



The Labyrinth Of Fiscal Incoherence: A Critical Examination Of Kenya's Taxation Policy And Budget-Making Process

Adam Smith, the renowned Scottish philosopher and economist, once posited in his seminal work "The Wealth of Nations" that "The subjects of every state ought to contribute towards the support of the government"

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News>> Governor Kihika Pushes KWS To Settle KSh3.76 Billion Debt

P. 8. Governor Susan Kihika has expressed serious concerns regarding the substantial payments owed by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to the County Government of Nakuru



News>> Education Boost As Zetech Varsity Is Accredited To Offer New PhD And Masters Programmes

P. 12. Students will now be able to pursue advanced degree programs, including a PhD and MSC in Computer Science and Information Technology at Zetech University after it was accredited by the Commission for University Education (CUE).

Ruto: Why I Nominated Opposition In Cabinet

President William Ruto has defended his move to appoint opposition leaders to his cabinet.

Speaking yesterday during a Tharaka Nithi County development tour, President Ruto said an all-inclusive government will bring peace and unity.

The Head of State accompanied by his deputy Rigathi Gachagua, Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki and Interior Cabinet Secretary nominee Prof Kithure Kindiki, among other leaders, he said the country's economy will improve and enable him to pay the huge debts with unity.



Tana Water Works Development Agency CEO Eng. Philip Gichuki explaining to President William Ruto, his deputy Rigathi Gachagua, Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki and other leaders yesterday.

STORY ON PAGE 9

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Medic Cautions Non-Smokers Of Second-Hand Cigarette Smoke Exposure

By: MKT Correspondent

@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The medic revealed that parents who smoke and expose their young ones to SHS is more pronounced than to adults this can lead to acute respiratory infections such as bronchitis, ear infections and severe asthma respiratory symptoms and slowed lung growth even pregnant mothers get affected and their unborn babies too added Dr Blasto.
- Children whose parents smoke around them maybe in confined places like homes or in cars get more ear infections, wheezing, coughing and this SHS can trigger an asthma attack in a child which can put a child's life in danger.

A medic has cautioned non-smokers to be wary of exposing themselves to second hand cigarette smoke saying it can cause adverse health effects.

Second hand smoke is smoke from burning tobacco products like cigarettes, cigars and pipes.

Second hand exposure occurs when people breathe in smoke from burning tobacco products. Exposure also occurs when people breathe in smoke exhaled by someone who is smoking.

In an interview, a resident surgeon at AIC Litein, Kericho Annex clinic Dr. Philip Blasto pointed out that there was no safe level of exposure to second hand smoke (SHS) and can produce harmful inflammatory and respiratory effects within 60 minutes of exposure which can last for at least three hours after exposure.

"People who smoke are exposed to a toxic mix of over 7,000 chemicals in one cigarette. People who do not smoke but are exposed to second hand smoke are inhaling many of the same cancer-causing substances and poisons that are inhaled by people who smoke. A brief exposure to SHS can damage the lining of blood vessels and cause blood platelets to become thicker. These changes can cause an increased risk of heart attack. With active smoking, the longer the duration and the higher the level of exposure to secondhand smoke, the greater the risk of developing lung cancer," said Dr. Blasto.

The medic revealed that parents who smoke and expose their young ones to SHS is more pronounced than to adults this can lead to acute respiratory infections such as bronchitis, ear infections and severe asthma respiratory symptoms and slowed lung growth even pregnant mothers get affected and their unborn babies too added Dr Blasto.

"Children whose parents smoke around them maybe in confined places like homes or in cars get more ear infections, wheezing, coughing and this SHS can trigger an asthma attack in a child which can put a child's life in danger. Women exposed to secondhand smoke during pregnancy are more likely to have newborns with lower birth weight increasing



Dr Philip Blasto.

the risk of health complications such as sudden infant death syndrome," noted Dr. Blasto.

Dr. Blasto advised smokers to quit as this was the best decision they can make for their health as long-term exposure to cigarette smoking had a significant effect on their cognitive abilities as well as to their health.

"Some people smoke because of nicotine the addictive component in tobacco. Cigarette smoke contains more than

7,000 chemicals and quitting smoking is one of the most important actions people can take to improve their health. Cigarette smoking affects nearly every organ of the body causing many diseases such as cancer, heart disease and stroke, lung diseases and type 2- diabetes. It also increases the risk for tuberculosis, certain eye diseases, and weakens the immune system making it hard for the body to kill cancer cells. There is slow cognition of the brain depending on the quantity and

frequency of what you are smoking so the higher you smoke there is reduced cognitive reduction," added Dr. Blasto.

According to a report published by the World Health Organisation (WHO) Kenya is ranked seven with the highest population of tobacco users aged 15 years and above in Africa, with 3.1 billion users as of the end of 2022 with males dominating the habit at 89 per cent.



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Leaders in Narok County have praised President William Ruto for nominating former Cabinet Secretary in Charge of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Ms. Soipan Tuya to head the Defense docket. Narok County Governor Patrick Ntutu in a brief released to various local media houses said the nomination was a testament of the confidence the President has in her capabilities, reflecting her credentials as a highly qualified leader who has ascended through the ranks on merit. Governor Ntutu noted that the CS nominee has served Narok County as their Women Representative for ten years where she performed her duties with diligence. "The people of Narok and the Maa community at large take immense pride in her achievements as our daughter, as she continues to serve the nation with distinction," read the presser.



About 40,000 needy students in Ruiru constituency will receive Sh90 million bursaries from the National Government Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF). The initiative aims to alleviate the financial burden on parents struggling to pay school fees due to the prevailing hard economic times, being experienced in the country. Area MP Simon King'ara revealed that the initial Sh80 million bursary allocation was inadequate due to high demand from applicants across the eight Ruiru wards. He cited the constituency's high population, exceeding 700,000 residents, as a key factor contributing to the increased need for educational support. Acknowledging the plight of cash-strapped families, King'ara stated, "We usually receive overwhelming numbers of applicants and we are forced to write to the NG-CDF board to allow us to spend extra funds on bursaries as we try to help all applicants."



Turkana County Government has announced that approximately 130 learners with disabilities have been earmarked to benefit from the County Government bursary and scholarship funds in the 2024-2025 financial year. The initiative, aimed at fostering inclusivity and self-reliance among PWDs, was disclosed during an open forum involving county officials, the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), and the disability community at Lodwar Primary. The County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Education, Sports and Social Protection Elizabeth Loote emphasized the county's commitment to enhancing educational opportunities for PWDs as an empowerment strategy envisioned by Governor Jeremiah Lomurukai.



A section of Baringo residents have received President William Ruto's second batch of cabinet secretary appointments with mixed reactions. According to the residents who spoke to the press in Kabarnet town, they are still optimistic that the president will fill the remaining slots with an individual from the county. Baringo Central Supkem chairperson Yassin Hamisi urged President Ruto to consider retaining the slot which was previously being held by former cooperatives Cabinet Secretary Simon Chelugui who hails from the county. "Anybody from Baringo he will appoint in the remaining slots we shall appreciate very much," he said.

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Textile And Apparel Sector Urged To Formulate Policy To Address Challenges

By: KNA

Worth Noting:

- The PS was speaking during the launch of the Cotton, Textile, and Apparel (CTA) Policy Development exercise and the CTA Policy Development Technical Steering Committee, comprising of experts, stakeholders, and industry leaders held at a Nairobi hotel.
- He said the launch marks a significant step forward in the sectors ongoing efforts to develop the cotton value chain.



Dr Juma Mukhwana.

The Principal Secretary for Industry Dr. Juma Mukhwana has called upon the Cotton, Textile and Apparel (CTA) sector to come up with sound policy interventions that will address each challenge on cotton, textile and apparel.

Dr. Mukhwana said the sector holds a prominent place in Kenya's industrialization agenda of Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) whose development is crucial not only to the National economy but also for improving the livelihoods of countless individuals along the value chain and across communities at the grassroots.

He said policy formulation in the country follows laid down guidelines that advocates for comprehensive stakeholders' consultation and public participation.

The PS was speaking during the launch of the Cotton, Textile, and

Apparel (CTA) Policy Development exercise and the CTA Policy Development Technical Steering Committee, comprising of experts, stakeholders, and industry leaders held at a Nairobi hotel.

He said the launch marks a significant step forward in the sectors ongoing efforts to develop the cotton value chain. "Our journey towards revitalizing the cotton, textile, and apparel sector is driven by the recognition of the sector immense potential to contribute to our economic growth, job creation, and sustainable development," said Mukhwana.

He however, mentioned inadequate quality cotton seed, poor management of pests and diseases, limited government extension services at the county level and obsolete machinery and technologies especially at ginning stage as some of the challenges facing

the cotton value chain.

Others challenges are the spinning mills running at low capacities of about 35-40 percent due to inadequate availability of cotton lint, lack of brand accreditation and certification for textile mills by brands as part of supply chain development, lack of plug and play sheds/factories for potential investors and high cost of energy.

The PS noted that the establishment of the CTA policy Technical Steering Committee will harness collective expertise and perspectives to craft a Policy that is innovative, practical and fit for purpose.

"The launch of the committee is a testament to our commitment to fostering an inclusive and collaborative approach to policy development as their role will be instrumental in guiding the formulation of a robust policy framework that addresses current challenges," he said.

es," he said.

Dr. Mukhwana said the committee will also seize emerging opportunities, and align with the country's broader economic and industrial goals, adding that the collaborative endeavor will involve thorough analysis of issues and strategic planning to ensure that the policy and strategy are well-informed and effective.

"I urge you to ensure that this CTA policy development is stakeholders centric and that all laid down policy formulation guidelines are followed," he stated.

The PS at the same time observed that the insights, expertise, and commitment will be key in shaping a policy that not only meets the needs of today but also positions the sector for sustained growth and success in the future.

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Governor Kihika Pushes KWS To Settle KSh3.76 Billion Debt

By: Suleiman Mbatiah
@themtkenyatimes

Governor Susan Kihika has expressed serious concerns regarding the substantial payments owed by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to the County Government of Nakuru in lieu of rates, a substitute for property taxes.

According to official records, Lake Nakuru National Park has an outstanding debt of KSh3,761,454,708, the accumulated annual payments that the KWS is obligated to make instead of traditional property rates.

Governor Kihika raised this issue yesterday during a session with the Senate Public Accounts Committee, chaired by Senator Moses Kajwang of Homa Bay, where she addressed various audit queries.

“My administration has made continuous efforts to secure payment, but the matter remains unresolved. We got no response from the KWS,” stated a frustrated Governor Kihika.

However, Governor Kihika remains hopeful following President William Ruto’s directive a year ago that

national parks and conservancies should remit 50 per cent of their revenue to host counties for development, environmental, and conservation programs.

The Governor noted that the matter came up during the 23rd ordinary session of the Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council (IBEC), but the Ministry of Water, Forestry, and Natural Resource Management was not available to address the issue.

Nakuru residents and wildlife enthusiasts have echoed the Governor’s call, stating that the national government, through the KWS, should remit part of its revenue to the county to bolster local resources.

“The financial implications are significant, and resolving this matter remains a priority for my administration,” the Governor stated.

A 2021 report by the Commission on Revenue Allocation identified that counties hosting parks, reserves, and conservancies experienced improved revenue performance, significantly boosting their income and development.

In 2019, KWS unveiled an ambitious strategy aimed at reversing the dwindling fortunes of Lake Nakuru National Park. The strategy aimed



Nakuru Governor Susan Kihika

to increase the park’s annual revenue collection from Shs480 million to Shs1 billion by next year, 2020.

The increasing water levels of Lake Nakuru have had a significant impact on the nearby communities, particularly in Mwariki and Barut, affecting 677 families. Approximately 26.6 square kilometers of Lake Nakuru National Park have been submerged.

The affected households are in urgent need of compensation and relocation to safer areas, as the flooding is worsened by the effects of climate change and other factors. Experts caution that if this trend continues, Lake Nakuru’s water level could double by 2030, covering an area of over 82 square kilometers.

“Addressing this crisis requires im-

mediate attention and coordinated action to mitigate further displacement and damage,” said Jackson Raini, an expert in environmental planning, management, and governance in an earlier interview.

I&M Bank (Rwanda) Appoints Nikhil Rustam Hira As New Board Chairman

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

I&M Bank (Rwanda) has appointment of Mr. Nikhil Rustam Hira as the new Board Chairman effective 15th July 2024.

Mr. Hira succeeds, Mr. Bonaventure Niyibizi, who is retiring after serving the Bank with distinction and dedication.

Mr. Hira brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record in leadership spanning over 42 years.

He has consistently demonstrated a commitment to innovation, strategic growth, and excellence in corporate governance. Since 2019, Mr. Hira has been serving on our Board as an Independent Director and Chairperson of the Board Audit committee, as well as a member of both the Board Credit Committee and the Board Strategy Committee.

“We are delighted to welcome Mr.



Mr. Nikhil Hira Chairman I&M Bank (Rwanda).

Nikhil Hira as our new Chairman,” said Mr. Benjamin Mutimura, CEO of I&M Bank Rwanda.

“His visionary leadership and deep

understanding of the industry will be invaluable as we continue to drive our strategic initiatives and enhance value for our stakeholders. We are

confident that under his guidance, I&M Bank Rwanda will reach new heights of success.”

Mr. Hira is a highly experienced financial professional, currently serving as the Regional Representative of the Eastern Africa Association and a Partner at Kody Africa LLP.

He is a former partner at Deloitte East Africa, where he headed the Tax Practice for Deloitte in the East Africa region. He is also a Non-Executive Director on the board of I&M Bank Kenya, Board Chairman of GA Insurance Ltd in Kenya, and a board member of two private companies: Securex Agencies (K) Ltd and Shalimar Fresh Ltd in Kenya.

He holds a BSc Joint Honours in Accountancy and Process Engineering from the University of Salford, England. Additionally, he is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales, Fellow of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya and also registered with similar institutes in Uganda and Tanzania.

“I am honoured to take on the role of Chairman at such a pivotal time for I&M Bank Rwanda,” said Mr. Hira. “I look forward to working closely with the Board, the management team, stakeholders, and our talented employees to continue delivering exceptional value to our customers and shareholders. Together, we will build on the bank’s strong foundation and drive future success.”

I&M Bank Rwanda has a rich history of serving the financial needs of individuals and businesses, with a commitment to providing innovative banking solutions and enhanced customer experiences. The appointment of Mr. Hira as Chairman reflects the lender’s dedication to strong leadership and governance as it navigates the evolving financial landscape.

Why I Nominated Opposition In Cabinet - Ruto

By: Mwenda Njeru
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- He lauded Members of Parliament from the county, Gitonga Murugara (Tharaka), Kareke Mbiuki (Maara) and Patrick Munene (Chuka/Igambang'ombe) for voting in favour of the Finance Bill 2024 which he rejected arguing that it would have grown the country's economy and that there was money for several development projects.
- He explained that there is no other means of growing the economy other than collecting local revenue because the country cannot thrive on foreign loans to finance projects.
- The Deputy President lauded President Ruto for reconsidering Prof Kindiki claiming that he had performed very well and that the people of Tharaka Nithi County fully support the Kenya Kwanza government.



President William Ruto explaining a point to Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki as his deputy Rigathi Gachagua, Prof. Kithure Kindiki and Tharaka constituency MP Gitonga Murugara listens..

President William Ruto has defended his move to appoint opposition leaders to his cabinet. Speaking yesterday during a Tharaka Nithi County development tour, President Ruto said an all-inclusive government will bring peace and unity. The Head of State accompanied by his deputy Rigathi Gachagua, Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki and Interior Cabinet Secretary nominee Prof Kithure Kindiki, among other leaders, he said the country's economy will improve and enable him to pay the huge debts with unity. He also defended the decision to bring back some of the cabinet secretaries who worked in the Cabinet which he dissolved arguing that they performed very well. "I have built an all-inclusive government as a move to unite the country and grow the economy.

Prof Kindiki has battled bandits who have been terrorizing people in some parts of the country," said Dr Ruto as locals applauded. He lauded Members of Parliament from the county, Gitonga Murugara (Tharaka), Kareke Mbiuki (Maara) and Patrick Munene (Chuka/Igambang'ombe) for voting in favour of the Finance Bill 2024 which he rejected arguing that it would have grown the country's economy and that there was money for several development projects. He explained that there is no other means of growing the economy other than collecting local revenue because the country cannot thrive on foreign loans to finance projects. The Deputy President lauded President Ruto for reconsidering Prof Kindiki claiming that he had performed very well and that the people of Tharaka Nithi County fully sup-

port the Kenya Kwanza government. He urged his boss to reciprocate the huge support by completing stalled projects and starting new ones. "I want to thank you most sincerely for electing us. Your son, Prof Kindiki is a great performer and that is why he has been reconsidered into the new cabinet," said Mr Gachagua. Governor Njuki expressed confidence in the leadership of Mr Ruto and urged him to reciprocate the county's huge support with development projects. He asked him to complete stalled projects and redesign Nithi bridge along the Meru-Nairobi highway, a blackspot that has claimed many lives over the years. He said the national government will continue collaborating with his government to compete in several ongoing projects including markets.

"Tharaka-Nithi County is united and fully supports you in delivering your development agenda. Redesigning the killer Nithi is expensive but I have confidence that with the support of our MPs, it is achievable by 2027," said Njuki. He also lauded President Ruto for bringing into his government leaders from the opposition side and giving them key dockets so that they can also bring the ideas that they speak from outside. While urging the residents of Tharaka Nithi County to continue to support Dr Ruto, Prof Kindiki asked the Head of State to complete several key projects that have stalled for several years. "I want to thank you for reconsidering me and my appeal is that you complete the many projects that have stalled for some time," said Prof Kindiki. Also present was the county's Women Representative Susan Nguni and Senator Mwenda Gataya and Blue Economy Principal Secretary, Ms Betty Muthoni among other leaders from the neighbouring counties. Dr Ruto started the day in Tharaka constituency by launching the expansion of Kibunga-Kakimiki Water Project in Turima location. He was taken through the project proposal which is set to benefit more than 30,000 resident by Tana Water Works Development Agency CEO Eng. Philip Gichuki as the board members, led by Wanyaga Gathaka followed keenly. The President and his team then proceeded to open Tharaka Kenya Medical Training College campus, Huduma Centre and Last Mile Electricity Connectivity within Marimanti town. In Maara constituency, the Head of State handed over a new contractor for Kirumi Kiamujari Water Project and opened Huduma Centre and Constituency office. He concluded the tour in Chuka/Igambang'ombe Constituency where he opened the County Commissioner's office block and Huduma Centre in Kathwana and later launched construction of an outpatient block at Kibugua Level Three Hospital in Magumoni.

Divine Empowerment Pt 2



By: Eric Musa
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The word disciple comes from the word discipline, so you must maintain a level of discipline(prayers, studying the word, meditating, praying, sacrifices, etc) in order to maintain the power. God wants us to seek His strength/ help, it written “ Woe unto those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the Lord,... When the LORD stretches His hand, he who helps will stumble, he who is helped will fall; both will perish together(Isaiah 31: 1-3).”

It is written, “ It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly

gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age, if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance, because to their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace (Hebrews 6:4-6).” This means there are people who have experienced the power of God, His presence in fullness, and what a great delight which is accessible to those who seek it.

Be encouraged, you can allow God to empower you, to manifest His power here on earth as it is in heaven. We see in Exodus 31: 1-3, God tells Moses there is a person by the name Bezalel, who He has enabled(skill, knowledge and ability) and put His spirit in him to help him build the tabernacle in exact details. We get empowered by God, when we acknowledge we are limited in our natural capacities, when you understand the natural limitation, and you stretch your hand, and tell God, “ I need to be STRENGTHENED from above, in Jesus Christ mighty name: AMEN.” And do NOT limit the Spir-

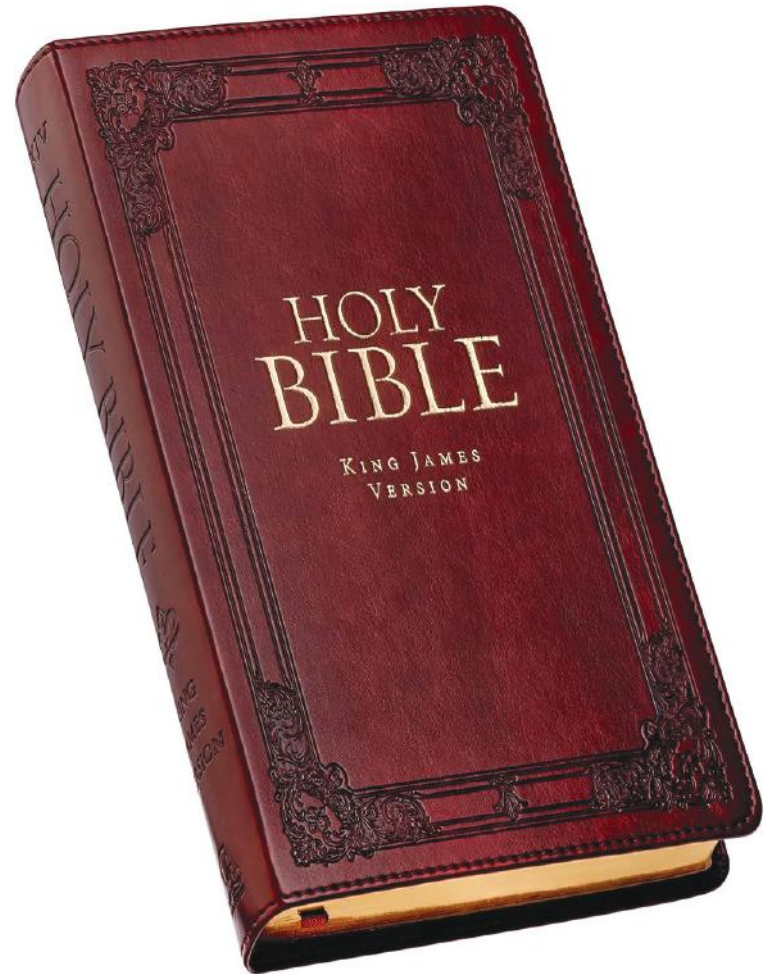
it of God to only speaking in tongues, HE can take you beyond speaking in tongue and give you the SUPER-NATURAL CAPABILITY TO FULFILL YOUR DIVINE PURPOSE : (1 Peter 4: 10).”

HALELUJAH

Reference: Apostle William Kimani (Kenya)

Evangelist Eric Musa:

(My message continuously: The best decision in this earthly life is to receive Christ Jesus as your personal Saviour: Believe and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit: AMEN). As it is written; “NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2”. For prayers, devotion; to support Evangelism contact Ev. Eric Musa on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember; God Loves you unconditionally, perfectly and forever.



The Mt. Kenya Times



Karua's Narc Kenya Decision To Exit Azimio Coalition Did Not Come As A Surprise



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Worth Noting:

- At one point she was quoted as saying, By virtue of being Raila's running mate, I'm the deputy leader of the Azimio coalition. If Raila gets the Africa Union Commission (AU) chairmanship job, I will immediately take up his seat in Azimio.
- Kalonzo seems plotting to dislodge me from my position. My loyalty to Baba Raila is unquestionable. So, I would not expect him (kalonzo) to have his way.
- The Flower Party leader had failed to read the political signs.
- For Raila, politics is about interest. Karua had failed to deliver votes to him during the 2022 polls. Raila even lost in the polling station where she had cast her vote in Gichugu, Kirinyaga county. This is unlike Kalonzo who had delivered majority of Ukambani votes to him.



Martha Karua Narc Kenya Party leader

The latest media reports have indicated that Martha Karua's Narc Kenya has exited the Azimio La Umoja One Kenya coalition.

To me, this did not come as a surprise. In the aftermath of Azimio leader Raila Odinga led street demonstrations, the writing was on the wall that it was only a matter of time before honorable Martha Karua exited.

Cracks started emerging when Karua and Jubilee Secretary General Jeremiah Kioni unveiled the Kamwene Movement which would articulate the interests of Azimio members in Mount Kenya region.

While citing the ongoing National Dialogue Committee (NADCO) talks at the Bomas of Kenya which were being chaired by Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka and National Assembly Majority leader Kimani Ichungwah, the duo argued that their region had been given a raw deal.

None of member of the committee which comprised 10 individuals hailed from our region.

President Ruto and ODM leader had shared the slots. What does this tell you? Raila have no time for people of Mount Kenya.

Ms Karua had earlier come out gun blazing. This is after realizing that Raila had ditched her in favor of Kalonzo.

At one point she was quoted as saying. By virtue of being Raila's running mate, I'm the deputy leader of the Azimio coalition. If Raila gets the Africa Union Commission (AU) chairmanship job, I will immediately take up his seat in Azimio.

Kalonzo seems plotting to dislodge me from my position. My loyalty to Baba Raila is unquestionable. So, I would not expect him (kalonzo) to have his way.

The Flower Party leader had failed to

read the political signs.

For Raila, politics is about interest. Karua had failed to deliver votes to him during the 2022 polls. Raila even lost in the polling station where she had cast her vote in Gichugu, Kirinyaga county. This is unlike Kalonzo who had delivered majority of Ukambani votes to him.

Well, it seems Karua was just waiting for appropriate time to ditch Raila.

She has quit at a time when top leaders of opposition ODM had joined the government of Kenya Kwanza. Besides, when the efforts to put off the fire lit by Generation Zoomer (GenZ) had gone a notch higher.

In my earlier article in this column, I argued. 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 this 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.

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.

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.

In his reaction, the President Ruto reiterated after attending a church service

"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 understand where the President was coming from.

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 removed 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.

Education Boost As Zetech Varsity Is Accredited To Offer New PhD And Masters Programmes

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Students will now be able to pursue advanced degree programs, including a PhD and MSC in Computer Science and Information Technology at Zetech University after it was accredited by the Commission for University Education (CUE).

The University’s Vice Chancellor Prof. Njenga Munene said the move will make the institution marketable, attract local and international students and stay ahead of educational trends in the evolving job market.

He said the university boasts of an impressive track record in technological innovations and academic excellence, and has in the recent past been upscaling its programmes to meet market needs.

Earlier this month, the university was ranked one of the best universities in Africa in the top 10 Universities in Africa to study Blockchain Technology by Emurgo Africa.



Zetech University.

“The University has introduced new courses, in the PhD in Computer Science and Msc in Computer Science and IT. It is also focused on emerging technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain technology, Software Engineering, Cloud Computing, Cyber Security, Software Development, Machine Learning and the Internet of Things (IoT),” Prof. Munene noted.

The University has in the recent past been receiving recognitions in generation of tech-solutions, with students winning top awards including in the Inter-University Power Learn Hackathon, a competition that saw all Universities in Kenya show-

case their ideas.

Some of the innovations the students have developed include Airsafi green solutions; an innovation which has gained attention among Environmental experts in the country.

The innovation seeks to monitor the air quality index, providing real-time notifications to locals and industries about air pollution levels.

Earlier this month, another student Alex Okabo was selected to participate in an innovative event at Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN@80) in Kigali, Rwanda, where he represented the University in showcasing innovations exploring the Internet Protocol (IP) addresses and the future of IPv6 deployment.

For two years in a row, Zetech University students have represented the country in the World Robotics Competition in Geneva in 2022 and Singapore in 2023. They are now preparing for Athens in September 2024.

Fisher Folk Trained To Make Nets That Will Reduce Illegal Fishing

By: MKT Correspondent
 @themtkenyatimes

The Turkana County Government has embarked on an ambitious fishing skills training program that will see the region increase its food security.

The training geared at reducing illegal fishing was organized by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), through the European Union-funded ECOFISH Project, in collaboration with the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy, and Maritime Affairs of Kenya.

The three-day practical training was focused at gillnet making for the fishing communities in the Omo-Turkana Basin.

In line with the principles of fisheries co-management, the fisheries co-management document for the Omo-Turkana Basin was developed



to involve the fishing communities.

The project has established fisheries co-management units in Turkana County to pilot the implementation of the fisheries co-management plan.

A capacity gap assessment in the Omo-Turkana Basin recommended minimizing the use of illegal monofilament fishing nets due to the scarcity of legal multifilament gillnets.

“This practical training aims at enabling women and youth to contribute to reducing illegal monofilament gillnet use and diversify their livelihoods,” said Kennedy Opiyo, Assistant Director for Fisheries in charge of Turkana County.

He highlighted the challenges faced by the fishing community, including reduced fish stocks in Lake Turkana. He attributed this to illegal fishing with monofilament nets and fishing in protected areas.

He urged communities to be vigilant and responsible, emphasizing the importance of the training in producing and making the recommended multifilament nets available

for fishing.

Dr. Eshete Dejen, Programme Manager for the Sustainable Environment Protection Unit of IGAD, speaking on behalf of the IGAD Director for Agriculture and Environment Division, thanked the Government of Kenya for supporting IGAD’s sustainable fishing initiative.

He commended the participants undergoing training for their commitment to acquiring gillnet making skills, which will improve household livelihoods and food security.

Dr. Eshete noted that IGAD is implementing similar initiatives in Ethiopia, Kenya, and South Sudan, and will conduct similar training in other IGAD Member States to promote sustainable fishing in transboundary water bodies.

He emphasised the need to avoid using monofilament fishing nets due to their negative impact on the fisheries sector.

Joseph Mahongah, Fisheries Director from the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy, and Maritime Affairs, noted the training’s timeliness, given the widespread use of illegal monofilament fishing nets in Lake Turkana.

He acknowledged the scarcity of multifilament nets in the lake basin but emphasised that the training would make these nets available to the fishers.

He encouraged the women and youth participating in the training to take the initiative seriously and earn a living from the net-making business.

The objectives of the gillnet-making training included equipping the fishing communities with the skills to produce multifilament fishing gillnets, encouraging the use of legal fishing gear, diversifying the livelihoods of the fishing communities, and building their capacity to reduce the use of illegal fishing gear.

Juggling Business And Music: The Journey Of Gospel Artist Monica Magoslo



By: Peter Aowa
@themtkenyetimes

From a young age, Monica Anyango, known by her stage name Monica Magoslo, had a deep passion for singing. However, it wasn't until she recorded her debut album, "Yesu Anaweza," in 2018, just three years after completing high school, that Monica realized this was her divine calling.

Monica recalls her conversion to Christianity during her second year of high school and the challenges she faced thereafter. "It wasn't easy. I committed my life to Christ in Form Two, and the journey was fraught with temptations," she shared.

The second eldest in a family of four, Monica attributes her resilience against temptations to a life devoted

to prayer and consistent study of God's word. "It's a battle you can't fight alone. It requires constant prayer and deep personal reflection. I had to distance myself from friends due to stigma, but protecting my faith was paramount," she emphasized.

Despite occasional setbacks, Monica draws inspiration from the biblical figure David, advocating for continuous prayer and righteousness among Christians.

Reflecting on her journey, Monica acknowledges God's grace from almost dropping out of high school in Form Two to eventually graduating from Ramogi Institute of Advanced Technology with a diploma in textile design. "Growing up with my grandmother meant financial challenges, especially for school fees. I almost quit, but a generous benefactor intervened, enabling me to transfer to a private school," she recounted.

Despite her school's poor performance, Monica focused on her studies and eventually secured a place at RIAT.

An alumna of Hopewell Academy, Monica balances her life between managing her shop in Siaya town, pursuing her music career, and designing curtains and house decorations.

While funding remains a challenge in fulfilling her calling, Monica remains undeterred in realizing her childhood dream. "With support from my uncle, church members, and close friends, I navigate the dynamic and demanding gospel industry," she remarked.

Currently preparing for her second album launch this year, Monica looks forward to collaborating with fellow gospel artists like Evelyn Muthoka, Kaka Chinese, Milicent Joy, Janet Oudu, or Eunice Ongoma, who have inspired her journey.

For updates and to listen to her music, you can connect with Monica Magoslo on her social media platforms or visit her official YouTube channel Monica Magoslo



Monica Anyango, known by her stage name Monica Magoslo.

Karua's Narc Kenya Decision To Exit Azimio Coalition Did Not Come As A Surprise

Contd from page 11

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 cabinet nominees. He had promised a broad based government. He has lived up his word. Two of the nominees are Gen zeers.

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 Mutahi Kagwe as DP".

This Gen-Z did not want to be corrected.

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.



Martha Karua Narc Kenya Party leader.

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.

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

Responsibility To Protect Nature



years! I want to tell you a fact about the Plastic. The first plastic things were made in 1959 year. 1959 and 2024 between these years have got 45 years. So, and think, the first plastic things are with us! If we won't mention these problems, it will be a big tragedy. Nature- is the deposit thing God give us!

Sevinch Kudratova

My name is Sevinch and my surname is Kudratova. I live in Uzbekistan in Karshi region. I am 14 years old and I am 8th class student. I have got a certificate from the art competition "Yosh ijodkorlar" "I was a leader in" Eco School and me competed in "Ona tabiatni asrash" project. And I have got the two certificates from "Shine girls academy" I think I have unique hobbies. I really like painting, and I make beautiful and amazing jewelries

Nature is everything that surrounds us. Nature is the primary thing for humans. Nature helps us to grow and to get energy. But some people is forgetting their responsibility. We are wasting water, and we are throwing away the litters. That is a pitiful situation. We should save our earth and we should not waste our foods and our water. That is our responsibility! Litters, they are main danger to climate changing, and animals die. I have got a question for you. Do you remember your forest litter that you threw away? I thought a lot, when I first heard. Imagine it. One plastic bottle rots around in 450

Abdujabborova Muslima Artwork



I was born on 2008.01.15. in Tashkent. I am currently studying in the 6th year of school 330 and Kingsejong Korean Language School.

And I am studying in the 6th year at the education center of the Republic of Korea. Until now, I have obtained many certificates from Korea.

And I met with representatives of many foreign universities.



Girls Picking Flowers



Grandmother, grandfather
They always pray
Peace and health
They put it in their eyes

Rasulova Rukhshona Vahobjon's daughter was born on October 16, 2008 in Rishton district of Fergana region. In 2015, she started studying in the 1st grade of school 34 in this district. Currently, she is a 9th grade student of this school. Rukhshona Rasulova is interested in participating in various competitions, writing poems and stories, and reading many books. He regularly participates in school and district competitions and takes pride of place. Also participated in many online contests and There are international certificates.

Member of various creative teams. 2024 "Ufq ilmi" 1st place winner

A young artist has unlimited goals in his heart. His biggest dream is to become a "young reader".

Rukhshona Rasulova's poems were published in the book "Youth of Uzbekistan" published by Justfiction publishing house, and in one of the most prestigious British magazines "Raven Cage" and "Kenya Time" in Thailand. And participated in various anthologies covering artists across the Republic.

Girls picking flowers
Makes bouquets
The guys are also gathered
"Ko'pkari" plays the game

Both mountains and gardens
It is bluish in color
Swallows are coming
Everyone knows that.

This is the most wonderful holiday
Nowruz, my dears,
Ancient, traditional
Everyone will appreciate it.

My Spring Muse



Together hand in hand
With the thirst quenched wet lips,
Nectar of love, we drink...
Thought, you're coming with spring,
When the echo be heard in the mountains,
Where the rivers happily roared,
Sung love ballads over centuries!
I became a butterfly, always being first,
With my arms wide open,
Nothing could stop me, even the night,
That falls around us,
Living the magic of the fire nights,
As golden roses that bloom in spring...

I told you to come with spring,
When the birds build nests
In the morning, when sun starts to rise,
And the flowers dance in the breeze..
I wish the silent dances,

Erkinboyeva Hulkar

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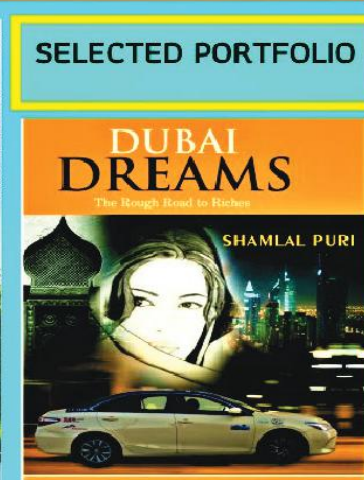
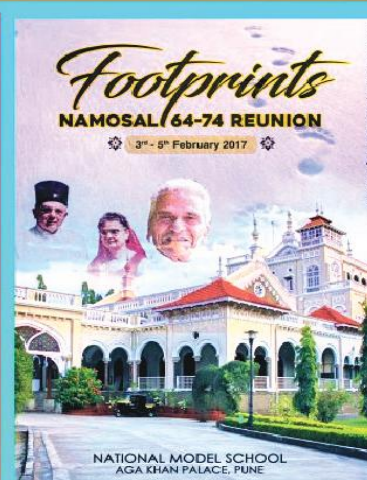
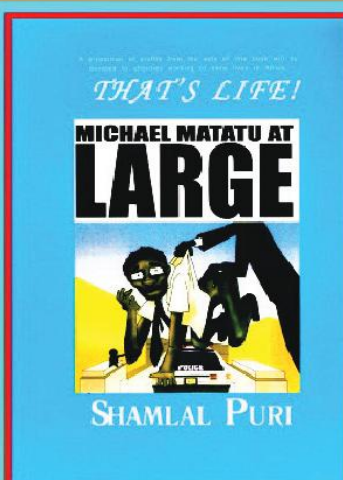
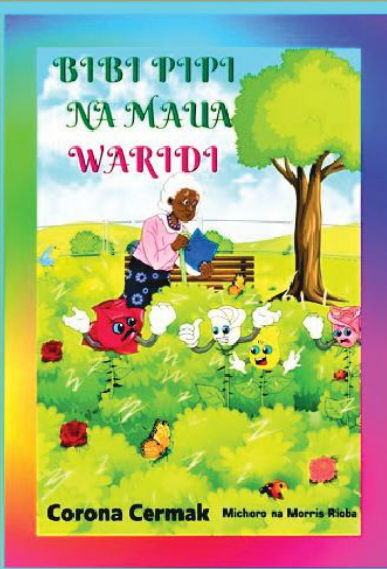
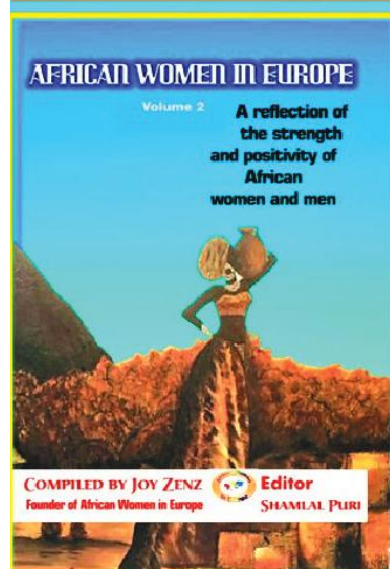
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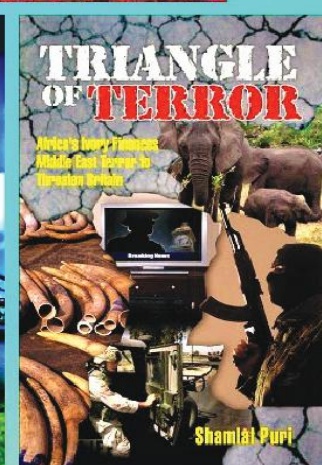
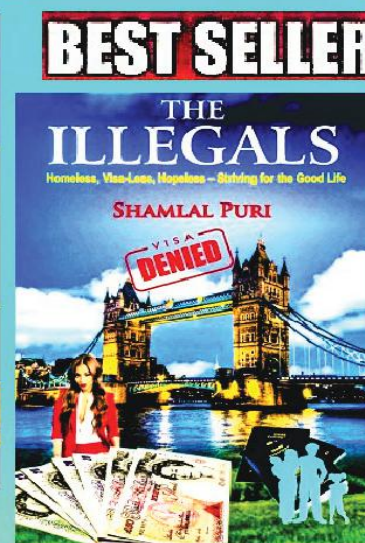
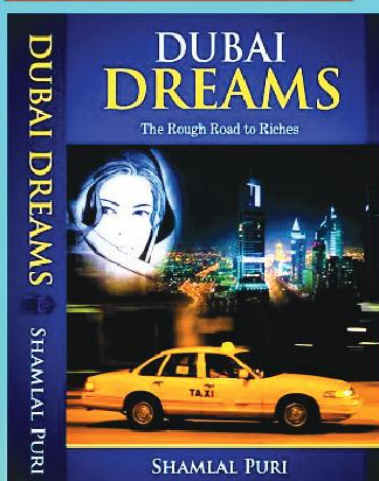
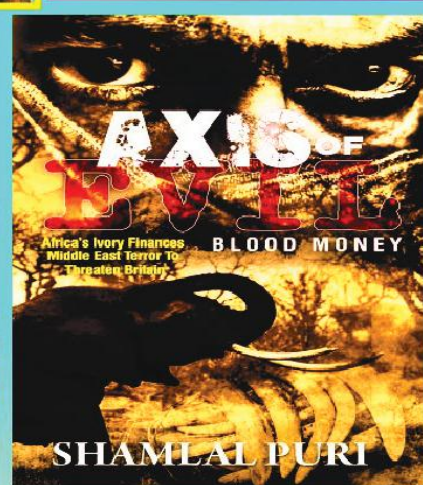
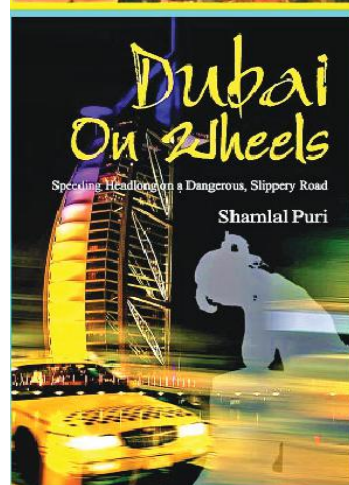
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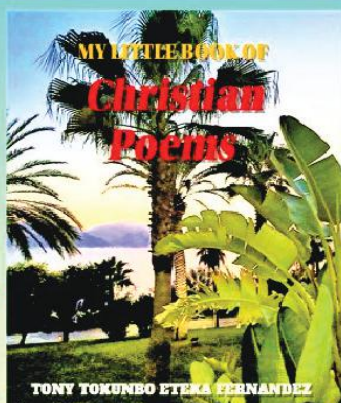
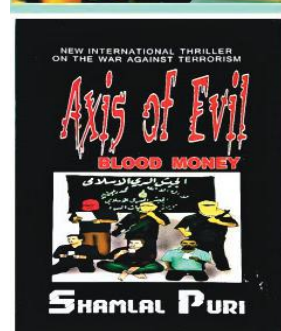
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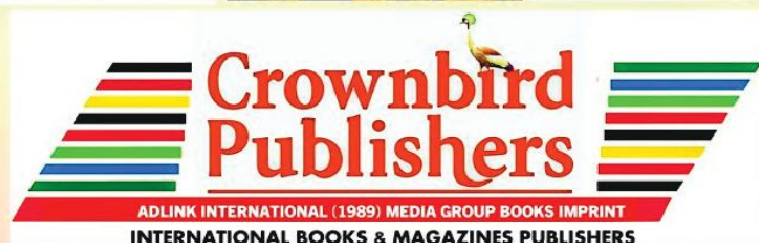


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NGOs

Illegal Public Benefits Organizations (PBOs) Authority Actions Are Ultra Vires



By: Ndung'u Wainaina

Worth Noting:

- A public benefit organization may also express its views on any issue or policy that is or may be debated or discussed in the course of a political campaign or election (S 66(2)) of PBO Act. Consistent with its obligation to respect the freedoms of association and assembly, it is the duty of the Government to provide an enabling environment for public benefit organizations to be established and to operate (S 4(1) of the PBO Act).
- The PBOs Regulatory Authority cannot and has no legal powers to suspend freedom of expression and association guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. Further, the Authority and any government official and statutory bodies are bound by Articles 3 and 10 of the Constitution.

The Public Benefit Organisations Act



It is crucial to defend and expand the space for civil society. This is really about democracy.

The current trends against democracy and diminishing civil society space are dangerous as civil society is an integral component of democracy, development and services.

Democracy is never safe. The empowerment of civil society actors is fundamental to sustainable democracy.

The Public Benefits Organizations (PBOs) Act, 2013 is underpinned by creating an enabling predictable friendly environment and strengthening civil society. The Act in its preamble states, "Cognizant that laws permitting public benefit organizations to exist and operate freely are indispensable to the full and meaningful implementation if the freedom of association, expression, and peaceful assembly in the Constitution, as well as increased development effectiveness through better service delivery and empowerment of Kenyans."

When governments fail to act in the public interest, and opposition parties are unwilling or unable to offer a credible alternative, it is up to civil society organizations to identify abuses and advocate for reforms and democratic accountability. Restrictions that hamstring civil society activity form part of a broader strategy adopted by anti-democratic regimes to narrow democratic space and prevent challenges to the rule of strongmen and governing parties.

The PBO Act further appreciates

the central of civil society and guarantees its independence. The objects and purposes of the PBO Act are to give meaningful protection to the internationally recognized freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly. A public benefit organization may engage freely in research, education, publication and advocacy with respect to any issue affecting the public interest including criticism of the policies or activities of the state or any officer or organ thereof (S 66(1)) of the PBO Act

A public benefit organization may also express its views on any issue or policy that is or may be debated or discussed in the course of a political campaign or election (S 66(2)) of PBO Act. Consistent with its obligation to respect the freedoms of association and assembly, it is the duty of the Government to provide an enabling environment for public benefit organizations to be established and to operate (S 4(1) of the PBO Act).

The PBOs Regulatory Authority cannot and has no legal powers to suspend freedom of expression and association guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. Further, the Authority and any government official and statutory bodies are bound by Articles 3 and 10 of the Constitution.

In this regard, Authority's actions are ultra vires to the Constitution and the PBO Act, 2013.

Finally, the PBO Act establishes an internal dispute mechanism to resolve any matter arising between the Authority and PBO including adhering

to procedures of fair administrative action. Thus the Authority is operating outside the clear provisions of the Constitution and the PBO Act.

The PBO Act, 2013 became law in accordance with Article 115 of the Constitution. Further, several Courts' rulings directing the implementation of the Act have been disregarded. The domino effects is that since 2013 both the Authority (and its predecessor NGO Coordination Board) have been non-existence.

They were repealed. Thus the people purporting to the officials of Authority are aliens. They are strangers in law.

According to the Schedule three of the PBO Act 2013, the Authority itself ought to have been reconstituted afresh. This has not happened, meaning that the Authority itself is in office illegally, hence their directives and administrative actions including the alleged Inquiry are illegal and unconstitutional.

The Schedule Five of the PBO Act provides that those organizations that were exempted from registration by the repealed NGO Coordination Act had three months from the date of operationalization of the PBO Act to apply for registration to the PBO Regulatory Authority or write to the Authority expressing their intention to operate as PBOs. Such a move is only possible with the enactment of Regulations under section 69. This has not happened hence there is no group operating illegally. Furthermore, the Authority is yet to advertise

for that exercise. The Authority as is currently constituted is not independent as envisaged under section 42 of the PBO Act which is a clear violation of the PBO Act.

The illegal Authority has become an errand agent of the state to threaten, harass, criminalize and stigmatize the civil society. It must stop operating on the software of the yesterday years. The procedures for suspension of and cancellation of PBO certificate are well elaborated in S 18 and 19 of the PBO Act. It is not the function of the Authority to refer cases to other state bodies. It is not within the jurisdiction of the Authority to investigate and refer cases involving PBOs and Organizations registered through other laws to other state Agencies.

The Authority is required to publish information quarterly on the registered and deregistered PBOs, yet they have not published any list. S 18 and 19 of the PBO Act are clear on the process of suspension and cancellation. Due process should be followed, if any breaches have been done by any Organization. The Authority should provide proof of any breaches and not issue wild allegations. The PBO Act establishes a Dispute Resolution Tribunal to handle any disputes arising in the PBO Sector. This is yet to be established. An illegal Authority is operating and making ultra vires decisions.

The Writer is Transitional Justice and Human Security Fellow @NdunguWainaina

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The Labyrinth Of Fiscal Incoherence: A Critical Examination Of Kenya's Taxation Policy And Budget-Making Process



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themtkenyetimes



Digital Service Tax

Understanding How It Works

“public participation is not a mere formality but a constitutional imperative that must be adhered to in the process of enacting legislation, including tax measures.” This judicial intervention underscores the importance of adhering to constitutional principles in the formulation of tax policy and highlights the role of the courts in ensuring that the budget-making process remains accountable and transparent. However, while such rulings provide important checks and balances, they also point to a systemic failure in the executive and legislative branches to develop coherent and constitutionally sound taxation policies in the first place.

The incoherence in Kenya's taxation policy is further exacerbated by the tension between short-term revenue needs and long-term economic development goals. The government's focus on meeting immediate revenue targets often leads to the introduction of ad hoc taxes that may provide a quick fiscal boost but can have detrimental effects on economic growth and investment in the long run. This short-termism is evident in measures such as the introduction of the turnover tax for small businesses, which, while aimed at broadening the tax base, has been criticized for potentially stifling entrepreneurship and the growth of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). As noted by Dr. Rose Ngugi, Executive Director of the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), “A coherent taxation policy must strike a balance between revenue generation and creating an enabling environment for business growth and job creation.” The failure to achieve this balance is a clear indictment of the budget-making process, suggesting a lack of comprehensive long-term planning and insufficient consideration of the broader economic implications of tax measures.

The impact of incoherent taxation policy extends beyond economic inefficiencies, touching on issues of social equity and national development. Kenya's Vision 2030, the country's long-term development blueprint, aspires to create “a globally competitive and prosperous nation with a high quality of life by 2030.” However, the current approach to taxation often undermines these aspirations by creating barriers to economic participation and growth. The heavy reli-

Worth Noting:

- The Constitution of Kenya, promulgated in 2010, enshrines the principles of public finance management in Chapter 12, with Article 201(b)(i) explicitly stating that “the public finance system shall promote an equitable society, and in particular the burden of taxation shall be shared fairly.”

- This constitutional mandate sets a high bar for the country's taxation policy, demanding a system that is not only efficient in revenue collection but also equitable in its distribution of the tax burden across society.

- However, the reality on the ground often falls short of these lofty ideals. The current tax regime in Kenya is characterized by a heavy reliance on indirect taxes, such as Value Added Tax (VAT) and excise duties, which tend to be regressive in nature, affecting low-income earners more severely than their wealthier counterparts.

Adam Smith, the renowned Scottish philosopher and economist, once posited in his seminal work “The Wealth of Nations” that “The subjects of every state ought to contribute towards the support of the government, as nearly as possible, in proportion to their respective abilities; that is, in proportion to the revenue which they respectively enjoy under the protection of the state.” This principle of equity in taxation, though articulated centuries ago, remains a cornerstone of modern fiscal policy and serves as a poignant starting point for our examination of Kenya's taxation and budgetary landscape. The Kenyan fiscal system, despite its aspirations towards fairness and efficiency, has long been plagued by inconsistencies and incoherencies that not only undermine its effectiveness but also cast a shadow over the entire budget-making process. These inconsistencies manifest in various forms, from regressive tax structures that disproportionately burden the poor to frequent policy reversals that create an atmosphere of uncertainty for businesses and investors. The root of this problem can be traced to a complex interplay of factors, including political expediency, inadequate stakeholder engagement, and a lack of long-term fiscal planning. As we delve deeper into this issue, it becomes evident that the repercussions of an incoherent taxation policy extend far beyond mere economic inefficiencies, touching upon fundamental questions of governance, social justice, and national development.

The Constitution of Kenya, promulgated in 2010, enshrines the principles of public finance management in Chapter 12, with Article 201(b)(i) explicitly stating that “the public finance system shall promote an equitable society, and in particular the burden of taxation shall be shared fairly.” This constitutional mandate sets a high bar for the country's taxation policy, demanding a system that is not only efficient in revenue collection but also

equitable in its distribution of the tax burden across society. However, the reality on the ground often falls short of these lofty ideals. The current tax regime in Kenya is characterized by a heavy reliance on indirect taxes, such as Value Added Tax (VAT) and excise duties, which tend to be regressive in nature, affecting low-income earners more severely than their wealthier counterparts. This stands in stark contrast to the progressive taxation principles advocated by economists and enshrined in the constitution. The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has made efforts to broaden the tax base and improve compliance, but these efforts are often undermined by policy inconsistencies and frequent amendments to tax laws, creating a complex and unpredictable fiscal environment. The Finance Act, enacted annually to implement the budget proposals, has become a symbol of this policy volatility, with each iteration introducing new taxes or modifying existing ones, often with little regard for the long-term implications or coherence with the broader economic strategy.

The incoherence in Kenya's taxation policy is further exemplified by the frequent introduction and subsequent reversal of tax measures, a phenomenon that has become all too common in recent years. A case in point is the contentious 16% VAT on petroleum products, which was introduced in 2018, suspended, reintroduced, and then modified again in the face of public outcry and economic pressures. This back-and-forth approach to taxation not only creates uncertainty for businesses and consumers but also undermines the credibility of the government's fiscal policy. As noted by Dr. Njuguna, “Consistency and predictability in tax policy are crucial for creating an environment conducive to investment and economic growth.” The lack of these qualities in Kenya's taxation approach has led to a situation where businesses struggle to plan for the long term, potentially hampering investment and eco-

nommic development. Moreover, this policy inconsistency reflects a deeper problem in the budget-making process itself, suggesting that decisions are often made without adequate consideration of their long-term implications or their coherence with the overall economic strategy.

The budget-making process in Kenya, as outlined in the Public Finance Management Act of 2012, is designed to be participatory and transparent, involving multiple stakeholders from government, civil society, and the private sector. Section 35 of the Act mandates public participation in the budget process, stating that “The Cabinet Secretary shall develop and implement programmes for public education on the budget process.” However, the reality often falls short of these legal provisions. Critics argue that public participation is often superficial, with insufficient time allocated for meaningful engagement and limited incorporation of public input into the final budget documents. This disconnect between the legal framework and its implementation contributes to the development of taxation policies that may be out of touch with economic realities and public needs. As observed by Professor Karuti Kanyinga of the University of Nairobi's Institute for Development Studies, “The budget-making process in Kenya remains largely a technocratic exercise, with limited space for genuine public input, leading to policies that often lack popular legitimacy and fail to address the real needs of citizens.”

The judiciary has played a crucial role in highlighting and addressing some of the inconsistencies in Kenya's taxation policy. In the landmark case of *Okiya Omtatah Okoiti & 2 others v Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury & 3 others* [2018] eKLR, the High Court ruled that the imposition of VAT on petroleum products without adequate public participation was unconstitutional. Justice Chacha Mwita, in his ruling, emphasized that

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Why Is the Legal System Failing Victims of Femicide And Gender-Based Violence?

By: Deborah Monari and
Dambalash Ermiyas
@themtkenyetimes

The recent arrest of Collins Jumaisi Khalusha, a suspect who has confessed to the horrific murders of 42 women in Nairobi, has sent shockwaves through Kenya. The gruesome discovery of nine mutilated and dismembered bodies in the Mukuru slum area is a grim reminder of the pervasive and escalating violence against women in our country.

This tragedy is not an isolated incident but part of a larger, deeply rooted issue that continues to threaten the safety and lives of Kenyan women.

In recent years, Kenya has seen a disturbing rise in cases of violence against women, particularly intimate partner violence. This year's "Dark Valentine's

Day" commemorated the lives lost to femicide, underscoring the urgent need for societal and governmental intervention. Despite widespread outrage and calls for justice, the legal system has repeatedly failed to protect victims and hold perpetrators accountable.

The brutal acts committed by Khalusha expose the underlying issues of gender-based violence that plague our society. These acts are often fueled by deeply ingrained patriarchal norms, economic disparities, and inadequate legal protection for women. Many women suffer in silence, fearing retribution and stigmatization.

The Mukuru slum case is an illustration of the extreme dangers women face, with many feeling unsafe even in their own homes.

The Kenyan government's response to gender-based violence has been woefully inadequate. There is a growing perception that authorities are more re-

active than proactive, often waiting for public outcry before taking any meaningful action.

This lack of accountability is infuriating for a populace that has repeatedly called for stronger protective measures and more severe penalties for offenders.

Social Media has become a platform for victims and advocates to voice their anger and frustration, demanding justice and systemic change.

Yet, despite the outcry, little has changed on the ground. Women continue to live in fear, knowing that the system meant to protect them is broken.

To address this crisis, the Kenyan government must act decisively and expeditiously. This entails strengthening laws and policies designed to protect women from violence based on their gender, raising funds for services, as well as providing adequate resources

needed to carry out investigations and prosecutions. Additionally, the state must adopt campaigns that are focused on challenging patriarchal norms and promoting a culture of respect and equality.

Moreover, people should also be encouraged to actively participate in advocating for safe environments that will promote women's rights through speaking against gender-based violence, reporting cases of violence or abuse against them, and calling for changes. As such we ask Kenyans to gather around a common cause; justice, equality, and an end to this nonsense.

For instance, we suggest that there should be a special team specifically tasked with investigating and prosecuting all forms of gender-based violence. They ought to train law enforcement agencies on how best they can handle these cases. Furthermore, there

is a need to provide more funding to community-based organisations which offer counselling services especially because they sometimes work as intermediary agencies among survivors.

We must act fast if we don't want more tragedies like the Mukuru slum case, for this society to be created where women live without fear or violence will require action by the government, civil society, and ordinary citizens working together. The ones who have suffered from sexual abuse due to their sex, deserve better treatment hence our debt towards them.

The writers; Deborah Monari and Dambalash Ermiyas Nguvu Collective Change Leaders. Contact; +254 795 680751

Generation Z Wake Up Call

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
@themtkenyetimes

The ongoing Gen Z protests in Kenya are a wake-up call for the government to embrace clarity, accountability, and transparency in addressing the country's challenges. The protesters have emphasized the need for leaders to take responsibility and make significant changes in how the nation is run.

Gen Z activists have showcased unity across tribal and party lines, reminding Kenyans of their common struggle for the common good. They have used innovative tactics, such as leveraging technology and social media, to rally citizens and challenge traditional power structures.

The Archbishop of Nairobi applauded the young people for their patriotic spirit and peaceful approach, setting an example for the rest of Africa. However, he condemned the loss of lives and property caused by those who hijacked the protests.

The Gen Z uprising reflects deep-seated discontent and growing disillusionment among young Kenyans with existing policies that overlook public participation and fail to

address urgent national issues, such as unemployment, inequality, and corruption. These protests mark a turning point for Kenya, heralding a new era of collective action and political and social accountability.

The Kenyan Gen Z revolution is a wake-up call for the government to listen, reflect, and devise new strategies in response to the demands of the youth. It is a reminder that the digital age demands clarity, accountability, and transparency to bring about positive change.

The government must embrace a collaborative approach, engaging in constructive dialogue with these young activists and stakeholders to co-create policies and solutions that reflect the diverse interests of all Kenyans. Together, these efforts can pave the way for long-term solutions, fostering a more equitable and just society where every Kenyan, especially the youth, can thrive and participate meaningfully in shaping the nation's future.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication student from Masinde muliro university of science and technology currently undertaking my industrial attachment at Egerton radio Nakuru.



Kenya’s Valarie Waswa Picked For Inaugural ITU-Huawei Digital Talent Program

She Was Among The First Group Of Students From 28 Countries Who Completed Development Week In Switzerland

By: Mike Omuodo
@themtkenyatimes

Kenya’s Valarie Neema Waswa is among the inaugural cohort of the Generation Connect Young Leadership Programme (GCYLP) fellows who completed their development week in Switzerland.

The GCYLP, an initiative launched by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in partnership with Huawei, supports 30 fellows each year for a period of three years.

Aged 18-28, the fellows receive mentorship and financial support in their projects to use digital technology to drive community development through the course of one year.

The week-long activities include leadership fireside chats, an intergenerational panel discussion, and visits to Geneva University, Palais de Nations, as well as Huawei Switzerland in Zurich.

In addition to the initial development week, the program also provides on-line mentoring sessions, virtual “fire-side chats” with industry experts, group projects with other participants, and other online programs.

Ms. Waswa is among the 30 initial fellows who were selected by a global jury from a pool of 5,249 applicants from over 200 countries worldwide. She’s an up-coming lawyer, who is passionate about women and youth inclusion in governance and decision making processes. She has worked with different organizations- from youth activist, to youth envoy and woke advocate, in causes that seek to promote peace and socio-economic development of women and youth.

“Seizing opportunities and creating new ones, being collaborative and resilient, as well as adopting a multi-disciplinary approach for a multi-sectoral world in which we find ourselves, will go a long way in helping you succeed and in impact people’s lives around the world,” he said Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau.

Selina Wen, Chief Representative to the EU Institutions and Vice President of Public Affairs for Europe at Huawei, said young leaders “have played and will continue to play an important role in the digital era, at a time when the enabling power of technology should be further harnessed to address the most pressing social challenges”.

“The projects you have presented are exactly what the real world is calling for,” she said.

The fellows’ project ideas cut across fields from inclusive healthcare, innovative digital skills training to efficient energy storage and circular economy.

The program was announced in November 2023 and applications for the inaugural cohort opened in February. Over the next two years, two more groups, nearly 100 young visionaries from around the world, will embark on a similar journey.



Kenya’s Valarie Neema Waswa .

Press Freedom For Journalist

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
@themtkenyatimes

The recent nationwide protests by Kenyan journalists have shone a spotlight on the critical state of press freedom and accountability in the country. As media professionals took to the streets to demand justice and protection from escalating police violence, their actions resonated with broader societal discontent over government repression and censorship.

The demonstrations were sparked by alarming incidents of police brutality, such as the shooting of journalist Catherine Wanjeri, who was injured while clearly identified as press during protests in Nakuru. The Kenya Union of Journalists reported numerous attacks, with many journalists sustaining injuries from police actions during recent demonstrations against the government’s economic policies.

This situation reflects a troubling trend where journalists, rather than being protected as they fulfill their



Shooting of journalist Catherine Wanjeri.

vital role in informing the public, are instead targeted for their work. The protests, led by the Kenya Editors Guild and the Kenya Union of Journalists, symbolize a collective demand for the recognition of journalism as a fundamental pillar of democracy.

The journalists’ demonstrations occur against a backdrop of heightened tension in Kenya, where discontent over economic hardships has led to widespread protests. As citizens express their dissatisfaction, journalists have found themselves on the front lines, documenting these crucial events. However, their safety and rights have been compromised by heavy-handed police tactics.

The protests echo the timeless principles articulated by figures like Walter Lippmann and Thomas Jefferson,

who emphasized the necessity of a free press in a democratic society. The ongoing violence against journalists is a direct assault on these principles and poses a significant threat to the integrity of democratic discourse in Kenya.

As journalists march with placards demanding justice, their calls for accountability resonate with a public increasingly aware of the importance of press freedom. The protests serve as a reminder that journalism is not a crime; rather, it is a vital service to society. The media’s ability to report freely and without fear is essential for informing the public and fostering a healthy democracy.

The outcome of these protests will be pivotal in shaping the future of press freedom in Kenya. As journalists demand justice and protection, the government faces mounting pressure to ensure their safety and uphold democratic values. The recent resignation of the inspector general of police, amid accusations of brutality, signals a potential shift in how law enforcement engages with the media. However, the path forward remains

challenging. The government must not only address the immediate concerns of journalists but also engage in a broader dialogue about the role of the media in society. The protests also highlight the need for systemic reforms to protect journalists and ensure accountability for those who perpetrate violence against them.

In conclusion, the demonstrations by Kenyan journalists are a clarion call for justice, accountability, and the protection of press freedom. As the country grapples with economic challenges and political unrest, the role of the media has never been more crucial. The outcome of this struggle will shape the future of journalism and civil liberties in Kenya. The government must listen to the voices of its citizens and protect those who strive to inform and empower them.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication student from Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology kakamega currently undertaking my industrial attachment at Egerton radio Nakuru.

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The Labyrinth Of Fiscal Incoherence: A Critical Examination Of Kenya's Taxation Policy And Budget-Making Process

Contd from page 18



Worth Noting:

- The incoherence in Kenya's taxation policy is also evident in the treatment of different economic sectors, with some industries enjoying preferential tax treatment while others face a heavier burden.
- This sectoral inconsistency not only distorts economic incentives but also raises questions about equity and fairness in the tax system.
- For instance, the agricultural sector, which is crucial for food security and rural livelihoods, has long benefited from various tax exemptions and incentives.
- In contrast, the manufacturing sector, identified as a key driver of economic transformation in the government's Big Four Agenda, often complains of a high tax burden that hampers its competitiveness.

ance on consumption taxes, for instance, disproportionately affects the poor and middle class, potentially exacerbating income inequality and hindering social mobility. Professor Germano Mwangi, an economist at the University of Nairobi, argues that "A progressive and coherent taxation system is essential for achieving the goals of Vision 2030, as it not only generates the necessary revenue for development projects but also plays a crucial role in redistributing wealth and reducing inequality." The failure to align taxation policy with these broader national development goals represents a significant shortcoming in the budget-making process and calls into question the government's commitment to inclusive growth and social equity.

The incoherence in Kenya's taxation policy is further reflected in the country's struggle to balance domestic revenue mobilization with the need to maintain a competitive business environment. Kenya's tax-to-GDP ratio, which stood at 16.1% in the 2019/20 fiscal year according to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, is lower than the average for lower-middle-income countries, suggesting room for improvement in revenue collection. However, attempts to increase this ratio through new taxes or higher rates often face resistance from businesses and investors who argue that such measures make Kenya less competitive in the region. This dilemma is exemplified by the ongoing debate over the Digital Service Tax (DST), introduced in the Finance Act 2020, which aims to tax the digital economy but has raised concerns about its potential impact on Kenya's burgeoning tech sector. As noted by Dr.

Joy Kiiru, an economist at the University of Nairobi, "The challenge for policymakers is to design a tax system that raises sufficient revenue without stifling economic activity or deterring investment." The current approach, characterized by frequent policy changes and a lack of clear long-term strategy, fails to meet this challenge and underscores the need for a more coherent and carefully considered approach to taxation.

The role of international financial institutions and development partners in shaping Kenya's taxation policy adds another layer of complexity to the issue. While organizations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank provide valuable technical assistance and policy advice, their influence can sometimes lead to the adoption of tax measures that may not be fully aligned with local economic realities or development priorities. The push for fiscal consolidation and debt reduction, for instance, has sometimes resulted in the implementation of austerity measures and tax increases that, while aimed at improving fiscal sustainability, can have negative impacts on economic growth and social welfare in the short to medium term. As argued by Professor Attiya Waris, a tax law expert at the University of Nairobi, "While international best practices in taxation are important, they must be carefully adapted to the Kenyan context, taking into account our unique economic structure, development needs, and social dynamics." The failure to strike this balance in the budget-making process often results in taxation policies that appear incoherent or disconnected from national priorities.

The incoherence in Kenya's tax-

ation policy is also evident in the treatment of different economic sectors, with some industries enjoying preferential tax treatment while others face a heavier burden. This sectoral inconsistency not only distorts economic incentives but also raises questions about equity and fairness in the tax system. For instance, the agricultural sector, which is crucial for food security and rural livelihoods, has long benefited from various tax exemptions and incentives. In contrast, the manufacturing sector, identified as a key driver of economic transformation in the government's Big Four Agenda, often complains of a high tax burden that hampers its competitiveness. As observed by Dr. Bitange Ndemo, former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Communication, "A coherent taxation policy should provide a level playing field for all sectors while strategically incentivizing those areas crucial for national development." The current approach, which often seems to reflect ad hoc decision-making rather than a comprehensive economic strategy, fails to achieve this balance and undermines the overall effectiveness of the tax system in supporting economic growth and structural transformation.

The technological challenges and opportunities in tax administration represent another area where the incoherence of Kenya's taxation policy is apparent. While the Kenya Revenue Authority has made significant strides in digitizing tax collection processes, such as the implementation of the iTax system and the rollout of Electronic Tax Registers (ETRs), these technological advancements have not always been accompanied

by corresponding policy and legislative frameworks. The result is a disconnect between the capabilities of modern tax administration systems and the outdated or inconsistent policies that govern their use. This misalignment is particularly evident in the taxation of the digital economy, where existing laws struggle to keep pace with rapidly evolving business models and transnational transactions. As noted by Maurice Oray, Deputy Commissioner for Strategy, Innovation, and Risk Management at the KRA, "The digitization of the economy presents both challenges and opportunities for tax administration. Our policies and laws must evolve to ensure that we can effectively tax new forms of economic activity while fostering innovation and growth." The failure to develop a coherent and forward-looking approach to tax policy in the face of technological change is a clear indictment of the budget-making process, suggesting a lack of strategic foresight and adaptability.

In conclusion, the incoherence of Kenya's taxation policy stands as a stark indictment of the country's budget-making process, reflecting deeper issues of governance, economic planning, and public participation. The frequent policy reversals, regressive tax structures, and lack of alignment with broader development goals not only undermine the effectiveness of the tax system but also erode public trust in government institutions. As we have seen, this incoherence touches on multiple aspects of the fiscal landscape, from constitutional principles and legal frameworks to sectoral policies and technological challenges. Addressing these issues will require a fundamental rethinking of the budget-making process, with a focus on long-term planning, genuine stakeholder engagement, and a commitment to evidence-based policymaking. As aptly stated by a prominent Kenyan economist, "A coherent taxation policy is not just about collecting revenue; it's about creating a fiscal framework that supports economic growth, social equity, and national development." Only by embracing this holistic view of taxation and budgeting can Kenya hope to create a fiscal system that truly serves the needs of its citizens and supports the country's aspirations for sustainable and inclusive development.

The writer is a legal researcher

Nurses In Machakos Call Off Planned Strike After Reaching An Agreement With The Governor

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyetimes

The Kenya National Union of Nurses (KNUN) in Machakos County have withdrawn their 21-day strike notice after coming to an agreement with Governor Wavinya Ndeti on Wednesday.

The Union had issued a strike notice on 3rd of July over delayed promotions and poor working conditions and were to down their tools on Wednesday if their grievances were not addressed.

KNUN Machakos Branch Secretary Michael Saka during a joint briefing with the Governor at her office said that they have come to an agreement with their employer concerning their grievances and have decided to down their tools.

“As KNUN Machakos branch we hereby call of the intended strike that was scheduled to start today and call

upon our members not to proceed with the strike but continue working as usual,” said Saka.

Saka added that there are 700 nurses who have stagnated in the same job group for years without promotion and the Governor has committed for financial implications for the nurses to be provided to her in the next one week.

“We have had a good meeting with our employer who has agreed that supplies will be quarterly and also to commit Facility Improvement Fund (FIF), into the supplies so that our patients can be attended to the right way,” noted Saka.

On her part the Governor said they plan to pay outstanding arrears of 422 health workers that were promoted last year and also assured the union that the county government will employ a total of 240 nurses by end of September 2024.

“We conducted interviews a month ago and as a result we will release appointment letters for 57 nurses who were interviewed and selected



Machakos County governor Wavinya Ndeti with Nurses Association officials

and are expected to report on duty by Monday 29th July,” added the Governor.

Wavinya further disclosed that there will be an advertisement for vacancies published in the County government website for 326 health workers who are to replace those who has exited from service.

Women Leaders Condemn Bullying On Defence CS Nominee

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyetimes

Women legislators drawn from several parts of the country have condemned the cyberbullying and sexual attack directed towards the Cabinet Secretary Nominee for Defence Roselinda Soipan Tuya.

Led by Suba North MP Millie Odhiambo Mabona the leaders noted, “We ask the concerned authority to look into gender-based violence, every time a woman is appointed, people start talking about bad things. Women who have been appointed are all qualified,” the legislators said.

“We personally know Tuya. What we witnessed recently is gender based violence, the people with edited pictures should be brought to book. We are keenly observing the trend that when a woman is appointed, we start hearing that she is someone’s girlfriend.”

Odhiambo condemned the attacks, saying that equal standards should be upheld when appointing male or



Women Leaders condemn cyberbullying and sexual attacks towards Defence CS nominee Soipan Tuya

female leaders.

“I want to encourage the Gen Zs. I support them but let’s not get trapped by the sexual innuendos,” Odhiambo said.

Soipan holds a law degree from the University of Nairobi. Before her

political debut, she worked as a legal officer for non-profit organisations.

Soipan, who served as Environment CS in President William Ruto’s first cabinet was ladt Friday nominated to the same position, before she was switched to the Defence docket on Tuesday.

Having survived a purge that saw other members of the first cabinet left out of Ruto’s new list, Soipan’s appointment attracted scrutiny on social media platforms.

The scrutiny attracted negative re-

marks and sexual attacks on her rise to Cabinet.

This is despite the cabinet nominee having previously held other leadership positions including serving as a Woman Representative for Narok County for two terms.

Betika Launches Second Edition Of Bingwa Fest, Set To Elevate National Sporting Spirit



By:Aoma Keziah
@themkenyetimes

Betika, a leading sports betting company, has announced the launch of the second edition of Bingwa Fest, a groundbreaking multidiscipline sports event that promises to captivate audiences across the nation. The event will kick off in the Lake Victoria region from August 7th to 10th, 2024.

Bingwa Fest, designed to celebrate and promote various sports disciplines, is set to elevate the nation's sporting spirit, bringing together athletes and sports enthusiasts from all corners of the country. With close to 2000 athletes already registered, the festival is expected to be a significant highlight in the country's sporting calendar.

The event will feature a variety of sports, including football, athletics,



From Right-Left, Fred Ollows Rugby Trainer and Consultant, Mutua Mutava CEO and MD of Betika Group Kenya, Cynthia Mumbo the Founder and CEO of Sports Connect Africa and Kibet Biwott Atheltics Consultant

basketball, and volleyball, among others. It aims to provide a platform for athletes to showcase their talents, foster sportsmanship, and encourage the spirit of competition. Speaking at the launch event, Mutua Mutava CEO and MD of Betika Group Kenya, expressed enthusiasm about the upcoming festival. "We are thrilled to bring the second edition

of Bingwa Fest to the Lake Victoria region. Our goal is to inspire and nurture talent while providing a platform for athletes to shine. We believe that sports have the power to unite and uplift communities, and Bingwa Fest is a testament to that belief." He remarked The choice of the Lake Victoria region as the starting point for this



Mutua Mutava CEO and MD of Betika Group Kenya

year's festival underscores Betika's commitment to promoting sports across different regions of the country. The event is expected to draw large crowds, with local and national fans eager to witness the exciting competitions and cheer on their favorite athletes. As preparations for the festival continue, organizers are confident that Bingwa Fest will not only be a celebration of sports but also a sig-

nificant boost to the local economy. The influx of athletes, officials, and spectators is anticipated to benefit the hospitality and service industries in the region. With just a few weeks to go, the anticipation is building, and the excitement is palpable. Bingwa Fest is poised to set a new benchmark for sports events in the country, fostering a culture of excellence and passion for sports.

Court Stops Meru MCAs From Debating Mwangaza Impeachment

By:Capital Correspondent

The Meru High Court has stopped Members of County Assembly (MCAs) from debating impeachment motion against Governor Kawira Mwangaza, which was scheduled for Thursday. Judge Linus Kassan issued the ruling yesterday, pending a decision on a case filed by Mwangaza challenging the impeachment process. Governor Mwangaza sought to prevent the local MCAs from pursuing her impeachment, arguing that the motion is flawed and driven by her political opponents. The MCAs have accused Mwangaza of gross violations of the Constitution, national and county laws, and alleged abuse of office.

Governor Kawira Mwangaza.



Azimio Co-Principle Kalonzo Musyoka Asserts Coalition's Unity Amid Cabinet Appointments



By: Cynthia Masibo
@themkenyatimes

In a steadfast display of unity, Azimio la Umoja One Kenya Coalition's co-principal Kalonzo Musyoka has reaffirmed the coalition's resilience despite the recent political shifts. This comes in the wake of four members of the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) accepting nominations for Cabinet Secretary (CS) positions from President William Ruto's government. Musyoka, who dismissed any notion of himself taking up the Attorney General (AG) role, emphasized his lack of interest in becoming the chief legal advisor to the Kenya Kwanza administration. "That thing about the Attorney General is a mirage. I may be senior counsel which

is okay, maybe that is the attraction, but this guy has been the vice president of the republic and minister in many portfolios. Do you expect him surely to go and serve Ruto as the AG? I think he is expecting too much," Musyoka remarked, underscoring his commitment to his current political role. President William Ruto's recent nominations included prominent ODM figures such as Party Chairman John Mbadi for Treasury CS, Deputy Chair Wycliffe Oparanya for Cooperatives and MSMEs, National Assembly Minority Leader Opiyo Wandayi for Energy and Petroleum, and former Mombasa Governor Hassan Joho for Mining and Blue Economy. These appointments have stirred significant political discourse and speculation about the stability of the Azimio coalition. Addressing the media, Musyoka reiterated that the Azimio coalition had not received any official notice regarding the ODM's potential exit from the coalition. "We have addressed you today as Azimio la Umoja One Kenya. The coalition,

as of today, has not received an indication of notice to defect that ODM is pulling out of the coalition. If that happens, we will deal with it," he stated, expressing confidence in the coalition's enduring unity. Musyoka also assured that the coalition, despite appearing to be at a crossroads, remains unshaken by the recent developments. He stressed the importance of solidarity among the constituent parties within the Azimio coalition, which includes Wiper, Jubilee, DAP-K, and Narc Kenya. These parties, he asserted, would not succumb to President Ruto's overtures for forming a broad-based government of national unity without a consultative meeting involving all affiliate parties. "Previously, I have stressed that other constituent parties under the Azimio coalition, including Wiper, Jubilee, DAP-K, and Narc Kenya, will not accept President Ruto's proposal of forming a broad-based government of national unity unless a consultative meeting is held between the ruling Kenya Kwanza Alliance coalition and affiliate parties



Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka addressing the press at his official residence

in the opposition coalition," Musyoka insisted. This stance highlights the coalition's demand for a more inclusive and consultative approach before any significant political realignment are considered. The recent political maneuvers have posed critical questions about the future dynamics of Kenya's political landscape. However, Musyoka's

statements provide a clear indication that the Azimio coalition is prepared to navigate these challenges while maintaining its foundational principles and solidarity. As the political scenario unfolds, the coalition's strategic decisions and responses will be pivotal in shaping the country's governance and opposition roles.

Ruto Nominates Douglas Kanja As IG Police, Appoints New Deputy Inspector-Generals

President Ruto has appointed Eliud Lagat and Gilbert Masengeli as the new Deputy Inspector General of Police for the Kenya Police Service and the Administration Police Service, respectively.

By: KBC Digital

President William Ruto nominated Douglas Kanja as the new Inspector General of Police. Kanja was serving as the Acting Inspector General of Police following the resignation of Japhet Koome. He previously served as the Deputy Inspector General of the Kenya Police Service, Commandant of the General Service Unit for five years, and Deputy Commandant of the General Service Unit for three years. He also held positions as County Police Commander in charge of Kilifi County, Deputy Commandant of the Kenya Airports Police Unit, Chief

Armourer at the Police Headquarters, and Deputy Chief Armourer at the Kenya Police Service Headquarters, among other high-level positions. Consequently, President Ruto has appointed Eliud Lagat and Gilbert Masengeli as the new Deputy Inspector General of Police for the Kenya Police Service and the Administration Police Service, respectively. Masengeli will serve as the acting Inspector-General of the National Police Service pending consideration of Kanja's nomination by Parliament.



SPORTS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Argentina coach Javier Mascherano has described the chaotic ending to his team's 2-1 loss to Morocco in the men's Olympic football tournament as a "disgrace" and "a circus".

PARIS OLYMPICS: 'Circus' Football Opener 'Pathetic' – Mascherano



Crowd trouble forced the first football match of Paris 2024 to be suspended for nearly two hours, with the game eventually completed in an empty stadium.
PHOTO/France 24.

Argentina coach Javier Mascherano has described the chaotic ending to his team's 2-1 loss to Morocco in the men's Olympic football tournament as a "disgrace" and "a circus".

Crowd trouble forced the first football match of Paris 2024 to be suspended for nearly two hours, with the game eventually completed in an empty stadium.

With Morocco leading 2-1 Argentina appeared to level the match 16 minutes into second-half injury time, which sparked bottles being thrown on to the turf and a pitch invasion by some supporters in Morocco colours.

The referee led both sets of players off the pitch at 16:05 BST, with the match resuming

at 18:00 after fans had left the Stade Geoffroy-Guichard in Saint-Etienne.

Shortly before restarting, Argentina's equaliser was ruled out for offside following intervention from the video assistant referee (VAR).

Morocco held on to their lead across three additional minutes.

"I have not been a coach for long, but never in my career as a player have I seen a situation like that," said Mascherano, who won gold with Argentina in 2004 and 2008.

"It is a circus. But that is how it is. We cannot control it. I told the boys that now we need to look forward, try to get the six points that will allow us to qualify and that all this should fill us with en-

ergy and anger for what we have ahead of us."

For some time the outcome of the match was unclear, with the official International Olympic Committee (IOC) website indicating it had ended.

Mascherano said the team captains initially "decided not to play on" and that the organiser "called Fifa" – world football's governing body – before deciding to restart the match.

"It is a disgrace that this should happen and poison the tournament. This wouldn't even happen in a neighbourhood tournament. It's pathetic," he added.

"Beyond the Olympic spirit, the organisation needs to be up to standard and at the moment, unfortunately, it is not."

A statement from the tournament organisers said: "The football match between Argentina and Morocco at the Saint-Etienne Stadium was suspended due to a pitch invasion by a small number of spectators.

"The match then restarted and was able to conclude safely. Paris 2024 is working with the relevant stakeholders to understand the causes and identify appropriate actions."

Argentina play their second match on Saturday in Lyon against Iraq, with Morocco facing Ukraine in Saint-Etienne the same day.

BBC

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Sports >>> *Other than chasing medals or prize monies, international competitions are also an opportunity for athletes to make friends with people from other countries.

Language Barrier Hindering Kenyan Sprinter From Finding Love In France



Zablon Ekwam reacts after earning qualification time for the Olympic Games at the Kip Keino Classic. PHOTO/Raymond Makhaya

Other than chasing medals or prize monies, international competitions are also an opportunity for athletes to make friends with people from other countries.

For Kenyan sprinter Zablon Ekwam, this is part of his to-do list when he docks in city of love — Paris — for the summer Olympics.

He is currently training in Kenya's pre-Olympics camp of Miramas where the beautiful damsels of the southern city have caught his eye.

The sprinter admits the 'angels' have stoked a desire in his heart to know them at a personal level but for the language barrier that has made any communication impossible.

"The language barrier is really affecting me but we are also trying to catch up with this language (French). You know...it is frustrating because it's difficult to talk to the girls here. I'd really love to have a chat with them and get to know them but now the language is a problem," the sprinter says.

Ekwam will be debuting at the games, representing the country in the men's 400m after he clocked a personal best of 44.69 to finish third at the Kip Keino Classic in April this year.

Featuring at the grandest sporting event on the globe is enough to make him teary-eyed as he reflects on his roots back home in

Todonyang'.

A few years ago, if you had told him that he would one day don the Team Kenya singlet at the Olympics, he would have thought you were pulling his leg.

The road to Paris was paved with thorns and stones in the form of poor training facilities and gear.

"When I reflect back to the past, I just want to thank God. It has just been a journey of ups and down...just like a child who is growing. I've just been doing the best I can in sprints. The 400m is a hard discipline and growing up in tough conditions in Turkana has really encouraged me that you can achieve whatever you want if only you put your mind to it," Ekwam testifies.

Friends in need

Thank God for friends in athletics who have gone down the same path and reach the promised land.

Ekwam reveals that he received lots of inspiration from Commonwealth Games 100m champion Ferdinand Omanyala and Commonwealth Games bronze medalist Bonface Mweresa who urged him to relentlessly pursue his passion.

"I have been motivated by these two guys. I knew Omanyala when I was still in high school and he would send me training programmes to try and follow. He used to encourage me not to

give up on my dream of becoming a sprinter. How I wish I had my phone here...I would have shown you the conversations we used to have from way back then," he says.

Ekwam adds: "Mweresa has always been my role model considering I have always wanted to compete in the 400m. I was chatting with him in 2018 and 2020 because I had seen him at the London Olympics in 2012. At that time, I had not started running; they motivated me and now here I am running with them."

This friendship has borne fruits, stuck to date as the trio prepare to compete in the Olympics.

It speaks volumes of the respect he commands among his older peers for them to compare him to Botswana sprinter Zibane Ngozi.

Ekwam says it is a name that inspires him to aim higher.

"Most guys say that I resemble him and Mweresa and the others gave me that nickname. I appreciate because Ngozi is one of the fastest sprinters in the world as far as the 400m is concerned. That nickname really motivates me a lot. I met him at the World Championships as well as the World Relays and he was really happy to hear people calling me Ngozi," Ekwam explains.

Even as he undergoes optical nutrition in Miramas, Ekwam has not forgotten his roots in the motherland.

He is conscious that hundreds of thousands of eyes that are fixed on him as he makes history as the first from Todonyang' to feature in the Olympics.

Over a thousand miles away from home — and about to embark on the most pivotal point in his life — Ekwam reveals that encouraging words from family and friends have kept him going in training.

"I just want to say thank you to all those who have said a word of encouragement. Your words have been quite motivating for me in training and my chase for a great performance in Paris," Ekwam says.

Having set out to pave the way for many more like him from his community, Ekwam's message to his kinfolk is for them to embrace hardwork and discipline in their craft.

"Where you come from does not matter but where you are headed to. This is 2024 and back when I was in the villages, I could never have imagined representing my country at the Olympics. Be a man or woman of principles and keep working hard and at the end of the day, you will get what you want," he says.

Good to go

It is all systems go for Ekwam who exudes confidence that he will not be overawed by the magnality of the Olympics.

With the assistance of his coach, the sprinter is currently polishing up on different facets of his running.

"The training has been awesome...we are just trying to polish our starts. We were doing 60s and 30s and the body is responding well. Going to Belgium (for a competition) has really helped me and fine-tuned my mind to believe that I can face off with everyone be it in the heats, semis or even the finals," he says.

Ekwam is the latest in a long line of sprinters to emerge from Kenya in recent times, proving that the country is more than just a cradle of long distance running talents.

The seismic effect of a virtuoso performance by the sprinter will surely be felt in the interiors of his Todonyang' hometown and go a long way in inspiring many of village mates to tread the same path.

At a personal level, Ekwam will have written a wonderful story of a boy who rose from obscurity to worldwide fame.

Who knows? Maybe this story could also include a beautiful damsel from France — in addition to an Olympics medal.

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Development Of Oral And Written Speech Of Primary School Students In Their Native Language Classes



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As you know, just as the motherland begins with the cradle, the fact that education begins to be given from the cradle, and even from the very birth of a child, will give rise to future positive results. In the field of preschool education, it is of high importance to organize the lesson system of Primary School students in an exemplary way, as a fundamental essence of the achievements and victories of schoolchildren, as opposed to the practical results of educational reforms carried out in our country.

In this case, the correct application of various practical methods in the educational system of Primary School students constitutes purposefulness and serves to improve the practical efficiency of yourself.

The direct separation of school education into two parts, as well as the equal conduct of both branches, is a pleasant situation.

Indeed, there is a wide emphasis on the development of oral and written forms of both forms of speech in the course education system of students of the first, second, third and fourth grades, who are trained as part of the primary education system. "The criteria, tasks of the school methodology and theoretical - practical developed tasks of the methodolo-

gy of teaching the native language serve in the formation of oral and written speeches of Primary School students."

In this, the processes of teaching elementary students the letter system of the alphabet book to them from the age of 1st grade are focused on the issue of acoustically working with first - graders. The reason why students of the class in the broad and fluent development of oral speech each repeat such a system of letters as a, B, D, E in a mutual way will also be the impetus for the broad and fluent formation of speech in the future to open their sound capabilities.

For this reason, exercises that work with oral speech, such as fairy tales with elementary school students, tariff on pictures, annotation, color separation, expressive reading, poetry recitation, riddles, Uzbek Hal Proverbs, will also be aimed at the development of oral speech.

Today, the issue of interdisciplinary integration of students of the first, second, third and fourth grades in order to increase their personal worldview and speech coherence is one of the achievements of the general public and scientists in the field of science. In practical terms, in the process of traditional education, it is advisable to carry out an analysis of exercises, a discussion of the topic, a practical organization of classes in mutual proportion with other disciplines rather than a system of grammatical rules.

"Focusing on speech formation and voice capabilities of primary grades is considered important in terms of relevance, the reason is that in the second and third grades they are other subjects: - Russian; - ingiliz language; - and in Karakalpak language schools, the transition of the like of Uzbek begins, and the elementary school student begins to learn languages other than to learn to speak their language beautifully and fluently, which leads to speech divisions of the elementary school student".

On the research work carried out by scientists of the subject of the teaching methodology of the moth-

er tongue, they evaluate the following as having a wide effect on the development of written and oral speech of Primary School students in accordance with mutual personal criteria. It pays off in the growth of oral speech. It pays off in the growth of written speech.

Listening, Formation of imagination, Preface, Reading many books, different quick sayings Preface, Discussion within Class, Prinsipal exercises, Ability to think, ability 6. Creative creativity. Both areas of speech among primary school students can read the text aloud in the text review of exercises and assignments that come in the composition of native language books on the purpose of forming perfection in both oral and written speeches, or discuss with your comrades in the class, observe comments such as inform.

Note. Exercise 258. "Read the given text aloud and divide it into groups in class on this topic organize a discussion. Autumn. With the arrival of autumn, the leaves of the trees turn yellow, and the surrounding area also gives a feeling of a wrinkle, which begins to turn yellow.

The days are also less cool. Due to the fact that thanks to a student's favor with conversations about the practice of autumn affairs, knowing their meaning in the case of unfamiliar words in the text, in the case of an exercise given above in a model way, the entire class enters the discussion, in this case, of course, speech formation occurs, naturally, in this case, students of "While the student reading the exercise reads the text beautifully and in accordance with the tone of speech so that the students of the whole-headed class can hear this exercise, and this leads to the formation of their ability to reveal their opinion in the face of the general public in increasing the eloquence of this student."

The conduct of various competitions and competitions on the improvement of written speech and literacy in the primary classes of schoolchildren serves to increase the written speech activity of pri-

mary students.

In order to ensure the activity of Primary School students in the organization of written speech, it is reasonable to give assignments on exercises and assignments. In this case, the formation of written texts in an independent way, the naming of a picture and the finding of its shortcomings according to the purpose of expressing it by composing a text on the basis of these pictures in the case when primary school students maintain artistry on various pictures and occasions serves to increase both principles of speech with this single exercise.

The purpose of giving written speeches like this in a task and assignment manner is as follows: - formation of software resource divider skills in the formation of the personal worldview of students; - to achieve a further increase in the skill of using words in the text, as well as to control their logical sequence; - occurrence of text creation without spelling or punctuation errors; - to ensure that elementary school students can work with words in the layout and alternative of words when composing text; - ensuring personal control of the occurrence of the principles of artistry, savagery, Science in the composition of the text; - in the case when taking into account the time criteria, it is recommended to carry out exercises on the topic of written speech on the practical formation of the technique of arriving at the ready-made state of the text and, moreover, on the achievement of writing that is, making the husni letter more perfect and beautiful.

When working with the oral and written speeches of students of the beginner class, it is necessary to also pay attention to their age, level of assimilation. "The methodological manuals we have listed above ensure that the first, second students of the primary school work individually with relatively complex methodological aspects of the third and fourth grade students, if ushun is necessary."

In this case, the effective implementation of the exercises of third

and fourth graders in accordance with the methodology of teaching the native language and literature is achieved. For example: in the case of reading book timed in fourth graders, in the organization of games such as "who reads a lot of words", the student reads aloud inside the classroom, which means that this leads to the development of personal speech within the classroom.

In addition, it is advisable to also use various experiments in the development of oral speech. Among such experiments, the issue of the productive use of foreign experiments also leads. On the development of oral and written speech of Primary School students, the following conclusion can be reached: it is advisable to pay special attention to the integration of subjects with primary school students in order to make more efficient use of foreign experiences while maintaining compliance with the usual educational system, the use of advanced methods and techniques of the subject of teaching. In this, it is not only the speech of a student, but also the fact that the teacher dies fluently, that is, the teacher needs to better work on himself in order to improve the effectiveness of the lesson.

The daughter of Suyunova Marjona Akbar was born on March 14, 2003 in Gallaorol District of Jizzakh region. He is currently a student of Jizzakh State Pedagogical University. Together with obtaining science, he is engaged in scientific research work. It has been defined as the "Improving the speech activity of Primary School students" as the subject of scientific research. Within the framework of this scientific research topic, scientific articles were published in scientific journals in international and Uzbekistan, international and Republican conferences. At the same time, it has more than 30 certificates, diplomas and certificates in competitions organized in International, Republican and international networks.