was also re-elected in subsequent election held in 1997.

The independent party KANU was however vanquished in 2002 polls.

President Moi was not eligible in these elections because he had served his two-terms of five years each as provided in the constitution.

Earlier in August 1982, an attempt by the Kenyan military (Airforce) to overthrow the government of Moi had flopped.

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Again, the solution to this political crisis was achieved through the parameters of the law.

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In all these processes, members of parliament would play their role in introducing the changes that were needed.

Today, we have the Generation-Z. They have asked those who led the previous agitations to stay way. You have failed us. How? As generation of young

people, we are going liberate this country and later show you how a government is run.

One thing is however clear. Gen-Z strategy differs sharply with the previous agitations.

They have so far shown that they have no time for the constitution and other laws.

They are hellbent on using unconstitutional means to topple the democratically elected government of President William Samoei Ruto.

To me, they are setting stage for anarchy, mayhem and bloodbath.

The bids to topple previous governments failed to materialize because Kenyans do not subscribe to the ill-advised concept of overthrowing government.

So I would not expect them to support Generation-Z.

The protests are set to resume tomorrow. Reacting to this, President Ruto stated after attending a church service that "we are going to protect the country".

I'm sure here the President was referring to the criminal gangs and goons that have in the recent past infiltrated these protests. Hundreds of business people were left counting losses after their businesses were looted and vandalized.

Initially, these protests were peaceful. At the time the President praised the young people for coming out in big numbers to present their grievances.

Kenya is democratic country and it is governed by the rule of law.

Therefore and as stipulated in Article 37 of the constitution, you are free to air your views.

I have heard you. As your President, I want to promise you that I'm going to address all the issues that you have raised.

We cannot however sort out these matters in the streets. Let us start talking

and engaging.

I'm soon going to unveil a road map for a national dialogue. This is after wider consultations with Gen-Z and other stakeholders.

But in a swift rejoinder, Gen-Z rejected the talks. Our movement is leaderless and party less. So, we can only engage you through X-Space. Besides, it is us who will invite you and you will only respond to the questions we will ask you.

President Ruto agreed to their terms. He later held a candid conversation with them online.

Despite assuring them that he would address all the issues, Gen-Z and millennials did not wait for the dust to settle. They immediately returned back to the streets.

The #RejectFinanceBill2024 now changed to #RutoMustGoNow.

One can therefore where the President was coming from when he asked the congregants. Have you given me a go-ahead to protect the country? That is what I will do.

It is worth noting that our democracy is anchored on universal suffrage of one-man, one-vote.

The constitution stipulates that the term of the President is five years.

So, if you want to remove him from office, you have to wait until he completes the term.

It does not however mean that the President cannot remove from office. But this power can only be exercised by parliament. The President will go home if a member file a motion of impeachment and it garners support of a two-third majority.

However, the constitution does provide for the removal of democratically-elected President through people or military uprisings.

If this is allowed, the country will go to dog. Anarchy, lawlessness and bloodbath will reign high.

ODM leader Raila Odinga had raised a similar caution. Ruto goes, then what. RutoMustGo cannot be an end.

I cannot sit to see my country plunging into anarchy.

Raila added: In Egypt, people thought they have won after toppling their President through popular uprising.

Today people are crying and regretting. There are no jobs, corruption, inflation and cost of living is very high.

It is worth to note that President Ruto has so far addressed most of demands raised by Generation-Z. One of them is dissolving the entire cabinet. He has since William Ruto has since unveiled the first batch of the cabinet nominees. He has lived up his word. The cabinet is reflecting the face of Kenya and two nominees are Gen zees.

Erick Muriethi, a 32 years old, is the cabinet nominee for Water.

Besides, he is well educated and with the requisite experience.

The prerogative to appoint the cabinet squarely lies with the President.

President Mwai Kibaki had made a similar move. This is after his banana side which supported the draft constitution of 2005 lost to No-Orange side which was led by then Roads minister Raila Odinga.

He recalled some of the ministers when he unveiled his new-look cabinet. President Ruto seemed to have been guided by the same script.

Besides dissolving the whole cabinet, President Ruto has unveiled a raft of austerity measures and scrapping of unconstitutional offices starting with those of the First Lady and spouse of Deputy President.

He also put on hold the appointment of Chief Administrative Secretaries (CASS).

Besides, he scrapped confidential accounts and immediately stopped the renovation of government offices. He also stopped top government officials from travelling outside the country. My office will only approve essential trips. He also announced that plans are underway to scrap and merge 47 State Corporations.

The push by the youths is widely perceived as being plan less, anti-infiltration strategy less and post Ruto/transitional less.

These young people are exhibiting dangerous mentality of know-it-all, entitlement and dictatorship.

I heard one of GenZ lecturing a group old people. "Our plan is to force President Ruto to resign. We are going to replace him with former CS Fred Matiangi (President) and former CS Mutha Kigwe as DP".

This Gen-Z did not want to be corrected.

Inaugural Kenya National Research Festival To Feature Impact On Societal Challenges And Economic Growth

By: Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyatimes



The National Research Fund and Young Scientists Kenya members in picture during the launch of Inaugural Kenya National Research Festival 2024

Worth Noting:

- Dr. Andala further stated that research plays a pivotal role in shaping our future by providing evidence-based solutions to complex problems.
- “The Kenya National Research Festival will showcase the ingenuity of our researchers and demonstrate how their work contributes to sustainable development and economic growth,” he added.
- The event will also feature the participation of Young Scientists Kenya, an initiative that promotes STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education among young learners. Through exhibitions, presentations, and interactive sessions, students will have the opportunity to engage with real-world research projects and gain insights into potential career paths in science and technology.

announced the inaugural Kenya National Research Festival 2024.

Scheduled to be held later this year, the event aims to bring together researchers, policymakers, educators, and students to showcase innovative research solutions and their transformative impact.

Speaking during the event, Prof Mutua, representing Dr. Beatrice Muganda Inyangala, Principal Secretary, State Department for Higher Education and Research stated that the Inaugural National Research Festival holds great significance as it will not only showcases the groundbreaking discoveries and innovations of researchers but also serves as a catalyst for collaboration, dialogue, and collective action.

“It is a platform where outstanding researchers will be recognized, ideas will be born, partnerships forged, and where the potential of research to drive positive change will be fully realized. The partnership of NRF and the Young Scientist Kenya will provide a unique platform for Kenyan youth from every county in this country to demonstrate their capacity for innovation and research and showcase their scientific talents. I am informed that during the festival YSK

will be hosting the 7th YSK National Science and Technology Exhibition that will bring together, both physically and virtually, over 1,000 students from 390 schools drawn from 47 counties to showcase and compete in science, innovation, and research projects,” remarked Prof .Mutua.

The Kenya National Research Festival 2024 will serve as a platform to discuss and promote research initiatives that address pressing challenges faced by Kenyan society today. These include but are not limited to healthcare, agriculture, environmental sustainability, technology innovation, and education. By highlighting the outcomes of impactful research projects, the festival seeks to inspire collaboration among stakeholders and encourage investment in research and development.

Dr. Dickson Andala, CEO and Director NRF, emphasized the festival’s significance in promoting a culture of research excellence and innovation in Kenya.

“Today’s event, undoubtedly one of the great achievements under the current Board of Trustees, epitomizes our unwavering commitment to advancing research excellence in Kenya. It is globally acknowledged that

Research, Science, Technology, and Innovation (RSTI) are essential catalysts for social and economic development. Many of the world’s leading economies attribute their growth and competitiveness to significant investments in research and technology. Kenya is no exception. Our country’s rapid strides towards industrialization and modernization are fueled by our dedication to harnessing the potential of RSTI,” noted Dr. Andala

Dr. Andala further stated that research plays a pivotal role in shaping our future by providing evidence-based solutions to complex problems.

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potential career paths in science and technology.

The Kenya National Research Festival 2024 is expected to attract a wide array of participants from academia, government, private sector, and civil society. It will provide a platform for networking, knowledge exchange, and collaboration on research-driven solutions that address local and global challenges.

As Kenya continues to strive towards achieving its Vision 2030 goals, initiatives such as the National Research Festival are seen as pivotal in fostering a conducive environment for research and innovation.

By showcasing the impact of research in various sectors, the festival aims to bolster Kenya’s position as a hub for scientific discovery and technological innovation in Africa.

With anticipation building for the inaugural Kenya National Research Festival 2024, stakeholders across Kenya are gearing up to celebrate the power of research in driving positive change. As preparations continue, the festival promises to be a landmark event in promoting a research-driven agenda for societal progress and economic prosperity.

Ruto's Recent Nomination Of Eleven Cabinet Secretary Is A Significant Step In Reshaping His Government

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
@themtkenyatimes

President William Ruto's recent nomination of 11 individuals for Cabinet Secretary Positions marks a significant step in reshaping his government. This move follows the dismissal of his previous cabinet, a decision driven by public pressure and demands for accountability. The nominees, including Kithure Kindiki for Interior and Aden Duale for Defence, reflect a blend of continuity and change, with six returning members and five new faces.

Parliament's role in vetting these nominees is crucial. It serves as a check on executive power, ensuring that appointees possess the necessary qualifications and integrity. The vetting process should not only assess their professional credentials but also their commitment to addressing pressing national issues, such as the economy and public health.

The inclusion of new nominees like Dr. Debra Mulongo Barasa for Health and Julius Migosi Ogamba for Education signals Ruto's recognition of the need for fresh perspectives in tackling systemic challenges. However, the retention of familiar faces raises questions about whether the administration will truly embrace transformative change or merely recycle past strategies.

As the vetting process unfolds, it is imperative for Parliament to prioritize transparency and public engagement. The scrutiny of these nominees should reflect the aspirations of the Kenyan populace, particularly the youth, who have been vocal in demanding a government that prioritizes their needs. Ultimately, the success of Ruto's new cabinet will depend on its ability to unite and effectively address the multifaceted challenges facing the nation.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication practitioner.



President William Ruto's recently nominated 11 Cabinet Secretaries

Gen-Z Attempts To Use Unconstitutional Means To Remove President Ruto From Power Is A Recipe For Anarchy And Mayhem

Contd from page 11

But for those who care to listen, this is what will happen.

The constitution provides that the Deputy President takes over and serve for the remainder of the term. If Gen-Z does not want Gachagua, then it means the military will take over.

Those who have been ruled my military in other countries would tell you. This is the worst form of governance. It is dictatorial, oppressive and ruthless. It is not a guarantee that the military will soon agree to hand over power back to civilians.

The crisis can worsen and take long before it is resolved.

Remember the military will have an upper hand during the negotiations.

So, the other question is. Who will they hand over power to? The power might end up in the wrong hands.

This is what happened in countries such as Egypt, Chad, Sudan, Mali.

The citizens thought they have won after toppling their respective President through popular uprisings.

But alas, the worst form of dictatorship crept back.

Though Generation-Z and millennials have been reiterating that they have no

time for the opposition leaders, the leaders are still supporting them.

To me, they are simply doing this for political reasons.

If the game plan of Gen-Z succeeds, they think they will immediately step out and fill the vacuum.

This is a wishful thinking. Who told them that Gen-Z will just step aside?

Let me give free advice. As media reports indicated, GenZs were not alone. They were powerful people who were pulling the string from behind.

These are the same people who will advise them not to give way.

I'm happy majority of Kenyans have realized the danger of toppling President Ruto.

Their position is clear. President Ruto has heard you. He has so far addressed most of your demands.

Kenya is a democratic country and it is governed by rule of law.

We elected President Ruto to serve for a term of five years. We know Gen-Z has taught him some lessons. Let us give him to time to do his job.

Come 2027 polls, you will ignore him at your own peril. He stands a high chance of getting re-elected to serve his second and final term.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga Is A Writer And Political Analyst Based In Nairobi



Gen-Z protests.

The Dual Role Of Authors: Writing For Social Change Vs. Entertainment

In the realm of literature, authors often find themselves at a crossroads: should they use their platform to advocate for social change or focus solely on entertaining their audience? This debate has raged on for years, with passionate arguments on both sides. However, the truth is that the role of authors is not mutually exclusive; they can and should strive to achieve both objectives simultaneously.

Firstly, let's explore the importance of writing for social change. Literature has historically served as a powerful tool for sparking societal transformation. Authors such as Harriet Beecher Stowe, whose novel "Uncle Tom's Cabin" played a significant role in advancing the abolitionist cause, demonstrate the profound impact literature can have on shaping public opinion and catalyzing change. Through their writing, authors can shed light on pressing social issues, challenge the status quo, and inspire readers to take action. Whether it's advocating for gender equality, environmental sustainability, or racial justice, authors have a unique opportunity to leverage their creativity to effect positive change in the world.

On the other hand, the importance of entertainment in literature cannot be overstated. Stories have the power to captivate, transport, and enchant audiences, providing much-needed escapism from the trials and tribulations of daily life. In an increasingly busy and chaotic world, the value of entertainment should not be underestimated. Authors who master the art of storytelling not only entertain their readers but also leave a lasting impression, fostering a love of reading that can endure

a lifetime. Moreover, entertainment can serve as a gateway to deeper themes and ideas, allowing authors to subtly weave messages of social change into their narratives without sacrificing engagement or enjoyment.

So, should authors prioritize writing for social change or entertainment? The answer lies in striking a delicate balance between the two. By infusing their stories with thought-provoking themes and messages, authors can entertain while simultaneously challenging their readers to reflect on important societal issues. Consider, for example, the dystopian novels of George Orwell or Margaret Atwood, which combine gripping narratives with powerful social commentary. These works demonstrate that literature can be both entertaining and socially relevant, appealing to a wide audience while also sparking meaningful dialogue and reflection.

Ultimately, the role of authors extends far beyond mere entertainment or advocacy; it encompasses a multifaceted responsibility to engage, enlighten, and inspire. Whether they choose to tackle pressing social issues head-on or weave them into the fabric of their storytelling, authors have the power to shape hearts, minds, and societies. As stewards of the written word, they must embrace this responsibility with courage, creativity, and compassion, recognizing that their words have the potential to change the world for the better.

Soul words

Zainab Moiz

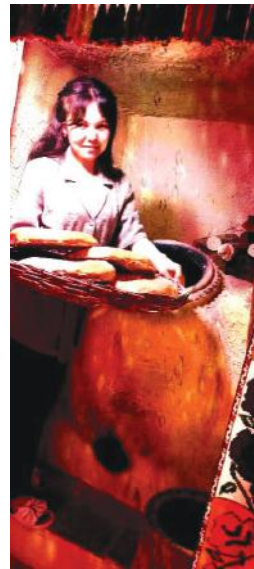
Difficult To Forget

There is a saying in English...
It's not that the "Good Bye Hurts"...
It's the "Flash Back" with that person
Hurts"...
The reason being...
Repeatedly thinking about the person...
Although "Time works and Changes the
Situation"...
It's "Difficult to Forget"...

Achyt Umarji



Mother



May our mothers survive. As long as they exist, life goes on. After all, respected parents rock the cradle with one hand and the world with the other.

Kashkadarya region. Qoldoshova Dilbar Nuraliyevna, a student of the 10th grade of the 10th grade of the 43rd school of Karshi district.

A CHILD KNOWS FROM THE BEGINNING
A simple house stood at one end of the village. Parents lived in this yard with their children named Muhammad and Muslima. The father was a good man, and the mother was an intelligent woman. The father was a prayerful person and was in prostration five times a day. One day, Muslima saw her father praying and began to repeat her father's actions. Her parents were happy inside and looked at the little girl with love. The girl memorized the verses of the Koran and began to recite beautifully with a voice like a bell.

Muslima began to grow up gradually. She had long, white hair. The month of Roza has also begun. The father began to fast. A Muslim girl who saw this wanted to pray. Muslima couldn't bear it and said strange things to her father that I will fast until noon. Months passed like this. The girl went to school and memorized verses of the Qur'an in a beautiful voice like a nightingale. At the age of 12, she began to pray and fast. The girl grew up to be a girl Muslima, suitable for her name and body. My dears, our forefathers did not say for nothing that "The bird does what it sees in the nest."

Dilbar Koldoshova Nuraliyevna was born on March 5, 2007 in Karshi district of Kashkadarya region. Currently, he is the 10th "B" student of the 43rd school.

Dilbar Khan is the queen of poetry, the owner of creativity, a singer with a beautiful voice, a ghazal girl.

He took first place in the "Leader of the Year" contest.

1st place winner in the regional stage of the competition "One Hundred Gazals One Hundred Jewels".

Taking part in the "Children's Forum" nomination, he won first place in many competitions.

Currently, he is the coordinator of the educational department of Tallikuron MFY, Karshi district.

Kamal captain of the opposite district.

Chief captain of the "Orasta girls" club in school 43.

In 2024, two articles were published in the Kenya Times International magazine, "Memory is eternally precious" and "Our school".

In 2023, the first poems were published in the poetry collection of creative youth of Kashkadarya region "Yulduzlar yogh".

Mother is the greatest creature in the world.

Our mothers carry us in their wombs for nine months and nine days. Then they wash us white, comb us white, and give us white milk. Mother cannot be described in words, because Mother and Motherland stand side by side. Mother is described as "Heaven is under the feet of mothers".

If heaven is in the sky,
Underneath is my mother.

If heaven is on earth
On top of my mother.

If there is only one heaven
Dear mother.

If there is heaven in this world,
My heavenly mother.

Mother cannot be described in one word.
Mother is only three letters, but one lifetime is missing to describe her.

When I look at your eyes, it's wet.
He clenched his teeth and asked for my heart.

Your white milk is white, mother,
One life is not enough.

We talk about our mothers, we can't get enough of them, but there are very few of us who actually do it. No mother will ever show evil to her child, on the contrary, they encourage good and show the right path. Some people envy their companions to their mothers, "I wish my mother was like that", and feed them with envy.

But I lived for six years and did not envy anyone's parents. Because my parents are heavenly people. If a mother does what she does before the birth of her unborn child, the child will be like her mother. If a mother acts cruelly during pregnancy and harms people, she can expect the same from her child. On the other hand, if a mother reads religious books and prays during pregnancy, her unborn child will grow up to be a Muslim like our Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and a Muslim like our mother Aisha.

O my nightingale, sing it many times
A smile from his lips.

Laugh and see my happiness

My prayers are with you, my mother.

Mother and Motherland cannot be chosen in the world. What I write is not a fairy tale. The truth of my life. Before I was born, my mother prayed, thank God, I am bowing my head like my mother.

DO YOU WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?

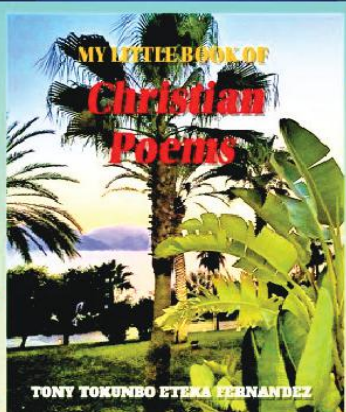
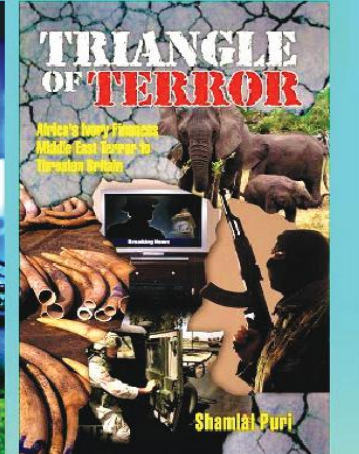
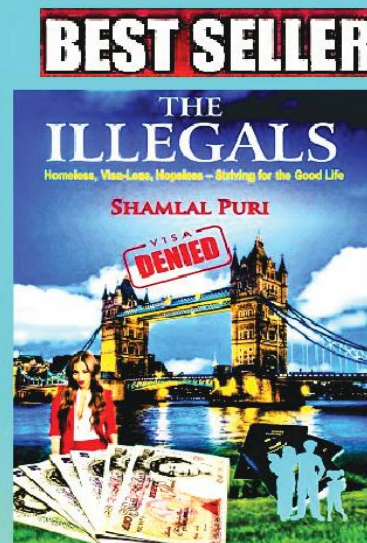
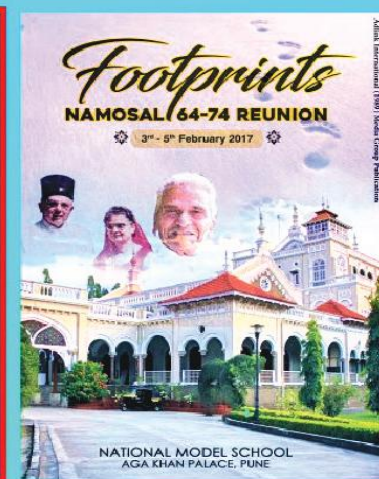
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In The Steps Of Jakoyo Midiwo, The Daring Youthful Politician, Steven Charles



By: Peter Aowa
@themkenyatimes

Politics has been widely regarded as ‘a dirty game’ by a number of proletariat people majority of whom fall short of the political system.

However with the elite class, politics has a different definition.

They view it as a profession and activities associated with governance of different jurisdictions.

In other words, politics has a diverse definition depending on the class of a group of people.

In a society where politics is a game of the aged and the elite class like the one in Kenya, surviving is just by virtue of lack. The political class thrive in the nation ‘youths are leaders of tomorrow’



Steven Charles (in white T-shirt) shake hands with Former Rarieda MP Eng. Nicolas Gumbo at a past event | Photo file

Today we speak to Steven Charles, a young man who has risen from the hardcore to the table of political big-wigs.

With curiosity about what could have driven Charles to take on the challenge despite coming from a family without political background, I sat to listen to his story.

Right from a young age, Charles

had a dream of being a great leader in his adult life.

“From a very young age, I had a great desire to be a leader. It’s something that started in my primary school life to secondary and later to college” he said

A dream which has since been made to order.

In 2007 elections, Charles joined a

team in Kisumu East constituency to front agendas of Mr. Ken Nyagudi the then incumbent area MP.

Nyagudi however lost to Olago Aluoch in the hotly contested race.

In 2013, Charles re-strategized and shifted to Siaya county joining William Oduol Denge’s team to spearhead his campaigns for Siaya gubernatorial position.

He worked largely with youths in mobilization.

Oduol who ran for the second time on a NAP – K party lost to ODM’s candidate Cornel Rasanga Amoth in a re – election following nullification of Rasanga’s victory by high court in Kisumu.

Two years after the general elections, Charles successfully contested for ODM party youth representative in his ward home; Siaya township and held the position for a year before taking on the same role at the constituency level.

A year later, he resigned from the party’s position and joined a team to front former PAC chairman Engineer Nicolas Odero Gumbo’s for

Siaya county gubernatorial position.

Engineer Gumbo who was an independent candidate came second in an election that he petitioned at Siaya law courts on irregularity grounds but was upheld by the court.

The same year, he joined RIAT COLLEGE in Kisumu to pursue a diploma in Human resource management before his triumphant return to politics making it to the highest position in the college.

Currently serving as campaign coordinator for Engineer Nicolas Gumbo in Siaya township, the old boy of Agoro Oyombe secondary believes strongly in the principles of former Gem MP the late Jakoyo Midiwo. A belief that has earned him the nickname ‘Otada junior’ a name attributed to the former lawmaker.

He believes that a united community has all it takes to change the world.

Steve Charles is one of the front runners for Siaya County UDA party youth representative.

Elijah Obebo Sworn In As Third Deputy Governor of Kisii County



By: Aoma Keziah
@themkenyatimes

Elijah Obebo was sworn in as the third Deputy Governor for Kisii County since the advent of devolution.

Obebo took oath of office at Gusii Stadium by Justice Anne Ong’ino, taking over from the immediate former Deputy Governor, Dr. Robert Monda, who was impeached.

Wyclife Siocha, the Ichuni Ward Representative, tabled an impeachment motion against Monda over abuse of office, gross misconduct, and gross violation of the constitution.

The Senate subsequently impeached him. Monda sought legal redress, but the court ruled that the



The third Kisii County Deputy Governor Elijah Obebo Sworn in at colourful ceremony at Gusii Stadium. Photo | Elizabeth Angira

Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) should gazette and swear in the Deputy Governor designate.

Speaking during swearing in ceremony, Obebo pledged to work hard to ensure that Governor Simba Arati, elected through ODM, realizes his manifesto to benefit the residents of

the County.

The new Deputy Governor, who was the chairperson of the Kisii County Public Service Board (CPSB), pledged to fight graft in alignment with the governor’s resolve.

“I resonate well with your stance on zero tolerance to corruption and prudent use of public resources,” Obebo

said.

He stressed that he will be loyal to his boss Governor Arati .

He noted that being sworn in had ended his short stint at the board, adding that they had achieved much under Arati’s leadership.

“To those naysayers, Your Excellency, let them take notice that your government shall deliver quality services to residents,” the Deputy Governor said.

Governor Arati advised Obebo not to be involved in graft to employ people, noting that the county was not hiring.

He urged county staff to collaborate with the Deputy Governor and warned that he would not hesitate to take action against officers involved in corruption.

Arati emphasized the importance of observing the law and managing public resources well to avoid conflicts with the law and prosecution.

The governor expressed his belief in Obebo’s commitment to good governance and integrity in public affairs

and anticipated that he would help steer the county to greater heights.

He appealed to residents to support them r so that they can fulfill the pledges made during the last general election campaigns.

Mr Obebo hails from Masongo Location in Nyaribari Chache Constituency and is an alumni of Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology where he studied his Master of Business Administration (MBA) .

He has also done several other courses.

Mr Obebo ,60, retired from the civil service mid last year after accumulating over 33 years of work experience as Supply Chain Management Specialist.

Obebo was serving as Chairman of the Kisii County Public Service Board (CPSB) after his appointment Deputy governor Obebo with his experience and track records he will work now hand in hand with his boss governor Arati to bring to transform the county.

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Empowering Marginalized Women With Locally Led Solutions Will Promote Climate And Gender Justice



By: Twongirwe Ireen
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CEO - WoGEM Uganda



Worth Noting:

- Noteworthy, The difference between men and women on how climate change affect them can also be seen in their differential roles, responsibilities, decision making, access to land and natural resources, opportunities and needs, which are held by both sexes. Worldwide, women have less access than men to resources such as land, credit, agricultural inputs, decision-making structures, technology, training and extension services that would enhance their capacity to adapt to climate change.

- It's important to note that Women represent a high percentage of poor communities that are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood, particularly in rural areas where they shoulder the major responsibility for household water supply and energy for cooking and heating, as well as for food security.

The climate crisis is not “gender neutral”. Women and girls experience the greatest impacts of climate change, which amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, health, and safety. Climate change being a threat multiplier, it has escalated social, political and economic tensions in fragile and conflict-affected settings. As climate change drives conflict across the world, women and girls face increased vulnerabilities to all forms of gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, human trafficking, child marriage, and other forms of violence.

Based on the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), it is evident that people who are already most vulnerable and marginalized will also experience the greatest impacts. The poor, primarily in developing countries, are expected to be disproportionately affected and consequently in the greatest need of adaptation strategies in the face of climate variability and change. Both women and men working in natural resource sectors, such as agriculture, are likely to be affected. However, the impact of climate change on gender is not the same. Women are increasingly being seen as more vulnerable than men to the impacts of climate change, mainly because they represent the majority of the world’s poor and are proportionally more dependent on threatened natural resources.

Furthermore, across the world, women depend more on, yet have less access to, natural resources. In many regions, women bear a disproportionate responsibility for securing food, water, and fuel. Agriculture is the most important employment sector for women in low- and lower-middle income countries, during periods of drought and erratic rainfall, women, as agricultural workers and prima-

ry procurers, work harder to secure income and resources for their families. This puts added pressure on girls, who often have to leave school to help their mothers manage the increased burden.

More so, Gender inequality coupled with the climate crisis is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It poses threats to ways of life, livelihoods, health, safety and security for women and girls around the world. With every fraction of a degree of warming, the impacts of climate change will become more frequent and more intense – and adaptation will become that much harder and more expensive for people and ecosystems.

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It's important to note that Women represent a high percentage of poor communities that are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood, particularly in rural areas where they shoulder the major responsibility for household water supply and energy for cooking and heating, as well as for food security. During extreme weather such as droughts and floods, women tend to work more to secure household livelihoods. This will leave less time for women to access training and education, develop skills or earn income hence disproportionately being affected by climate crisis.

Amidst these factors, Efforts to adapt to the impacts of climate change face

a number of significant challenges. First and foremost, there is urgent need to understand the meaning of adaptation which refers to the measures, efforts and solutions communities put in place to end climate injustices. Furthermore, it means the actions that help reduce vulnerability to the current or expected impacts of climate change like weather extremes and hazards, sea-level rise, biodiversity loss, or food and water insecurity. The first major bottleneck for adaptation action is the availability of and access to finance. In fact, the adaptation finance needs of developing countries are estimated to be 10 to 18 times larger than what is currently available from public sources. It's also absurd that developed countries have not yet delivered their promises on finance according to Paris agreement.

Finance is needed to drive investment in a range of adaptation solutions, so countries can learn what works and scale up what is most effective. But it is also needed to empower communities those on the frontlines of climate change in locally led, locally-appropriate action.

Another major challenge is information and knowledge gaps. Accurate climate data is not easily available in many developing countries and localized risk assessments do not exist and systems for monitoring, learning and evaluation of adaptation are still fragmented. Without these pieces of the puzzle, it is difficult for governments, communities and the private sector to plan effectively and make sound decisions on where to invest.

Finally, institutional and governance constraints are a major issue. Challenges of coordination among sectors and levels of government, and lack of specialized knowledge and experience for example in realizing climate-risk informed planning and investments are hindering effective adaptation in many countries. These challenges greatly affect marginalized women increase on climate adaptation solutions.

In spite of their vulnerability, women are not only seen as victims of climate change, but they can also be seen as active and effective agents and promoters of adaptation and mitigation. For a long time women have historically developed knowledge and skills related to water harvesting and storage, food preservation and rationing, and natural resource management.

For example in Africa, old women use their indigenous knowledge and expertise related to early warnings and mitigating the impacts of disas-

ters. This knowledge and experience has passed from one generation to another and it has contributed effectively to enhancing local adaptive capacity and sustaining a community's livelihood. Marginalized women use their hands on skills to make briquettes as an alternative to charcoal, firewood hence reducing on the level of deforestation in the community. They also weave ecofriendly bags that are sustainable hence ending the use of plastic bags “KAVEERA” that can pollute our environment. These locally led solutions have not only improved on climate adaptation and mitigation but also their social economic development through selling their products.

Further, Women's priorities and needs must be reflected in the development planning and funding. Women should be part of the decision making at national and local levels regarding allocation of resources for climate change initiatives. It is also important to ensure gender-sensitive investments in programmes for adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer and capacity building.

More so, Funding organizations and donors should also take into account women-specific circumstances when developing and introducing technologies related to climate change adaptation and to try their best to remove the economic, social and cultural barriers that could constraint women from benefiting and making use of them. Involving women in the development of new technologies can ensure that they are adaptive, appropriate and sustainable. At national levels, efforts should be made to mainstream gender perspective into national policies and strategies, as well as related sustainable development and climate change plans and interventions.

Lastly, Adaptation initiatives should identify and address gender-specific impacts of climate change particularly in areas related to water, food security, agriculture, energy, health, disaster management, and conflict. Important gender issues associated with climate change adaptation, such as inequalities in access to resources, including credit, extension and training services, information and technology should also be taken into consideration,

For God and my Country
Ireen Twongirwe
Executive Director
Women for Green Economy Movement Uganda

Beneath The Golden Veil: The Hidden Struggles Of Kitere's Miners

By: Carolove Oyola
@themkenyatimes



Goldminers at Kitere gold mining area washing some sand to get gold.

Worth Noting:

- Yes! Many of our colleagues have died in these pits. But that does not mean that we stop work. The game must continue at whatever cost since our stomachs also do not stop receiving food and our demands for basic things do not cease at any point," says a male miner Joseph who has been mining for the past 8 years.
- In recent years, concerns have been growing over the health risks faced by people living around gold mining areas. Research has shown that these individuals are at a higher risk of developing a range of serious illnesses due to exposure to toxic substances like mercury and cyanide, which are commonly used in the gold extraction process.

In the lands of Kitere, Migori County, a silent battle rages beneath the surface alongside the pursuit of gold. Beyond the glimmering promise of wealth lies a stark reality. The toll of disease and hardship on the miners who toil tirelessly in search of fortune.

The miners of Kitere are no strangers to adversity. From the moment they set foot in the mines, they are confronted with a myriad of health hazards, ranging from respiratory illnesses caused by constant exposure to dust and fumes, to debilitating musculoskeletal injuries resulting from strenuous labor. The harsh working conditions, coupled with limited access to proper healthcare facilities, leave miners vulnerable to a host of ailments, with little recourse for relief.

The most unfortunate part is that most of the mining areas are not owned by the locals but are instead leased out to some foreigners who have owned most of the places hence the locals are forced to be nothing but miners who work under unfavourable conditions without the maximum protection required..

Yes! Many of our colleagues have

died in these pits. But that does not mean that we stop work. The game must continue at whatever cost since our stomachs also do not stop receiving food and our demands for basic things do not cease at any point," says a male miner Joseph who has been mining for the past 8 years.

In recent years, concerns have been growing over the health risks faced by people living around gold mining areas. Research has shown that these individuals are at a higher risk of developing a range of serious illnesses due to exposure to toxic substances like mercury and cyanide, which are commonly used in the gold extraction process.

Getting an opportunity to talk to the former health minister, Migori county, Mr Nyamita who happens to be a resident in kitere, he says that people living in close proximity to gold mining operations are at a higher risk of contracting diseases like cancer, respiratory illnesses, and neurological disorders. These health risks are caused by exposure to toxic chemicals that are used in the extraction process and can leach into the environment, contaminating the air, water, and soil.

One of the most pervasive health challenges facing miners in Kitere is mercury poisoning, a consequence of the widespread use of mercury in the extraction process. As miners crush and grind the ore in search of gold, mercury is often added to the mixture to separate the gold from the surrounding rock. However, the toxic fumes released during this process can have devastating effects on the health of miners and their families, leading to neurological damage, kidney failure, and even death.

Cyanide is another hazardous chemical used in gold mining. It can cause severe respiratory problems, as well as skin and eye irritation. Exposure to cyanide can also lead to long-term health problems, such as heart disease, neurological disorders, and cancer.

In many cases, people living around gold mining areas are not aware of the health risks they face. They may not have access to information about the toxic chemicals used in the mining process, and may not have the resources to protect themselves and their families from exposure.

The miners have to suffer in silence with these diseases for all they want

is to get money to feed their families in which at some point they end up using the money in treating the diseases they contract while mining and that gives a reason as to why however how much money they get, they do not have a chance to improve their livelihoods. For them, the risks are a part of daily life, a sacrifice made in pursuit of a dream that remains just out of reach. Yet, amidst the darkness, there are glimmers of hope – grassroots initiatives aimed at raising awareness about the health risks of mining, and advocating for safer working conditions.

As the sun sets over the hills of Kitere, the miners return to their homes, weary but unbowed. Theirs is a story of resilience in the face of adversity, of courage in the midst of uncertainty. Though the road ahead may be fraught with challenges, they remain steadfast in their determination to carve out a brighter future for themselves and their community. For in the heart of Kitere, amidst the trials and tribulations of gold mining, the human spirit endures.

Smart Tips On Choosing A Courier Service For Your Business



By: George Ogeto
 @themtkenyatimes

Over the years, there has been a shift in how businesses are run with technology disrupting the different aspects, especially in the courier service space as new players seek to get a piece of the pie.

However, to get the best it is prudent to start by ensuring that there is efficiency and safe delivery of items.

As a business owner, you will most likely send parcels and packages to your customers from time to time.

That is why you should ask some questions before you engage a par-

ticular company so that in an event that you lose a package, for example, there is a recourse.

These questions include; will the service provider be pushed to pay for the loss of your item? or if there is a contract that is signed prior to engagement to ensure that both customer and service provider are well protected? This would help compare various players and rank them because sometimes, the loss or mishandling of packages might lead to strained relationships with customers.

A good courier service would not only ensure efficiency but also safe shipping and delivery of goods from point A to point B.

Choosing the right courier service is key in ensuring customer satisfaction, return on investments and the growth of your business.

To ensure your business is successful, here are a few factors to consider

Reputation of the company

If there are a lot of complaints from customers and a company is mostly being criticised especially online,

it means something is amiss. Most people would engage services of companies that have a good reputation because credibility and trust are important aspects to consider when picking a courier provider.

As a business owner seeking a courier service to work with, consider how the public perceives the courier company. Reputation is a testament of a company's service delivery, and a direct translation of what one should expect when engaging them. Associating your business with reputable companies will help you advance your business and offer top-notch services. It would be best if you also looked for one with a valid compliance certificate, through getting information on licensed providers from the Communications Authority of Kenya, to avoid dealing with those under investigations, or are involved in illegal enterprises.

Time consciousness

Time is a key factor in any business venture. When supplies or purchases are not delivered on time, there is business disruption that might some-

times lead to losses. Choosing a courier service that offers the quickest delivery services and stays on schedule is a bonus for your business. To avoid inconveniencing your customers who are also your brand ambassadors, ensure you work with a courier service that values and has a reputation of being prompt.

Accessibility

Customers come from different parts of Kenya and beyond; some live far from your shops and yet want to do business with you. As a business owner that values all customers, working with a courier service that has the capacity to deliver in all parts of the country or the world, is one of the wisest business decisions you could ever make. Companies like SGA Security which has its footprint all over Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, are a great asset in helping you advance your business by having your packages delivered anywhere in the three countries and beyond. In addition, courier companies with international land and air courier service enable you to deliver

your package anywhere else.

Security of your package

More important, is the safety of a package. Will the courier service provider deliver safely to the customer? The safety and security of your package is of utmost importance in the running of your business. Ensuring that your customers receive items they order from you in good shape, greatly contributes to customer satisfaction and retention.

It pays to work with a courier company that is big on safety and one that would ensure that your package is secure. A company that offers variety, like manned courier services which entails use of guards to safely deliver items, for example, can place a company on the right path and finally always track your parcels.

George Ogeto is the Manager, SGA Kenya Courier Service

The Legal Dynamics of Public Demonstrations in Kenya: Balancing Rights and Responsibilities

By: James Bwire Kilonzo
 @themtkenyatimes



Public Demonstrations in Kenya

Article 37 of the Kenyan Constitution guarantees the right to assemble, demonstrate, picket, and present petitions to public authorities peacefully. This provision underscores the importance of public expression in a democratic society, allowing citizens to voice their grievances and advocate for change. However, the practical application of this right has been contentious, often leading to clashes between protesters and law enforcement.

The Public Order Act (cap 56) further regulates public assemblies, requiring organizers to notify the police between three and fourteen days in advance. The police have the authority to prevent a public assembly if the proposed date, time, and venue clash with another event. However, the Act does not contemplate simultaneous or counter-demonstrations.

The legal framework aims to balance the right to protest with the need

for public order and safety. The Public Order Act prohibits the possession of "offensive weapons" at public meetings and processions, arguing that it is a small price to pay to ensure peaceful assemblies. The Act also makes it an offence, punishable by up to one year in prison, to hold or participate in an unlawful assembly.

In the 2016 case of Ferdinand Nding'u Waititu v. Attorney General, Justice Onguto of the High Court stated that the Public Order Act does not limit the right to demonstrate but rather seeks to preserve and protect

it by regulating to ensure order. He cautioned that protests often turn violent, but that should not undermine the right to picket and demonstrate, which is an essential feature of a democratic society.

The Assembly and Demonstrations Bill, published in April 2024, aims to further regulate public gatherings. It requires organizers to notify authorities three to fourteen days in advance and allows police to impose conditions to ensure public safety. Critics argue that the Bill risks infringing on the constitutional rights enshrined in

Article 37.

Recent protests against the government's proposed tax hikes have highlighted the ongoing struggles between citizens exercising their rights and the state's response. The government's use of live ammunition against protesters has drawn significant criticism and calls for accountability.

As Kenya navigates the legal dynamics of public demonstrations, it is crucial to ensure that any regulatory framework respects the constitutional rights of citizens while addressing the need for public order. A nuanced understanding of the historical context of protests in Kenya, coupled with a commitment to upholding human rights, will be essential in fostering a healthy democratic environment where citizens can freely express their views without fear of repression.

The suppression of peaceful demonstrations by law enforcement contradicts basic democratic principles. Legal scholar Ronald Dworkin emphasizes that the right to protest is integral to political freedom and must be protected even when it

causes inconvenience or disruption. By enabling individuals and groups to express dissent and advocate for change, peaceful protest serves as a critical mechanism for maintaining the health and vitality of democratic systems.

In conclusion, while the legal dynamics surrounding public demonstrations in Kenya are complex, it is essential to strike a balance between the right to protest and the need for public order. By upholding the principles of Article 37 and ensuring that any regulatory measures are proportionate and respectful of human rights, Kenya can create an environment where citizens can freely exercise their democratic rights and contribute to the ongoing process of social and political change.

James Bwire Kilonzo is a Media and communication student from Masinde muliro university of science and technology kakamega currently based in nakuru

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Sports >> *The last batch of Team Kenya to Pre-Olympics camp in Miramas is finally in France well in time for the Paris Olympics starting next week.

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Trailblazing Lady Judoka Cherotich in Miramas, Excited For Her Fairytale Olympic Dream



Kenya's Female Judoka trailblazer Zeddy Cheruto arriving at the Marseille International Airport ahead of the pre-olympics training camp in Miramas, France. Photo/ALEX ISABOKE.

The last batch of Team Kenya to Pre-Olympics camp in Miramas is finally in France well in time for the Paris Olympics starting next week.

Trail-blazing Kenyan lady judoka Zeddy Cherotich and her coach David Walubengo waltzed into Miramas amid heavy rains that pounded the sleepy French town where Kenya is running its pre-Olympic high-performance camp.

Kenyans in Miramas have experienced roasting temperatures over the past few weeks, but Zeddy was flabbergasted to see the heavens to open, contrary to all expectations.

—Heavens Open in Miramas—
“I can’t wait... My maiden Olympic Games feels surreal. I am mega-excited,” Zeddy quipped, adding: “I want to be-

lieve that the heavy rains come with blessings. Those who came earlier all talked of searing heat, but here we are here in Miramas with the rains.”

With quite a bit of culture shock, Zeddy was overly excited to set foot into the team’s camp. “It hasn’t sunk in yet. I still don’t believe I am in France,” she said of her fairy tale feat.

Zeddy become the first Kenyan female judoka to qualify for the quadrennial summer games.

The Kenya Defense Forces Sergeant participated in the world championships in Abu Dhabi before qualifying for Paris through the world ranking.

She will be among the 12 players from Africa who will participate in Judo during the upcoming Games.

She will be competing in the under 78kg and has her opening

game on August 1.

She arrived in Miramas on an emotional maiden tour of Olympic duty as the last athlete to jet in for the pre-Olympics training.

“There’s pressure to perform in Paris, being the most prestigious event in the globe, I just want to go and give it my best shot. I was lucky to be welcomed by the rains despite being Summer. In the traditional African culture rain is a lucky charm especially after prolonged seasons of hot weather. I am glad I will be able to acclimatize well.”

“I am feeling good going into the games. I am aiming to be in the medal bracket and I know anything can happen,” she went on.

—Culture Shock—

Zeddy says she is eager to discover many things as she has

heard more about France from stories of Paris Olympics.

—Lone Ranger—

She expounded: “I hear many stories about France. I would like to have as many excursions as possible after the games and discover how others feel. I’m also looking to learn French and I know there will be language barrier at some point, but then again, there is also that aspect of culture shock, that we have to deal with.”

She added, “I’m excited to be in the mix. The Olympic dream is now a reality. When I first learnt of my qualification, I didn’t believe that I was going to be the first lady qualifier from Kenya, more so after the ticket has eluded our women for the longest time.”

MORE ABOUT ZEDDY

AGE: 34
CLUB: ULINZI
HOMETOWN: SOTIK
HOBBIES: DANCING, FOOTBALL, LISTENING TO MUSIC
FAVOURITE FOOD: CHAPATI
OCCUPATION: MILITARY (SERGEANT)
FAVOURITE FOOD: CHAPATI, MILK, MEAT
HIGH SCHOOL: ST MONICA CONTINENTAL RANKING: NO. 7 IN AFRICA/AFTER EGYPT
KENYA RANKING: 78KG CHAMPION

—Alex Isaboke is reporting from Miramas, France—

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Africa's fastest man Ferdinand Omanyala and volleyball skipper Triza Atuka are brimming with confidence after being named Team Kenya's flag bearers for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Kenyan Flag Bearers Omanyala And Atuka Buzzing With Excitement As Historic Paris Opening Ceremony Nears



Africa's record holder in men's 100m Ferdinand Omanyala posing for a photo in Miramas, France for Team Kenya pre-Olympics camp. Photo/JAIRUS MOLA - NOC-K.

Africa's fastest man Ferdinand Omanyala and volleyball skipper Triza Atuka are brimming with confidence after being named Team Kenya's flag bearers for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

The two will carry the country's flag at the Opening Ceremony scheduled to take place on July 26.

The opening ceremony promises to be an event like no other; and for the first time in history, the spectacle will not be in a stadium, instead taking place on Paris' famous River Seine.

The two will be among the 83 athletes (42 men and 41 women) Kenya will field at the fabled multi-sport event normally held once every four years.

Team Kenya will be skipped by 1500m world record holder and two times Olympics gold medalist Faith Kipyegon alongside Shujaa co-Captain Tony Omondi.

For Atuka, who will be performing this role for the first time, unlike Omanyala who did it at the Commonwealth Games, the lady volleyballer says it a huge honour to carry the flag on her debut Olympics.

Atuka, who missed the 2021

Covid-19-belated Tokyo 2020 Olympics due to a career-threatening injury, is one of the experienced heads that coach Japheth Munala will rely on despite being a debutant.

"That's good news to be named flag bearer. It feels great, it's humbling at the same time. It's also a plus not just for me but for the entire volleyball fraternity before the millions of eyeballs that will be watching the Paris spectacle unfold," Atuka said moments before the team departed Miramas for Paris ready for the games.

"With the unique Kenyan attire, the Games present an opportunity for us to showcase our culture as great people of Kenya. For the team and for me personally, it's just a realization that we are here and let the Games begin," Atuka added.

-Omanyala leading from the front-

Omanyala on his part commented: "It feels nice, it's a great platform considering that millions of people are going to watch the Olympics. And for the fans seeing us before we compete is a really

good feeling. Being the flag bearer, I pray God uses me to use the flag as a representation of who we are."

Asked about Kenya's beautiful attire at the Ceremony, Omanyala continued: "I haven't fitted the ceremonial clothes yet, I mean, I saw them once at State House but I believe it will be a colorful ceremony. We are glad, we are excited, the Olympics are here," the Commonwealth Games champion told Capital Sport after receiving the news.

The Paris Olympics, starting on July 26, are expected to garner four billion eyeballs around the globe according to Forbes.

Here are some other figures that might surprise you.

PARIS 2024 OLYMPICS BY THE NUMBERS

11.5 million That's how many tourists are expected to swarm the city (which has a population of 2.16 million) for the Paris Olympics, according to Paris' tourism board.

10,500

That's how many athletes are

headed to the Games this year to compete for the coveted sporting medals.

US\$14 billion (AU\$20 billion) That's how much it's predicted to cost Paris to host the 2024 Olympics.

\$18 billion Is about how much the Games are expected to generate for Paris in economic benefits.

200

That's how many countries are expected to be represented at the Olympics Games.

329

Events will take place across 35 venues in the country – including Tahiti and French Polynesia.

US\$872 billion (AU\$1.4 trillion)

That's how much international tourists are expected to spend in the European economy this summer in general, according to the European Travel Commission.

-Alex Isaboke is reporting from Miramas, France-

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African Union Launches Startup Policy Framework To Drive Innovation Across Africa

By: Contributor



Worth Noting:

- The Policy Framework and Model Law, developed in collaboration with Google under its Memorandum of Understanding with the African Union Commission, seeks to harmonize approaches to enabling startups and innovation in line with the AU's broader harmonization objectives.
- Speaking at the launch during the African Union 6th Mid-Year Coordination Meeting, H.E. Albert M. Muchanga, AU Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry, and Minerals, expressed optimism about the new prospects for the continent. "We are excited about the new prospects for our continent unlocked by the adoption of the Startup Policy Framework and Model Law, which is set to leapfrog the startup ecosystem in Africa. Small and medium-sized enterprises, including startups, represent most businesses in all sectors and are the primary source of job creation," Muchanga said

In a groundbreaking move to drive innovation and entrepreneurship across Africa, the African Union (AU) and its partners, including Google and Africa Practice, have launched the AU Startup Policy Framework and Model Law.

This comprehensive initiative aims to tackle the challenges hindering startups in Africa by providing principles, recommendations, and specific sample clauses to guide AU Member States in developing or updating their national startup legislative and regulatory frameworks.

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our continent unlocked by the adoption of the Startup Policy Framework and Model Law, which is set to leapfrog the startup ecosystem in Africa. Small and medium-sized enterprises, including startups, represent most businesses in all sectors and are the primary source of job creation," Muchanga said.

He highlighted the significant role startups play in the digital economy, employing 34,000 people across the continent, but noted that only seven out of 1,000 unicorns globally are in Africa. This is largely due to complex regulations, limited funding, a scarcity of skilled labor, and fragmented markets.

"The framework is expected to unlock some of these hurdles and set a strong foundation for the growth of Africa's startup landscape, projected to expand to USD 10 billion by 2056," Muchanga added. He emphasized the need for governments to enable capital flow for the burgeoning ideas coming out of Africa, noting that by 2050, the continent will account for 25% of the global population. "We need to create an environment that enables these innovative minds to catapult the conti-

ment to economic prosperity, and this framework is what enables this," he said.

Google's Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa, Government Affairs & Public Policy, Charles Murito, noted the disparities in global venture funding. "Africa receives a disproportionately small share of global venture funding. In 2023, the continent raised a total of USD 4.5 billion from 545 disclosed venture capital deals, reflecting a 30% decrease in value and a 31% decline in the number of deals compared to 2022," Murito said. He highlighted the underrepresentation of female-led ventures, which received only 16% of the funding in 2023, marginally up from 11% in 2020, and the concentration of funding in specific sectors and countries, with Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa, and Egypt receiving 62% of the total deal volume.

Murito emphasized the need for diverse funding flows and support for startups led by women and youth. "The framework outlines principles derived from successful models and is a call to action to ensure that startups — particularly those led by

women and youth — can be better supported," he said.

Marie Wilke, Chief Innovation Officer at Africa Practice, described the adoption of the Startup Policy Framework and Model Law as a transformative phase. "We must maintain momentum behind engagements with regional economic communities (RECs), regional organizations (ROs), and member states to update and enact regional legal frameworks and national laws. Innovation is as much about finance and people as it is about drive," Wilke said. She stressed the importance of joint and decisive efforts to support small and new businesses, paving the way for "The Africa We Want."

The AU Startup Policy Framework and Model Law represent a significant step towards fostering a conducive environment for startups in Africa, aiming to address regulatory and funding challenges, and ultimately, to promote sustainable development, technological growth, and enhanced research capabilities across the continent.