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Nurturing Emotional Intelligence In Kids: Tips For Raising Empathetic Children



By: David Ndirangu
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Allow your child to freely express their emotions. It will help the child accept his emotions and be able to manage them. They should understand that it is normal to have feelings and express them without hurting others. The child will develop self-control and coping mechanisms.
- Our feelings move through the person, get hold of the person and then fade away and so is a child's feelings. You should listen to your child's feelings and allow them to go through the process.

This term Emotional Intelligence (EI) can be defined as the individual's capacity to recognize and manage his or her feelings and those of others. Parents, guardians and teachers should endeavour to develop EI in children from an early age so that they eventually become empathetic grown-ups. There are several strategies that can be employed to foster EI in children.

You should at all times strive to encourage an honest and open discussion about how the child is feeling. Many times little children do not understand what they are going through. It is upon you as the grown up to help the child know whether it is sadness, frustration, anger, loneliness and so forth. You may even try using visual aids like emotional facial expression flash cards for this purpose.

Make the child free to express their feelings without fear of being judged. Acknowledge the child's feelings. Make the child know that you understand his position but you may not necessarily agree with it. Being understood will make the child feel better when he does not get what he wanted. This is known as validation and empathy.

Children who have been taught to 'put themselves in someone else's shoes' are more inclined to be kind and understanding when they relate with others. In order to train your children to be more compassionate; talk to them regularly about their emotions – discuss how their actions and words are likely to affect the feelings of others. Children will develop empathy by experiencing it from others. Be a good role model. Demonstrate empathy as a grown up both in action and words. Use story books

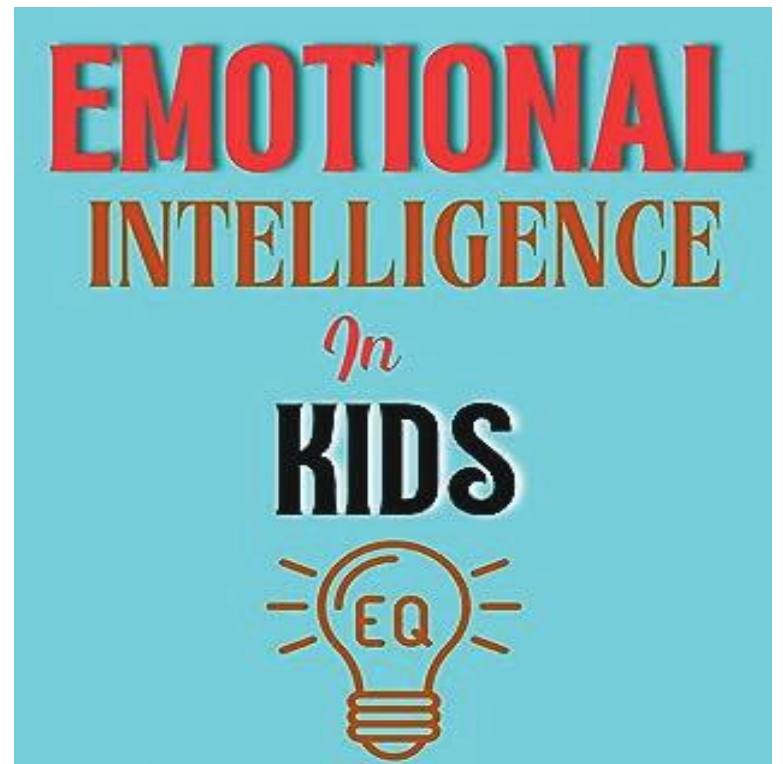
with relatable characters and real life examples that the children can relate to. Practise active listening and teach the children how to actively listen to others without interrupting them. Create scenarios where children can role play different situations and relate them to their own real life experiences.

Allow your child to freely express their emotions. It will help the child accept his emotions and be able to manage them. They should understand that it is normal to have feelings and express them without hurting others. The child will develop self-control and coping mechanisms.

Our feelings move through the person, get hold of the person and then fade away and so is a child's feelings. You should listen to your child's feelings and allow them to go through the process. When emotions are repressed they get compressed inside rather than being expressed in a healthy manner. It is common for growing children to throw outbursts once in a while. These tantrums are a natural way to help children vent their emotions. We need to help the children feel safe to express their emotions.

Children should be taught that even as they express their emotions, they should do so within certain acceptable limits. Train your child to breathe through their emotions, to feel them and tolerate them without the need to act on them. There is need to learn to express their needs without attacking another person. Allow your child to explore ways of solving their own emotional problem. Try not be tempted to rush to solve it for them.

A child who has EI should be able to take responsibility for their actions



and know that it is necessary to sincerely apologise to the person they have wronged. Children should be taught appropriate words to express remorse.

Developing emotional intelligence in children has several benefits; it makes them more resilient to life's challenges and setbacks - they are better prepared to cope since they will have developed tools to manage their emotions effectively. It improves their self-awareness and they are thus able to forge and sustain healthy relationships with good interpersonal skills. These children are able to manage conflicts with their siblings, friends and classmates through amicably solving their disputes.

They develop effective communication skills and are able to express their thoughts, emotions and needs

since they can understand other's perspectives and emotions. They will concentrate better in their school work and have greater capacity to manage academic stressors thereby improving their academic performance.

Children with emotional intelligence are less likely to suffer stress and anxiety as they will have developed coping mechanisms to deal with stressful situations.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Central Region Economic Bloc (CEREB) Department of Agriculture CECMs from 8 Counties have undertaken a two day working meeting with Institute for Culture and Ecology. The main theme was Food Tracability and Mainstreaming Organic Farming. The mountain region caucus has multiple donors working with them to support farming, what the market wants and delivering it the way the market demands. It interprets international food requirements, sanitary and phyto sanitary measures to the counties affiliated to the bloc.



The regional special needs education games for the Persons with Disabilities for primary and secondary schools will be held in Kericho County for three days starting from Sunday to Tuesday next week. The games which have attracted 14 counties in the Country will include four disciplines namely the Visually impaired, mentally handicapped, hearing impairment and the physically challenged. Speaking in his office Thursday, the Kericho County Director of Education (CDE) Mr Julius Ngoneshi said that Kericho County is privileged to host the games for the second time having hosted the same event successfully in 2015.



Kasipul MP Charles Ong'ondo on Thursday gave out three school buses to education institutions in his constituency. The MP said the buses bought using funds from the Constituency NG-CDF kitty were meant to facilitate students to attend education tours, sports and any other academic need that may arise in the schools. The MP said his effort in education and in concert with other education stakeholders, has seen schools in Kasipul constituency take lead in Homa Bay County in KCSE examination. The buses bought during the financial year 2023/2024 at a cost of Sh8 million each went to Kalandu and Sino SDA Mixed Secondary Schools and Rachuonyo Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC) in what the MP termed as a special request by the institution. Governor Wanga who was the main guest during the event held at Agoro Sare Primary School ground flagged off the buses. The governor said her government is working closely with the national government to improve the education standards in the county.



The security committee in Narok County has organized a three days' seminar with key stakeholders to deliberate on measures to fight illicit brew in the county. Narok County Commissioner Kipkech Lotiatia, said the decision was arrived at following increasing number of crimes that is influenced by irresponsible drinking. He underscored that the security committee was concerned that many families were breaking up, children defiled and others murdered in cold blood because of illicit brew. "It is only yesterday that a woman was murdered by his husband who was drunk. These incidents can be avoided if we come together and reason out on how we can curb such crimes," he said. Also brought on board in the discussions were the Maa Council of elders, chiefs, nyumba kumi representatives, religious leaders, media, women groups, youth groups, civil society and business community.



David Ndung'u from Gathuthi Tea Factory was yesterday elected the Nyeri County tea farmers Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) Board member. He garnered 11 votes while the outgoing board member Kamau Ngatia received seven votes. The other contender John Kinyua got 10 votes. Ndung'u who is a director for Gathuthi tea factory in Tetu constituency said he would be pressing for the interest of farmers from KTDA Zone 4 who are Nyeri County farmers affiliated Chinga, Iria-ini, Gitugi, Gathuthi and Ragati tea factories.

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Nonagenarian To Serve Three Decades For Defilement



Criminal law

By: DPP

A 90-year-old farmer from Kilifi, Kea Katana Mdudu, has been sentenced to 30 years in prison for defiling his 6-year-old stepdaughter.

Senior Resident Magistrate Daniel Sifuma Sitati found Mdudu guilty of the offense under section 8(1) and 8(2) of the Sexual Offences Act No. 3 of 2006.

Mdudu committed the crime on July 16, 2019, in Mwaeba Pangani village, Tsangalawe-

ni, Ganze Sub County, Kilifi County.

The Magistrate noted that the prosecution, represented by Ridhwan Mohamed, successfully proved the case beyond reasonable doubt through testimonies from five witnesses, including the victim.

The court further noted that the minor had her innocence taken from her by her stepfather, who was expected to offer her love and protection, observing that Mdudu's actions fell below societal standards.

During the trial, the victim's mother recounted leaving her daughter in Mdudu's care while she attended to her business.

Upon returning, she discovered the abuse occurring on their matrimonial bed. She alerted neighbors, who intervened and detained Mdudu until the police arrived.

Mdudu was subsequently arrested and charged.

Sitati stated that the substantial prison sentence serves as a deterrent against defilement and other sexual and gender-based violence offenses in the county.

Kenyans Demand Accountability And Reform From Cabinet Secretary Nominees



By: James Kilonzo Bwire
@themtkenyatimes

As the vetting process for Cabinet Secretary (CS) nominees begins, Kenyans have expressed a mix of hope and apprehension. In open letters to the nominees, citizens have articulated their desire for a government that prioritizes transparency, accountability, and genuine reform.

Kenyans are calling for nominees to demonstrate a strong commitment to addressing pressing issues such as corruption, youth unemployment, and the delivery of public services. They expect the nominees to possess not only the necessary qualifications but also the integrity and willingness to

engage with the public's concerns.

The recent wave of protests, particularly led by the youth, has underscored the urgency for change. Citizens are urging the nominees to prioritize policies that resonate with the needs of the populace, especially in critical sectors like health, education, and economic management.

Furthermore, there is a growing demand for nominees to distance themselves from the failures of past administrations. Kenyans are skeptical of re-appointments and are pushing for fresh perspectives that can drive meaningful change.

The public has been invited to submit written statements on oath contesting the suitability of any nominee, with supporting evidence, by July 31. This allows for public participation

in the vetting process, as mandated by the Constitution.

After the vetting, the Committee on Appointments will table a report on the floor of the House for consideration. The House will then deliberate on the report and either approve or reject the nominations. If the House neither approves nor rejects a nomination within the specified period, the nominee is deemed approved.

Ultimately, the expectation is clear: the new Cabinet must not only be competent but also responsive to the voices of the people they serve. As the vetting process unfolds, the nominees have the opportunity to either reaffirm or redefine their roles in shaping a government that reflects the aspirations of all Kenyans.

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Organizations Asked To Enroll Staff For Fraud Examination Course

By: MKT Correspondent
@themkenyatimes

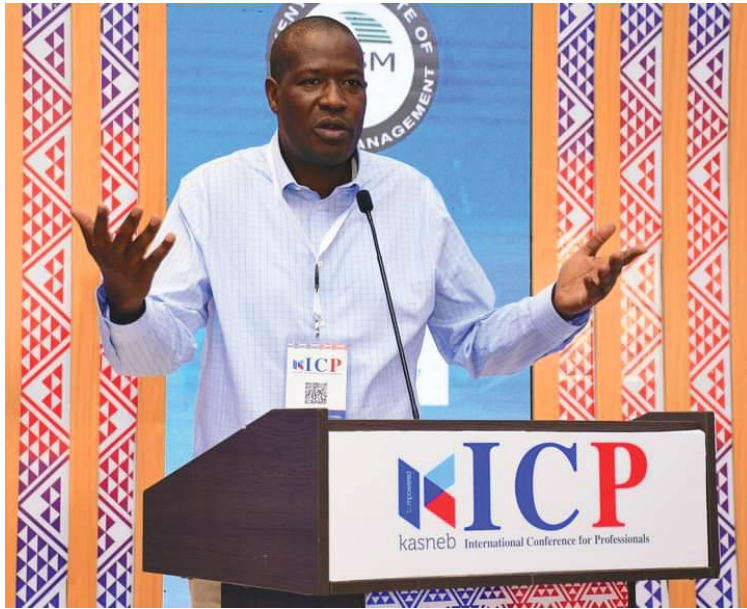
The Kenya Accountants and Secretaries National Examination Board (KASNEB) has announced its determination to support the country in the fight against corruption through the training of fraud examiners who will examine fraud and corruption cases.

About 10 Certified Forensic Fraud Examiner (CFFE) professionals have graduated from the post professional course that is helpful in building a career in fraud risk management and fraud detection systems.

Speaking after the ceremony in Mombasa, Chief Executive Officer of KASNEB Nicholas Letting said that the institution has marked a very significant fundamental issue where the first cohort of the professionals has graduated.

Letting said that the graduates have successfully pursued the qualification which was launched in 2021 and started administering exams in April 2022.

He said they have filled a gap that exists in the integrity sector where all the investigative agencies need to



Chief Executive Officer of KASNEB Nicholas Letting

have experts who have gone through the course.

“The course was launched in 2021 partnering with a representative of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) who have assisted us to come up with this qualification as KASNEB and we have administered the examinations,” he said.

He noted that there are three modules for the course and each of the

modules has three papers.

He said that the unique factor about the course was that it has a Kenyan case study chapter called Integrated Case Study Paper whereby students go through role modeling by coming up with a paper based on the situation in the country tasking them to tackle it as fraud examiners, having been backed up by legal cases.

“As KASNEB, we want to support

the government in the fight against corruption. We are looking forward to the impact of the professionals on the nation,” he added.

Chairperson of KASNEB Dr. Nancy Muriuki said that the graduation has produced graduates who would help the country deal with integrity cases.

Muriuki said money is lost and failed to be accounted for in the country yet there were many unemployed young people with some families languishing in poverty.

“We now have people who can help us to fight corruption in terms of fraud examination. This is not just a career progression but a calling and a passion. You have to carry the spirit and mind the common good otherwise the certificate will not be useful,” she said.

Chief Executive Officer of Association of Certified Fraud Examiners in Kenya Jane Mugo said that she highly supports the programme in Kenya so that it could be tailored to the country’s legal environment.

Mugo said the CFFE programme was an international course administered by KASNEB and the administrators have heavily benchmarked with the international bodies in charge to make it better and reliable

to the country.

As a mentor and trainer of the graduates she noted that there were still very few professionals in the country under this docket calling for more to come so that they would be able to build capacity to fight fraud and corruption in the country.

“We are calling all the organizations to consider having certified fraud examiners in their organizations and dedicated senior members of staff especially to small organizations to add to the other responsibilities they have,” she said.

She noted that it was high time that board members considered the inclusion of fraud examiners in their boards to help them fight fraud and corruption and also assist in achieving their primary responsibility.

According to Mugo, the International Certified Fraud Examiners under KASNEB now has 10 professionals that have graduated and 18 others waiting for graduation.

She added that there were quite a number of other professionals in module one and two, yet to finish the course.

A Murang’a School Gets Computer Lab To Spur Digital Learning

By: Kenya News Agency

A Murang’a primary school has benefited with a computer lab to support digital learning especially for learners of junior secondary school.

Learners of Mjini primary school located at the outskirts of Murang’a town were gifted with the lab equipped with 10 computers among other supporting equipment by a former student as a way of giving back to the society.

Kamau Wairuri under his foundation said the computer lab will go a long way to promote digital learning especially to learners of the competency based curriculum.

Launching the lab on Thursday, Kamau said when he visited the school some months back, the administration expressed concerns for lack of

computers to train on digital skills.

“After engaging the school administration, I approached some of my friends and we managed to put up a computer lab powered by solar energy. The lab will serve the school population as we understand each class has an average of 40 pupils,” explained Kamau.

He underscored the need for digital learning saying Mjini primary is located at an informal settlement and the majority of parents could not help their children to search online for needed learning materials.

Kamau challenged the government to factor more funding so as to boost digital learning in primary schools, especially those in rural areas.

“The previous government’s project of providing tablets to class one learners back in 2013 was a noble move but that project was poorly implemented. If the tablets were well managed and successfully installed with new syllabus to support CBC,

then they could be useful to date.” he observed.

In the new era, Kamau noted learning in many institutions is to be integrated with digital skills thus the need for all schools in the country to have active computer labs.

The head teacher of the school, Ms Christine Michubu said learners have been relying on their parents’ phones to do assignments that require digital apparatus.

“It has been a big challenge especially to CBC learners some of whose subjects require internet connected phones, but with the lab, the challenge will be mitigated.” Noted Michubu.

The school, she added, has a population of more than 500 students saying there is need for more computers so as to serve the learners adequately.

“We call upon well-wishers and organizations to support us to have more computers for our lab,” she appealed.



Support Ruto's Changes In Gov't, DP Urges Kenyans

By: DPCS and MKT Correspondent



From left; Secretary to the Cabinet Mercy Wanjau, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Laikipia Governor Joshua Irungu and his deputy Reuben Kamuri in Nanyuki on Friday...

Worth Noting:

- “There are even more idiots those who tried to take advantage of the whole scenario to settle political scores with those they do not support and trying to apportion blame. Kenyans are very intelligent; they see from far, analyze and they understand,” he added.
- The Deputy President asked Cabinet nominees to work hard for Kenyans and respect the people once vetted and approved by the National Assembly.
- President Ruto dissolved his Cabinet on July 11, 2024, sending home all Cabinet Secretaries except the Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi. The nominees are awaiting approval by the National Assembly.
- Mr Gachagua rallied Kenyans to remain united and support President Ruto's agenda of transforming the country.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has appealed to Kenyans to remain united and embrace President William Ruto's Cabinet changes, terming them a win for the nation.

The reconstitution of the Cabinet, Mr Gachagua added, will increase efficiency and effectiveness. He castigated those trying to divide Kenyans based on winner and loser notions.

“I have seen many people and all sorts of analysis on who won and who lost, but the whole thing is a win for the people of Kenya,” he said on Friday at Ntukuruma village in Nanyuki, Laikipia County.

He spoke during the burial of Mama Susan Muthoni Kiiru Wanjohi (80), the mother of the Secretary to the Cabinet Mercy Wanjau, where he also read President William Ruto's condolence message to the family.

At the same time, the Deputy President condemned the destruction of property and chaos that occurred during the recent peaceful protests.

“Let us all remain united as a country. We have just gone through difficult period. Those who took advantage of the well intentioned peaceful protests to loot property, steal and maim are idiots,” he said.

Mr Gachagua, additionally, criticised those who used the opportu-

nity to create propaganda to mislead Kenyans.

He noted that Kenyans are intelligent people who cannot be deceived easily.

“There are even more idiots those who tried to take advantage of the whole scenario to settle political scores with those they do not support and trying to apportion blame. Kenyans are very intelligent; they see from far, analyze and they understand,” he added.

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Mr Gachagua rallied Kenyans to remain united and support President Ruto's agenda of transforming the country.

Mr Gachagua eulogised the late Mama Susan as “a great educationist who mentored many young people to be responsible people in society”.

“She was in real estate investment and has done well. I salute her for

bringing up her children well. One of her children, Mercy Wanjau, emulated her. Mercy is an efficient public officer, who works well with the President and everybody. We also clarify that when the Cabinet was dissolved, Mercy was not affected,” said the Deputy President.

President Ruto, in his condolence message eulogised Mama Susan as a kind and dedicated worker.

“Our country has lost a dedicated servant of community. She was organized and God fearing, kind, diligent, inspiring and exceptional role model to many. She was full of fresh thoughts that changed many lives. We celebrate her great life and the legacy she left behind. We pray to God to comfort the family,” said the President.

Meanwhile, Mr Gachagua praised the former Cabinet for The National Treasury Prof Njuguna Ndung'u, who was in attendance, over his exemplary performance.

“Thank you Prof Ndung'u for outstanding performance at The National Treasury. We know where you found our country's economy and worked on its revival. Walk with your head high as you hand over to the new nominee. We are proud with your performance and achievements. We wish you well,” said the

Deputy President.

At the funeral event, Mr Gachagua was accompanied by Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi and Cabinet nominees Soipan Tuya (Defence), Rebecca Miano (Tourism) and Alice Wahome (Lands), Laikipia Governor Joshua Irungu, Deputy Governor Laikipia Reuben Kamuri and Laikipia West MP Wachira Karani.

Area MCA Nanyuki Ward Representative Anthony Theuri were also present.

Others were the pioneer Kenya Roads Board chairman Eng Isaiah Mutonyi, former Consolidated Bank CEO and former David Wachira and former Government Spokesman Eric Kiraithe.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary asked Kenyans to shun violence and remain patriotic.

“Let us shun violence and chaos in our country. We are saddened because of the lives lost in the protests and the property destroyed. Businesses were ruined and there are people who lost their life savings. We request that we be law abiding citizens and be patriotic citizens,” said Mr Mudavadi.

UFAA Collaborates With NGAO To Sensitize The Public To Collect Unclaimed Sh62B

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes



The Authority Chairman CPA Francis Njenga.

Worth Noting:

- Njenga said UFAA has also partnered with the Judiciary to fast-track succession cases. Talks are ongoing with the National Assembly to fast-track cases of deceased persons as the Unclaimed Financial Assets Act, 2011 directs the Authority to reconfirm grants.

- “A grant before it is given is confirmed by other processes. We have got amendments to this Act of ours and also we have launched amendments to the regulations with the Cabinet Secretary for National Treasury where it will be so easy to get your money. It will be like a one-stop shop,” said CPA Njenga.

- The chairman urged Kenyans to collect their money as they have so far managed to pay only Sh2.5 billion.

The Unclaimed Financial Assets Authority (UFAA) has partnered with the National Government Administration Officers (NGAOs) to sensitize the public to collect Sh62 billion being held in trust by the authority.

UFAA is banking on the administrators’ grassroots network to ramp up sensitization efforts across the country to increase the uptake of unclaimed assets.

The Authority Chairman CPA Francis Njenga said during a sensitization meeting of Mombasa Chiefs that they received all unclaimed assets, safeguarded them and unite them with the rightful owners assuring that the money was kept safely and it could not be misappropriated.

“We have a trust fund account at the Central Bank of Kenya. This is the account where every coin is placed. When this money is placed there, it is safe because it is a guaranteed fund by the Government of Kenya,” assured the chairman.

He said UFAA heavily relied on Assistant Chiefs, Chiefs, Assistant County Commissioners, Deputy County Commissioners, and County Commissioners for verification of claims.

Njenga said UFAA has also partnered with the Judiciary to fast-track succession cases. Talks are ongoing with the National Assembly to fast-track cases of deceased persons as

the Unclaimed Financial Assets Act, 2011 directs the Authority to reconfirm grants.

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The chairman urged Kenyans to collect their money as they have so far managed to pay only Sh2.5 billion. He noted that in its third strategic plan for 2023-2028, the Authority targets to pay Sh7 billion in claims.

“We know the problems that people are facing, the economic hardships that are there in this country. We want to become the first institution, and we are, that will provide financing for the Bottom-up Economic model,” said the UFAA chairman.

On his part, John Mwangi, CEO and Managing Trustee of UFAA said they were on a week-long sensitization of Mombasa residents about its mandates. UFAA has received unclaimed financial assets from various institutions.

“Unclaimed assets are the money that the owners have left or forgotten in various institutions could be in commercial banks, SACCOs, Pension funds, Mobile Money, Utilities,

or Dividends in capital markets,” explained the Managing Trustee.

He added that after a given period as stipulated in the law, if the owner and the holder of the asset does not get in touch, the law requires the holder of the asset to remit the money to the Authority with details of their beneficiaries.

“We have received Sh32 billion in cash. We have also received Sh1.7 billion units of shares with a market value of about Sh30 billion hence a global portfolio of about Sh62 billion,” said the CEO.

“We felt it’s important to partner with other government agencies to be able to sensitize the general public on what we do and how people can claim this money,” he added.

He said NGAOs were always with the people and would use their forums to educate the public on how they could check and claim their assets.

Mwangi noted that after verification of the original owner, the money would be remitted in two weeks through a mobile phone or bank account. For deceased cases, succession has to be done.

“We are seeing a lot of positive traction wherever we go. A good number of people are coming forward but most of them are deceased cases and they have to do succession before they can claim their money,” he said.

The law provides for institutions to check their books every 30th of June to see if they have unclaimed assets and also check for dormancy period and on or before the 1st of November. Such assets found are then submitted to UFAA which then uploads the money on its website and USSD platforms.

“In case people don’t come, what our law provides is we hold that money in perpetuity. If you’re not there, your people will come and through succession, they will demonstrate that they are your people and they will be reunited with your assets. At no point in time does the money ever get lost,” elucidated the UFAA Managing Trustee.

County Commissioner Mohamed Noor thanked UFAA for educating Mombasa residents on its mandates. He advised residents to check on the status of assets left by their loved ones.

“Our Chiefs will be the agents of UFAA. They will educate the citizens at the grassroots on how to claim the money,” said the County Commissioner.

The public can check the status of their claimed assets or for their departed loved ones through Un-structured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) *361# or through UFAA web portal www.ufaa.gov.ke

Is Kalonzo, Kioni Poised To Join President Ruto's Government?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com

When President William Samoei Ruto dissolved his entire cabinet, he said his decision was partly prompted by the mounting pressure from Generation-Z.

This is one of the question that would later come up during his online conversation with the youths.

I have listened to you and your demands are legitimate. I want to assure you that I'm going to address all your issues.

He however told them. I wish you are the one wearing my shoe. You will understand there were so many cross cutting issues and I needed to look all of them.

In reconstituting cabinet, he said he will ensure it reflect the face of Kenya.

Looking at his new-look cabinet, one thing is clear. He has lived up to his word.

When he released the second batch of cabinet nominees, Raila Odinga's ODM become the biggest beneficiary.

The party bagged four positions including powerful ministries of National Treasury, Energy and Mining.

At the time, the President left out two slots vacant. Soon after, rumors started swirling around that the seats had been reserved for two top Azimio luminaries.

Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka was poised to take up the position of East Africa Community (EAC) Cabinet Secretary. It is worth noting that Kalonzo's son is a member of the regional parliament.

Kalonzo fought so hard to ensure his son has clinched that seat.

Raila Odinga of ODM did the same to ensure his daughter Winnie has joined the same parliament.

As for former Ndaragwa MP Jeremiah Kioni, who is also a lawyer, reports indicated that he was poised to become the Attorney General (AG) in Ruto's government.

It is worth to recall during the election of Kenya's nine members of regional parliament (EALA) former ruling party Jubilee had been given one slot.

Reports at the time indicated that Kioni, the party secretary General and the party director of election and former Kieni MP Kanini Kega were the leading contenders.

Kioni, who was floored by Kega, did not take his loss lightly. Many averred that he felt betrayed by members of parliament of Kenya Kwanza particularly those who hailed from Mount Kenya

region. He believed he had the best credentials.

This would be seen as the main reason that triggered a bad blood between him, President Ruto and his allies.

In a swift rejoinder, I heard Kalonzo saying. I served this country as a Vice President. I cannot, therefore, take a lower seat. Was this coming from bottom of his heart? Time will tell.

Martha Karua of Narc Kenya was Raila's running mate in 2022 polls. So, if the two joins the government, she would become the biggest loser.

Perhaps this explain why her party has kicked off the process of exiting the Azimio La Umoja One Kenya coalition.

If yes, this would 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 said she want to remain on the side of Generation-Zoomers (Gen-Z). I heard a group of people saying. This was a political statement. It was not coming from the bottom of her heart. She was bitter because President Ruto had failed to recognize her.



Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka.

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 par-

ZOE Organization Empowers Youths Through Vocational Skills

By: MKT Correspondent
 @themkenyetimes

The ZOE organization has successfully trained 1500 youths over a three-year period.

ZOE, a non-governmental organization based within Tharaka –Nithi and Meru counties targets orphaned and vulnerable youths aged 20 years and below.

The organization, which began in Africa 2004 during the HIV/AIDS pandemic has various branches in Tanzania, Rwanda, Malawi, Liberia and Zimbabwe. Thus, the vital initiative has seen the 1500 beneficiaries gain practical skills in barbering, tailoring and hairdressing.

Speaking during the graduation at Maua stadium the CEO of ZOE or-



ganization Rigan Kaberia noted that the initiative is a pathway to financial independence and self-sufficiency among the young stars.

“The main goal of this initiative is to empower youths especially those from vulnerable backgrounds and orphans with vocational skills neces-

sary for self-employment,” he said.

The ZOE organization has been a beacon of hope among many youths who expressed their gratitude for the golden opportunity adding that the training has opened a new chapter in their lives.

The event was also attended by the

Igembe South Sub-county Deputy county commissioner Noah Kibet who applauded the organization for its unwavering commitment in empowering and giving hope to youths maintaining that the move will greatly help in providing opportunities for successful lives and that of

their families.

Lastly, The DCC further advised the graduates to devote their efforts in bettering their lives when they are still energetic.

Is Kalonzo, Kioni Poised To Join President Ruto’s Government?

Contd from page 11

liament. 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 blood-bath will reign high.

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

I cannot sit to see my country plunging into anarchy.

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

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

It is worth to note that President Ruto has so far addressed most of demands raised by Generation-Z. One of them is dissolving the entire cabinet. He has since William Ruto has since unveiled cabinet nominees. He had promised a broad based government. He has lived



Former Ndaragwa MP Jeremiah Kioni.

up his word. Two of the nominees are Gen zees.

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

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

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

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

He recalled some of the ministers when he unveiled his new-look cabinet. Pres-

ident 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 Mutiari (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.

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

Transition Of Amboseli National Park To Kajiado County Government Unveiled



By: Aoma Keziah
@themkenyatimes

Supported by critical stakeholders in the tourism industry, The Amboseli National Park Transition Strategic Plan has been launched, marking a significant shift in the management and vision for one of Kenya's premier wildlife destinations.

The event, held in Nairobi, was a collaborative effort by the County Government of Kajiado, the Ministry of Tourism, and various stakeholders.

The strategic plan, which spans from 2024 to 2026, outlines a comprehensive roadmap for transforming Amboseli National Park into a "third generation park." This concept aims to integrate modern management practices, sustainable tourism, and community involvement to ensure the park's long-term viability and prosperity.



In Picture, Governor of Kajiado County Joseph Ole Lenku and other key stakeholders during the Transition, in a hotel in Nairobi.

Key objectives of the Strategic Plan, undertaken under sustainable management include implementing practices that balance wildlife conservation with the needs of local communities and tourism development.

Community Involvement includes ensuring that local communities benefit from tourism revenues and are actively involved in conservation efforts and goodwill is of paramount importance.

So far, a million acre of land already has been offered by 11 group ranches

in the ecosystem.

The plan also involves Introducing new tourism products and services to enhance visitor experiences while maintaining the park's ecological integrity.

Further, the plan will involve infrastructure development that will carry upgrading park facilities and infrastructure to support increased tourism and improve operational efficiency.

Kajiado County Governor Joseph Ole Lenku, emphasized the importance of this transition, stating, "This

strategic plan represents a new era for Amboseli National Park. By placing management in the hands of the local government, we aim to create a model of conservation that benefits both wildlife and our communities. Our vision is to make Amboseli a world-class destination while preserving its unique ecological and cultural heritage," he stated.

The governor further highlighted the collaborative efforts behind the plan, noting, "The transition of Amboseli National Park to the County Govern-

ment of Kajiado is a testament to our commitment to devolve resources and responsibilities. This partnership will harness local expertise and ensure that conservation and tourism development are driven by those who are closest to the park," he remarked.

Tourism stakeholders, including representatives from the private sector and conservation organizations, expressed their support for the strategic plan.

They highlighted the potential for increased investment and tourism growth, which could bring significant economic benefits to the region.

The launch of the Amboseli National Park Transition Strategic Plan sets a precedent for other regions in Kenya, demonstrating the potential of devolved management to enhance conservation efforts and promote sustainable development.

As Amboseli embarks on this new chapter, the commitment to preserving its natural beauty and ensuring its prosperity for future generations remains at the forefront of this visionary strategy.

IGAD Enhances Regional Cooperation To Combat Transboundary Pests

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyatimes

In a significant move to bolster agricultural stability and economic well-being, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is working to establish a sustainable framework to combat the impact of transboundary pests. This initiative aims to refine coordination mechanisms, enhance technical expertise, and align policies and regulations among IGAD member nations.

During a recent forum that brought together senior experts and policymakers from Kenya, Djibouti, Ethiopia, and Somalia, joint project proposals were presented to build on the achievements of the World Bank-assisted Emergency Locust Response Project (ELRP). The discussions focused on fostering collaboration, strengthening policies and institutions, and developing strategies to mitigate the impact of transboundary pests effectively.

Moses Mwesigwa Rwaheru, Di-



IGAD Food Security, Nutrition and Resilience Analysis Hub (IFRAH) Coordinator Abdi Fidar, Somalia State Minister of Agriculture Asad Abdirazak & Desert Locusts Control Organisation for Eastern Africa Director Moses Mwesigwa during the IGAD Ministerial Meeting to establish a sustainable framework capable of effectively mitigating the impact of transboundary pests in the IGAD Region.

rector of the Desert Locust Control Organization (DLCO), highlighted the importance of early detection and swift action in preventing the devastating effects of desert locust invasions. "These are the countries

where desert locusts breed. Early detection and action will save the region from the devastating effects of these migratory pests," Rwaheru stated.

The DLCO, established through an

international convention six decades ago, has been pivotal in coordinating efforts to mitigate the effects of migratory pests in the region. Despite the challenges posed by climate change, significant strides have been made. Rwaheru cited the 2019-2020 Desert Locust upsurge, exacerbated by climate change, as an example. "When swarms hit, DLCO intervened, mobilizing resources with support from the World Bank, FAO, and member countries," he noted. The region spent over \$500 million instead of the initially needed \$3 million due to resource constraints.

Rwaheru also pointed to other migratory pests, such as Quelea birds, which devastate cereals and grains in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania. "Our aircraft spent over six months controlling Quelea birds in Tanzania. This problem also affects Eastern Uganda where rice and sorghum are grown," he explained. Climate change and agricultural expansion due to irrigation have worsened the problem.

To address these challenges, Rwaheru stressed the need for prepared-

ness among member countries and regional bodies like the DLCO. He called on member countries to honor their financial obligations to ensure the DLCO is better equipped to respond to upsurges. "In 2019, we were not properly prepared. But now, member countries have made strides in preparedness strategies, and we look forward to a better-equipped DLCO to respond in time," he said.

The forum underscored the importance of regional cooperation and adequate funding to build resilience against transboundary pests. By working together, IGAD member nations aim to safeguard food security and economic stability, ensuring a sustainable future for the region.

As IGAD continues to enhance regional cooperation, the hope is that these efforts will lead to a more coordinated and effective response to the challenges posed by transboundary pests, ultimately contributing to the overall agricultural and economic stability of the region.

In This World



They were one step ahead
And I was lost behind bars
I found my way out
Tracing the stars

In those cold, blurry curtains
Chasing the path
With the green wheels

Along the brown cart.

Travelling like a dull star
I found my light
Not large as the sun or moon,
Only tiny me, glittering at night.

Having known the ways
Life seems to be tough
You don't get smooth ways often
But surely the rough.

I choose the sky to walk
Not the grounds to fly
Because turf here
Doesn't teach me to try.

Just smiling at this bustling world
They don't have time to discuss me
I am cherished to myself
I am what,
I am supposed to be.

-Snehal Busa

If Only



If only a thief could be found
If it steals my pain
When the heart of sorrow closes upon
me,
If I reach out to the sky...

All my sorrows,
I would secretly give it to him,
My suffering heart
I would hold him with both hands...

I would say again, slowly to him,

Hidden in the folds of my heart,
You don't need me
My life is sweet without him...

They say thieves are bad,
But I lied, such a thief,
How can I survive?
My way, tell me, right...

Author: Murodulla, Republic Of
Uzbekistan

All Shiny Things Gold Does Not Shine



This is called life
Hakimjon and Unsun have been married
for six years. In these six years, God
blessed them with three children.
Hakimjon is a very hardworking and
conscientious guy who earns money by
honest work. Hakimjon, who appreciates
his family and children, does not like work
that is beyond his control. Hakimjon's wife,
Unsun, a housewife, was busy with raising
children.

Hakimjon was adept at speaking in the
vernacular, which attracted the attention
of his neighbors.

Hakimjon, finding that the money he had
earned by his master's work was more
than enough, gave it to his wife Unsun,
and Unsun saved her husband's money to
build a new house.

One of those days, Unsun saw three
women standing in front of the gate and
asked them peace. he asks.

And those lolis say that they are tired
and their bellies are very hungry. Then
Unsun enters his house to bring them
bread, Unsun

Without waiting for him to come out, the
women followed him into the house.
Unsun, who was excited, didn't look at him
saying, oh, don't hurry, I'm going to leave.

They had always noticed Unsun's
simplicity and that there was no one else
in his house but himself. Then a young
middle-aged woman with black eyes and
eyebrows, blond hair, took Unsun by the
hand.

Frightened, Unsun shouted what are you
going to do, and the woman said, don't
be afraid to open the floor. Vs walked
away» Your floor is made of wood, your
house is made of willow, you jumped over
a big stream, you are afraid of frogs - he

started opening the floor.
Unsun, whose color turned white, was
looking at the beautiful woman with his
eyes, the excitement in Unsun
a woman who noticed.
He began to convince Unsu of his lies.
A tragedy is expected in your family, a
disaster is waiting for your spouse, and
your middle child is also surrounded by loss
and trouble: Unsun said, "Let her heart
rest a little." Unsun, who was panicked by
this, could not help but say, finally, looking
at her. Then you should give us alms now
to prevent this, dear woman. He said that
charity will bring back evil. And the woman
said, I will ask my people now, whatever
they say, you will put these things in front
of me. Unsun hastened to say it simply.

Unsung one of the Lolli women. Alas,
there are needles at your doorstep, they
are trained to kill you, if you don't believe
it, here are some needles. Poor Unsun lost
his temper and took out all the money
he had saved Hakimjon in front of these
swindlers. Kamiga also took off his golden
earring. He also took out the dresses that
he looked good on. The old woman quickly
said goodbye

They left Unsun's house. Unsun was
sobbing in a state of numbness. After a
while, he shuddered. Unsun realized what
he had done and started crying. Then
the woman ran out of the song, is it
peace? he asked. Unsun told the neighbor
what happened. The neighbor woman ran
towards the house, but the house was
quiet, no one was there. And the poor
women had already confirmed the couple.
This incident caused Unsun's house to
be opened and it was said that it would
never open its doors to strangers.

Israilova Durdona Muzaffarovna

Israilova Durdona Muzaffarjon's daughter
Born 04.04.1998 in Andijan province
She is currently studying at Alfraganus
University of Tashkent as an external
student, majoring in Pedagogy and
Psychology.

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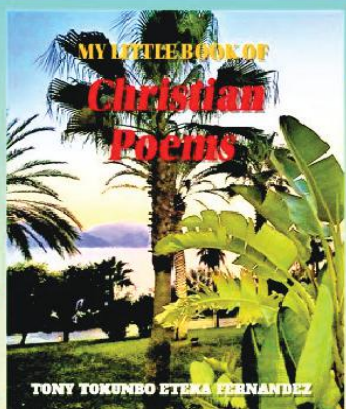
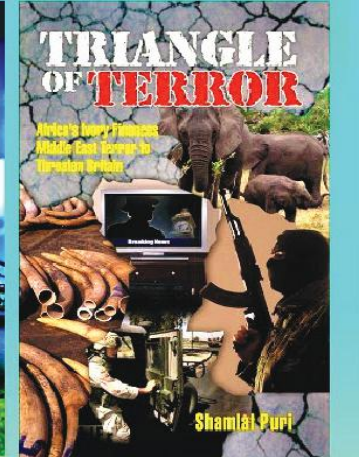
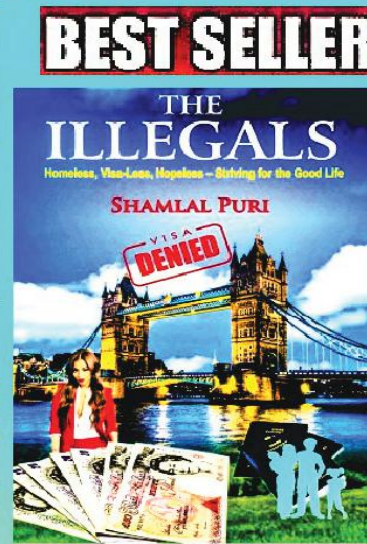
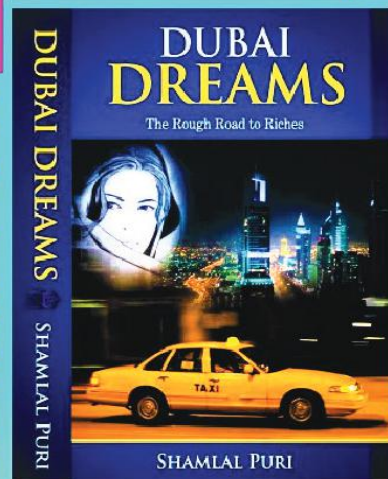
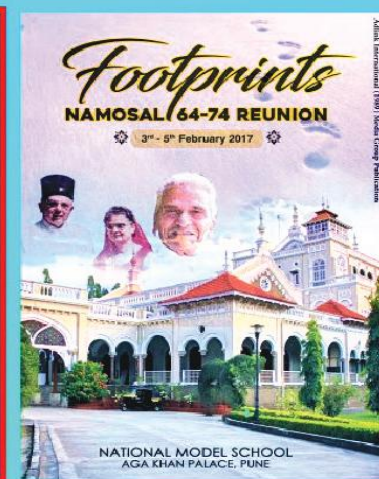
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Why Farmers Should Embrace New Technologies

- Governor Kahiga

By: MKT Correspondent
@themkenyatimes

Nyeri County governor Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga has called on farmers to embrace new agricultural technologies so as to reap maximum benefits.

“To promote agriculture in Nyeri County, we must invest in modern farming techniques and incentivize farmers by equipping them and providing the requisite support needed,” the governor noted.

By embracing technology and innovation, the governor observed, farmers can easily increase productivity, reduce post-harvest losses, and bolster this sector.

Kahiga spoke on Friday at Wambugu Agricultural Training Centre near Nyeri town during the first day of farmers training.

The county has been organising the two day training that attracts farmers and other stakeholders from differ-

ent parts of the country.

This year’s theme was, “Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture And Trade Initiatives For Sustainable Economic Growth.”

The event, organised through the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Aquaculture Development saw over 250 exhibitors, agricultural experts, and stakeholders visit the centre to learn and explore different farming practices and methods.

The exhibitors showcased different farming products including fertilizers, seedlings, and pesticides of superior quality to improve food production and improve the quality and quantity of crops.

The governor further observed the importance of farmers and stakeholders to embrace climate-smart agriculture to help combat harmful farming practices.

He was accompanied by among others, his deputy governor David Kinaniri and CECM for Agriculture James Wachih.



Nyeri County governor Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga, his deputy David Kinaniri and other stakeholders at Wambugu ATC on Friday.

Commemorating World Day Against Human Trafficking; Leave No Child Behind



By: Cynthia Masibo
@themkenyatimes

On an event held recently, the world came together to observe the World Day Against Human Trafficking, an occasion dedicated to raising awareness about the pervasive and insidious crime of human trafficking. This year’s theme, “Leave No Child Behind,” spotlighted the urgent need to protect children from this global scourge.

The event, held at an art gallery in Nairobi, showcased a diverse array of artistic expressions that underscored the multifaceted nature of human trafficking and its devastating impact on children.

The event featured an eclectic mix of performances, from poignant theatrical pieces and evocative dance routines to powerful spoken word poetry and thought-provoking visual art installations.

Each artistic expression served as a



Dr. Radoslaw Malinowski, the CEO of HAART Awareness Against Human Trafficking addressing different groups of people

stark reminder of the different forms human trafficking can take, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, and child soldiering.

Through these creative mediums, the event aimed to humanize the statistics and stories often associated with human trafficking, highlighting the individual suffering and resilience of victims.

Dr. Radoslaw Malinowski, the CEO of HAART Awareness Against Human Trafficking, delivered the

keynote address. Dr. Malinowski, a prominent advocate in the fight against human trafficking, emphasized the need for a holistic approach to tackle this crime, particularly focusing on the vulnerabilities of children. He stated, “Children are often the most defenseless against the scourge of trafficking. Our commitment to them must be unwavering. We must ensure that no child is left behind in our fight against this crime.”

Dr. Malinowski’s speech was a call to action, urging governments, non-governmental organizations, and communities to bolster their efforts in protecting children. He highlighted the importance of comprehensive support systems that include education, healthcare, and legal assistance to prevent children from falling prey to traffickers. Furthermore, he stressed the significance of international cooperation in combating human trafficking, as it is a crime that transcends borders.

The event also featured testimonies from survivors of human trafficking, whose stories of resilience and recovery served as a poignant reminder of the human cost of this crime. One such survivor, shared their harrowing experience and journey towards healing. Their testimony underscored the importance of providing adequate support and rehabilitation for survivors, ensuring they can rebuild their lives with dignity and hope.

In addition to the artistic performances and testimonies, various organizations set up informative booths, providing attendees with resources and information on how to identify and report instances of human trafficking. These booths also

offered guidance on supporting survivors, emphasizing the critical role communities play in the fight against trafficking.

The event culminated in a candlelight vigil, symbolizing hope and remembrance for the victims and survivors of human trafficking. As the candles flickered in the twilight, attendees were reminded of the collective responsibility to protect the most vulnerable among us.

World Day Against Human Trafficking serves as a crucial reminder of the ongoing battle against this heinous crime. The theme, “Leave No Child Behind,” calls for a renewed commitment to safeguarding children and ensuring they grow up free from exploitation and harm. Through awareness, advocacy, and action, we can work towards a world where every child is protected and given the opportunity to thrive.

As the world commemorates this important day, the message is clear: the fight against human trafficking is far from over, and every effort must be made to protect those most at risk. By coming together and taking decisive action, we can ensure that no child is left behind in this critical fight.

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The Shakespeare Of The Punjabi Language And The Shakespeare Of The English Language Are Quite Unique In Their Universal Approach: Their Antagonists' Characters Transcend All Time

By: **Muhammad Adnan Gujjar**
and **Tajallah Qureshi**
@themtkenyatimes



Muhammad Adnan Gujjar,
Lecturer at the University of
Chenab, Pakistan



Tajallah Qureshi, Poetess,
Author, University of Lahore,
Gujrat Campus, Pakistan

The Shakespeare of the Punjabi language and the Shakespeare of the English language are quite unique in their humanistic approach. They artistically encapsulate their time, which is not frozen but constant, making it possible to say that they are not specific to a particular era; rather, they are universal and belong to all ages. Their characters are not confined to the past; rather, their characters transcend past, present, and future. For instance, Heer and Ranjha are universal characters. These two can be found in every culture in various forms and perspectives. Similarly, Romeo and Juliet are recognizable in all cultures, but the two satanic and evil characters are quite universal: Qaido and Iago.

Firstly, the theme of manipulation and deceit is discussed. Both characters use different manipulative strategies to deceive others to fulfill their purposes. Both characters have similar dimensions because they use deceptive strategies to achieve their

goals. The difference lies in their underlying motives: Iago's actions stem from personal and professional jealousy towards Othello, who promoted Cassio over him. On the other hand, Qaido's actions are driven by his desire for prestige, to maintain his powerful persona, and to uphold his family's honor and respect. In their culture at that time, there was no concept of love-based marriages; society viewed such marriages negatively. Qaido aimed to preserve this societal norm, portraying himself as hailing from a prestigious family.

Iago's deceitful strategies have a wide-ranging impact not only on Othello but also on Roderigo, his wife Emilia, Cassio, and other characters. To execute his evil plan, he deftly tempts Cassio to drink despite his reluctance. Iago manipulates deaths to his advantage, following a Machiavellian code where the ends justify the means (Bradley, 1904).

Similarly, in "Heer Ranjha," Qaido twists the story with dishonesty and trickery. As Heer's brother, Qaido tries to make decisions for his sister's benefit, particularly concerning marriage and social standing. He plots against Heer and Ranjha's marriage with cunning tactics

Qaido is a representation of the societal norms of the time, which often disapproved of love-related marriages. He uses deception and trickery to maintain his family's reputation and social position, illustrating his commitment to upholding the cultural norms that define happiness (Ahmed, 2008).

However, Iago and Qaido act dishonestly and manipulate others for quite different reasons. Iago's animosity toward Othello fuels his actions, which are primarily driven by personal resentment and a desire for personal gain (Bloom, 1998).

In contrast, Qaido's actions advance his objectives but are also shaped by social mores and his sense of duty to uphold his family's honor (Ahmed, 2008).

The second relevant element is power acquisition. Iago wants and desires to have all the power. He cannot compete with Othello; as a result, Othello gains all the power. Moreover, Othello promoted Cassio as his lieutenant instead of Iago, which creates professional jealousy in Iago. Iago cannot surpass Othello professionally, but he finds a flaw or an opportunity to destroy his life.

In "Heer Ranjha," we find patriarchy. If Heer had made decisions about her own life (such as choosing a love marriage), male supremacy and the patriarchal character would have been demolished, and Qaido would not have been able to control Heer's life. To sustain this power and patriarchy, Qaido did everything.

Iago manipulates Othello's downfall to improve his position and achieve power because he is disappointed that Othello chose Cassio over him (Bradley, 1904). Iago's fear of being ignored motivates his ambition to become a leader and exert control over the individuals in his social circle. Iago's quest for power thus represents his desire to be noticed, as well as his aspiration for social rank and authority.

On the other side, Qaido's ambition for dominance in "Heer Ranjha" is rooted in social expectations of his time and patriarchal traditions. As Heer's older brother, Qaido attempts to exert influence over her life, particularly regarding her marriage, in order to uphold his family's reputation and social position (Ahmed, 2008). Qaido's quest for dominance extends to his family and society; he seeks to control Heer's fate and maintain their standing in their community (Ahmed, 2008). Qaido employs this struggle for dominance to perpetuate patriarchy and uphold social norms (Ahmed, 2008).

In conclusion, while both Iago and Qaido are motivated by a desire for power, Iago also harbors personal resentment and a need for social validation. Qaido's actions are largely driven by the legitimacy of societal and patriarchal norms.

Human nature is analyzed in both tragedies. In "Othello," Iago observes the weaknesses of other characters and exploits them to achieve his own goals (e.g., Othello's insecurities about his appearance and race were his vulnerabilities).

Qaido's nature and personality were such that he resisted any change and took on the responsibility of preserving social norms, even staunchly opposing Heer's decisions.

Iago appears to understand how easily human nature can be manipulated by instincts, and he exploits this to further his own agenda (Bloom, 1998).

Qaido, a character from "Heer Ranjha," holds an unconventional perspective on human behavior. Qaido

comes across as a steadfast individual resistant to change, influenced by family traditions and societal obligations. His actions align with his belief that it is everyone's fundamental responsibility to uphold social and familial structures. He seems to advocate for conformity to social norms regardless of personal preferences and emotions. This is evident in his persistent efforts to separate Heer and Ranjha and compel Heer into an unwanted marriage (Ahmed, 2008).

Iago and Qaido both have distorted perceptions of what it means to be human. Iago exploits what he perceives as inherent flaws in people, while Qaido establishes a restrictive social structure because he believes everyone has obligations and responsibilities. These contrasting viewpoints offer a perceptive comparative analysis of how each character uses their understanding of human nature to influence and control their respective narratives.

Iago's personal goal was to destroy Othello's life, and his manipulative strategies affected not only Othello but also had an impact on other characters. This includes the murder of Desdemona, Emilia, Roderigo, and serious attacks on Cassio.

In "Heer Ranjha," Qaido influences Heer's life significantly, as well as Ranjha's life and family. Moreover, he strongly impacts society by opposing love-marriage to preserve his social norms and family honor.

Iago uses cunning manipulation and deceit to gain control in "Othello." The tragic chain of events in the play is sparked by his words and actions. By deftly exploiting Othello's faith in and love for Desdemona, Iago incites doubts about Desdemona's loyalty, leading to Othello's tragic jealousy. He also deceives Roderigo, Cassio, and Othello's wife Emilia, demonstrating that his influence extends beyond Othello (Bradley, 1904). The tragic deaths of Othello, Desdemona, and others illustrate the destructive power of Iago's influence. His ability to manipulate others' opinions and behaviors underscores his cunning nature and highlights the devastating consequences of his actions.

In contrast, Qaido from "Heer Ranjha" wields power due to his social standing and familial obligations. As Heer's older brother, he assumes control over her life decisions, particularly regarding her marriage.

Qaido orchestrates the separation of Heer and Ranjha by arranging Heer's marriage to another man, which ultimately leads to tragic outcomes (Ahmed, 2008). Consequently, Qaido exerts a stronger authoritarian influence driven by his commitment to protect family honor and uphold social customs, even at the cost of his sister's happiness.

Despite employing different approaches, both individuals use their power to drive the plot, leading to the tragic demise of the main protagonists in both stories. The narratives of Iago and Qaido illuminate the complex nature of human behavior and cultural norms, demonstrating how power dynamics profoundly influence relationships and events.

Iago is jealous of Othello's success and resentful that Othello promoted Cassio to lieutenant instead of him. He also suspected his wife Emilia and Othello of having an affair. In "Heer Ranjha," we do not see this personally but on a broader societal level. There was a rigid pattern where only males could make decisions, and women were not allowed to do so. Qaido's resentment stemmed from his belief that Heer should not make her own life decisions.

In contrast to Iago, Qaido's character in "Heer Ranjha" is not motivated by personal jealousy or resentment. His actions are largely driven by concern for his family's honor and social status. However, one could argue that his desire to maintain or even surpass the social standing and respectability of other families in their town demonstrates a form of envy. His efforts to control Heer's life, particularly her marital decisions, could be interpreted as an expression of social envy or a competitive drive rooted in societal norms and standards (Ahmed, 2008).

Although Iago and Qaido manifest envy and jealousy differently, these emotions nonetheless serve as significant emotional motivations that catalyze both characters' behaviors, leading to crucial events in their respective narratives.

Muhammad Adnan Gujjar, Lecturer at the University of Chenab, Pakistan

Tajallah Qureshi, Poetess, Author, University of Lahore, Gujrat Campus, Pakistan

Man on a Mission: Gospel Singer Kevin Ager Shares His Journey in the Music Industry



By: Peter Aowa
@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Ager observes that many churchgoers lack a deep understanding of the word of God and issues of salvation. He prays that God will open their eyes so they can walk a worthy path in faith.
- Now a devoted servant of God, Kevin discovered his talent for singing and joined the church choir in 2012 to nurture it.
- He began composing songs during his fourth year of secondary school but faced financial challenges that nearly caused him to abandon his musical ambitions.
- “I started composing songs during my fourth year of secondary school, but due to a lack of funds, I nearly gave up,” he said.

Inspired by the historical theologian Saint Augustine’s quote, “To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement,” gospel singer Kevin Ager reflects on his path to salvation. He connects his experience to the Apostle Paul’s words in Hebrews 4:12:

Though Kevin grew up attending church and was a God-fearing young man, it wasn’t until 2012 that he made a personal decision to accept Christ. He relates this transformative moment to Hebrews 4:12:

“For a long time, I had been going to church and was God-fearing. Over time, I received new revelations about salvation. Reflecting on my walk with Christ, I realized the need for a personal commitment, which I made in 2012,” he said.

Ager observes that many churchgoers lack a deep understanding of the word of God and issues of salvation. He prays that God will open their eyes so they can walk a worthy path in faith.

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“I started composing songs during my fourth year of secondary school, but due to a lack of funds, I nearly gave up,” he said.

As the fourth-born of seven siblings, Kevin has learned patience and dedication. It took over a decade for him to officially record his first album. April 2024 marked a significant milestone in his music career when he entered the studio to record his debut album, “Utawala,” featuring six tracks.

Kevin is now working on his second album, which began earlier this year.

“Financial constraints are the biggest challenge I face. Recording an album requires a significant investment, and music does not pay instantly. Patience is essential while waiting for a return on investment, which often necessitates additional sources of income,” he said.

Looking ahead, Kevin hopes to collaborate with other gospel artists to spread the gospel, a calling he is deeply passionate about.



Gospel Singer Kevin Ager

The Paradox of Innocence: Examining Kenya's Criminalization of Consensual Adolescent Sexual Activity



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
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Consensual Adolescent Sexual Activity.

Worth Noting:

- The constitutional implications of criminalizing consensual adolescent sexual activity are far-reaching and multifaceted. Article 27 of the Constitution of Kenya guarantees equality before the law and freedom from discrimination, while Article 31 protects the right to privacy. The blanket criminalization of consensual sexual acts between adolescents arguably infringes upon these fundamental rights, creating a discriminatory legal framework that disproportionately affects young people.
- Furthermore, Article 53(2) of the Constitution mandates that the best interests of the child shall be of paramount importance in all matters concerning children. Legal scholars argue that the current approach to adolescent sexuality fails to uphold this principle, as it prioritizes punitive measures over the holistic well-being and developmental needs of adolescents.

“The condition of our lives is the condition of our art. The condition of our art is the condition of our lives. The condition of our art and our lives is the condition of our land and the life of our people. For the life of the self-determines the health of the community; and the health of the community determines the life of the self.” - Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o, in his seminal work “Decolonising the Mind: The Politics of Language in African Literature,” encapsulates the intricate relationship between societal norms, individual experiences, and the broader cultural landscape. This profound interconnection serves as a poignant backdrop to the complex issue of criminalizing consensual sexual activities among adolescents in Kenya, a topic that has sparked intense debate and scrutiny within legal, psychological, and sociological circles. The criminalization of such acts raises fundamental questions about the nature of consent, the developmental stages of adolescence, and the role of the state in regulating intimate behaviors among young individuals who are navigating the tumultuous waters of puberty and sexual awakening.

The legal landscape surrounding adolescent sexual activity in Kenya is fraught with complexities and contradictions, reflecting the broader societal tensions between traditional values, modern realities, and the evolving understanding of adolescent psychology. The Sexual Offences Act of 2006, while primarily aimed at protecting children and vulnerable individuals from sexual exploitation, has inadvertently created a legal quagmire for consensual sexual activities among adolescents. Section 8(1) of the Act states, “A person who commits an act which causes penetration with a child is guilty of an offence termed defilement,” with “child” defined as an individual under the age of eighteen years. This broad definition, while

intended to safeguard minors, fails to account for the nuanced realities of adolescent relationships and developmental stages, effectively criminalizing a wide range of consensual sexual activities between peers.

The case of C.K.W v Attorney General & another [2014] eKLR brought this issue into sharp focus, challenging the constitutionality of sections 8(1) and 11(1) of the Sexual Offences Act. The petitioner argued that these provisions violated the rights of children by criminalizing consensual sexual acts between adolescents. Justice Mumbi Ngugi, in her ruling, acknowledged the complex nature of the issue, stating, “The law as it stands does not distinguish between consensual sexual acts between children and defilement. This poses a challenge in dealing with cases of sexual acts between children, which may be consensual, but which the law treats as defilement.” This judicial observation underscores the urgent need for a more nuanced legal approach that considers the developmental realities of adolescence and the principles of proportionality in criminal justice.

The tension between legal paternalism and adolescent autonomy is further exemplified in the case of Petition 6 of 2019 (Consolidated with Petition E009 of 2020) [2022] KEHC 13758 (KLR), where the court grappled with the constitutionality of criminalizing consensual sexual acts between adolescents. The court’s deliberation highlighted the delicate balance between protecting minors from exploitation and recognizing their evolving capacities for decision-making. Justice Mugure Thande observed, “The blanket criminalization of consensual sexual conduct between adolescents fails to consider the realities of adolescent development and may, in fact, infringe upon their rights to privacy, dignity, and equality before

the law.” This judicial perspective aligns with the growing body of psychological research on adolescent development, which emphasizes the importance of recognizing and respecting the gradual acquisition of autonomy and decision-making capacities during this critical life stage.

The criminalization of consensual adolescent sexual activity not only raises legal and constitutional concerns but also has profound psychological implications for the young individuals involved. Dr. Elizabeth Letourneau, a leading expert in child sexual abuse prevention at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, argues, “Criminalizing normative adolescent behavior can lead to significant psychological harm, including shame, stigma, and decreased likelihood of seeking help or information about sexual health.” This perspective is echoed in the Kenyan context by local psychologists who emphasize the importance of education and support over punitive measures in addressing adolescent sexuality. The potential long-term consequences of criminalization, including the stigma of being labeled a sex offender, can have devastating effects on an adolescent’s psychological well-being, social relationships, and future prospects.

The constitutional implications of criminalizing consensual adolescent sexual activity are far-reaching and multifaceted. Article 27 of the Constitution of Kenya guarantees equality before the law and freedom from discrimination, while Article 31 protects the right to privacy. The blanket criminalization of consensual sexual acts between adolescents arguably infringes upon these fundamental rights, creating a discriminatory legal framework that disproportionately affects young people. Furthermore, Article 53(2) of the Constitution mandates that the best interests of the child shall be of paramount importance in all matters concerning children. Legal scholars argue that the current approach to adolescent sexuality fails to uphold this principle, as it prioritizes punitive measures over the holistic well-being and developmental needs of adolescents.

The case of Martin Charo v Republic [2016] eKLR provides a nuanced perspective on the issue of consent and criminal liability in cases involving adolescent sexual activity. While the case primarily dealt with the defense of mistake as to age

in defilement cases, Justice Said Chitembwe’s (as he was then) obiter dictum offers valuable insights into the complexities of adolescent sexuality and the law. He noted, “The law should be alive to the realities of adolescence and not criminalize all sexual conduct involving minors without considering the circumstances.” This judicial commentary underscores the need for a more flexible and context-sensitive legal approach that can distinguish between exploitative acts and consensual relationships between peers.

The criminalization of consensual adolescent sexual activity also raises significant public health concerns, particularly in relation to sexual and reproductive health education and services. The fear of legal repercussions can deter adolescents from seeking crucial information and healthcare, potentially leading to increased rates of unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, and other adverse health outcomes. Dr. Catherine Kyobutungi, Executive Director of the African Population and Health Research Center, warns, “Criminalizing adolescent sexual behavior can create barriers to essential health services and information, ultimately compromising the sexual and reproductive health of young people.” This public health perspective highlights the unintended consequences of a punitive legal approach and emphasizes the need for comprehensive sexuality education and youth-friendly health services.

The international legal framework provides important guidance on addressing adolescent sexuality and rights. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Kenya is a signatory, recognizes the evolving capacities of children and emphasizes the importance of protecting their rights to health, education, and privacy. The Committee on the Rights of the Child has explicitly called on states to avoid criminalizing adolescents of similar ages for factually consensual and non-exploitative sexual activity. This international standard underscores the need for Kenya to align its domestic laws with global best practices in protecting and promoting adolescent rights and well-being.

The psychological impact of criminalizing consensual adolescent sexual activity extends beyond the indi-

Huawei Seeds For The Future Programme Shaped My Career - Sylvia Jebet

By: Mike Omuodo
@themkenyatimes

In 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sylvia Jebet Kipkemoi, a graduate of BSc. Telecommunication & Information Engineering from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), was stuck in the village after all learning institutions were closed following the lockdown that resulted from the pandemic.

A third year at the time, Sylvia retreated to the village to take up some farm work, as the uncertainties presented by the pandemic unfolded.

At the university, she was a member of an engineering club where she was in-charge of the club's publicity. "We relied a lot on keeping in touch through printed stuffs like fliers while in college, which was now restricted by the pandemic so I began scouting for other means of communication during the lock-down. We then decided to form a WhatsApp group. It's through this group that one of the members shared a link on Huawei Seeds for the Future programme," she said.

Intrigued by the prospect of ad-



Sylvia Kipkemoi receives Huawei's Africa Digital Creation Contest Award in Shanghai, China.

vanced training and international exposure, Sylvia eagerly applied. The rigorous selection process tested her technical knowledge, problem-solving skills, and passion for technology. She then went through an interview process and was lucky to be one of the students picked for the programme in 2020.

"I applied, even though I was skeptical since I was competing against senior students, some of whom were in their final (fifth) year. Being chosen as a participant felt like a significant milestone in my academic and

career journey," she quipped.

Because of the pandemic, those shortlisted went through a virtual programme – from trainings to assessments to graduation. They studied and tackled projects, virtually, including a virtual tour of Huawei University.

Transformative Experience

The Seeds for the Future programme offers in-depth training on emerging technologies such as 5G, cloud computing, and artificial intelligence. These sessions are conducted by

industry experts and provide hands-on practice, which significantly enhanced students' technical skills and understanding of these cutting-edge technologies.

The programme also offers students an opportunity to engage in global learning tour and cultural exchange, physically, at the Huawei's Headquarters in China.

This year, Sylvia together with three other students from Kenya got the opportunity to participate in a one-week immersion into digital technology skills during the MWC Shanghai 2024 in China.

"The Huawei Seeds for the Future programme was a transformative experience, packed with learning and growth opportunities. Visiting Huawei's headquarters in China was an eye-opener. I witnessed the latest innovations and interacted with professionals who are at the forefront of technological advancements. This exposure has given me valuable insights into the global ICT landscape and the practical applications of the technologies I was learning about," she said.

"One of the unique aspects of the programme was the cultural immersion activities. Learning about Chinese culture, history, and lan-

guage broadened my perspective and taught me the importance of cross-cultural communication in today's globalized world. This experience has made me more adaptable and open-minded."

To Sylvia, the Seeds for the Future programme is not just about technical knowledge; it also emphasizes the development of soft skills. Through various team projects and interactions, she has scaled up her leadership, teamwork, and communication skills, which she says, has made her more confident in her abilities.

"Through this programme, I have realized the immense potential of ICT in driving innovation and solving real-world problems. I am grateful to Huawei for the opportunity and am committed to using what I have learned to drive technological innovation and make a positive impact and improve lives in my community and beyond," she said.

She now works as Developer Relations Associate, at Africa's Talking, a telecommunication company that offers a unified API platform for software developers in Africa to build applications using SMS, USSD, voice and airtime.

The Paradox of Innocence: Examining Kenya's Criminalization of Consensual Adolescent Sexual Activity

Contd from page 18

viduals directly involved, affecting families, communities, and society at large. Professor David Okhoba, a prominent Kenyan psychologist specializing in adolescent development, argues, "The criminalization approach creates a culture of fear and shame around adolescent sexuality, hindering open communication and support within families and communities." This perspective highlights the broader societal implications of the current legal framework, emphasizing the need for a more holistic and supportive approach to adolescent sexual development that involves parents, educators, and healthcare providers in fostering healthy attitudes and behaviors.

The case of S O O (a minor) v Re-

public [2019] eKLR further illustrates the legal system's struggle to address cases of consensual sexual activity between adolescents. In this case, the court grappled with the application of the Sexual Offences Act to a situation involving two minors engaged in consensual sexual activity. Justice Lesiit observed, "The law as currently framed does not adequately address situations where both parties are minors and the sexual act is consensual. This creates a dilemma for the courts in balancing the need to protect children from sexual exploitation with the recognition of adolescent autonomy and development." This judicial observation underscores the urgent need for legislative reform to create a more nuanced and developmentally appropriate legal framework for addressing adolescent sexuality.

The criminalization of consensual adolescent sexual activity also raises important questions about gender

equality and the disproportionate impact of such laws on girls and young women. Research conducted by the Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN) indicates that girls are more likely to be prosecuted and face harsher social stigma for engaging in consensual sexual activities than their male counterparts. This gender disparity in the application and consequences of the law highlights the intersectionality of age, gender, and sexuality in the Kenyan legal and social context, calling for a more comprehensive and equitable approach to addressing adolescent sexual behavior.

In considering potential legal reforms, it is crucial to examine comparative approaches from other jurisdictions that have grappled with similar issues. For instance, the Netherlands has adopted a more nuanced approach to adolescent sexuality, implementing a system of close-in-

age exemptions that decriminalize consensual sexual activities between adolescents within a specified age range. Similarly, Canada's "close-in-age" exceptions provide a model for balancing child protection with the recognition of adolescent sexual development. These international examples offer valuable insights for Kenyan lawmakers and policymakers in developing a more balanced and rights-based approach to adolescent sexuality.

In conclusion, the criminalization of consensual sexual activity among adolescents in Kenya presents a complex legal, ethical, and social challenge that demands urgent attention and thoughtful reform. The current legal framework, while well-intentioned in its aim to protect minors from sexual exploitation, fails to adequately account for the realities of adolescent development, the principles of proportionality in criminal justice, and the fundamen-

tal rights enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya. As we navigate this sensitive terrain, it is imperative to adopt a multidisciplinary approach that incorporates legal, psychological, and public health perspectives to develop a more nuanced and effective legal framework. Such an approach should prioritize education, support, and the promotion of healthy sexual development over punitive measures, recognizing the evolving capacities of adolescents and their right to privacy, dignity, and equality before the law. By addressing this issue with compassion, wisdom, and a commitment to the best interests of young people, Kenya can forge a path towards a more just and equitable society that nurtures the healthy development of its youth while providing robust protections against exploitation and abuse.

The writer is a legal scrivener and researcher.

Sports >> * 'Games wide open' is the motto for this year's Paris Olympics, which officially begin on Friday with the opening ceremony.

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Paris Set For Its First Olympics In 100 Years



'Games wide open' is the motto for this year's Paris Olympics, which officially begin on Friday with the opening ceremony.

It is the first time in 100 years that the French capital has hosted the summer Games, with the majority of the events taking place in or around the city's most iconic areas.

Friday's opening ceremony will see boats carry athletes and dignitaries down 6km of the River Seine, with room for 300,000 spectators.

Few details are known about the event – though there has been speculation about Celine Dion and Lady Gaga performing – with the ceremony's artistic director Thomas Jolly saying he wants to "show France in all its diversity".

The Paris Games is the first to achieve gender parity among athletes, with 5,250 male and 5,250 female athletes set to compete.

With millions expected to attend the Games, Paris is making the final touches for a Games it

hopes will be like no other.

Paris 'ready' after water concerns and security worries

French President Emmanuel Macron said earlier this week, external that the country was "ready and we will be ready throughout the Games".

However, some Parisians have used social media to warn people, external about issues such as overcrowding, price inflation and difficulties in getting around the city.

There is a huge security operation in place, with up to 5,000 police, soldiers and hired guards on patrol at any one time. The Seine – the river that runs through the centre of Paris – has been fenced off for the opening ceremony, leaving residents needing QR codes to access certain areas.

That has affected local businesses along the Seine, leading to some criticism, external but French authorities say the barricades will be removed after Friday's event.

The cost of this year's Games

is expected to be about 9bn euros (£7.6bn), with the organising committee promising to make it the greenest Olympics in history.

Fan park at Hotel de Ville in Paris

Only two arenas are new and purpose-built – an aquatics centre and an arena for badminton and rhythmic gymnastics.

Other iconic venues such as the Stade de France – the national stadium – and French Open tennis venue Roland Garros will host events, alongside historic sites such as the Grand Palais and the Place de la Concorde.

One of the big concerns in the build-up was the water quality of the Seine, which will host the swimming leg of the triathlon and open-water events.

Swimming in the river was banned for a century because of the water quality, with tests in June still showing levels of E.coli above the upper limits imposed by sports federations.

However, Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo swam in the river on 17

July to try to prove it was safe. The water will be tested regularly in different areas before the events.

How is Paris preparing for Olympics and Paralympics?

There is only one new event at this year's Games – breaking, a style of dance that originated in the Bronx in New York.

Some events have had tweaks, including men being eligible to compete in artistic synchronised swimming for the first time in Olympic history, although none have been selected for Paris.

The Games will also be the final Olympics for some of Britain's finest.

Two-time tennis gold medallist Andy Murray will end his career in Paris, as will Britain's most successful gymnast, Max Whitlock.

Adam Peaty, three-time Olympic gold medallist in the pool, returns to the Games after taking a mental health break from the sport.

On the track, Katarina Johnson-Thompson will look to avenge her heartbreak from Tokyo 2021, when a calf injury in the 200m led to her pulling out of the heptathlon.

But dressage rider Charlotte Dujardin will not be there, withdrawing after footage emerged of her "excessively" whipping a horse.

Elsewhere, Simone Biles, the world's most decorated gymnast, returns after her struggles in Tokyo, while Stephen Curry features in the basketball.

Their American compatriots Sha'Carri Richardson and Noah Lyles will look to shine on the track, while Jamaica's iconic Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce seeks to sign off her career with yet another medal.

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GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Canada women's football manager Beverly Priestman will not take charge of her side's Olympics opener against New Zealand

Olympics: Canada Send Two Staff Members Home Over Drone Incident



Canada women's football manager Beverly Priestman.

Canada women's football manager Beverly Priestman will not take charge of her side's Olympics opener against New Zealand after two members of her backroom staff were sent home for allegedly flying a drone over the Kiwis' team training session.

Priestman, 38, has "voluntarily withdrawn" from Thursday's match in St Etienne after the New Zealand Olympic Committee reported that a drone had been flown over their training session on Monday.

Jasmine Mander, Priestman's assistant, has been sent home along with "unaccredited analyst" Joseph Lombardi.

Fifa said it has opened disciplinary proceedings against Canada Soccer, Priestman, Lombardi and Mander.

The Canadian Olympic Committee say a scouting report filed by Lombardi was sent to Mander.

Priestman says she takes responsibility for the actions of her colleagues.

"I first and foremost want to apologise to the players and staff at New Zealand Football and to the players on Team Canada. This does not represent the values that our team stands for," Priestman said.

"I am ultimately responsible for conduct in our program."

The COC confirmed on Wednesday that a "non-accredited member of the Canada Soccer support team" was detained by authorities.

"The Canadian Olympic Committee stands for fair play and we are shocked and disappointed," it added in a statement., external

"We offer our heartfelt apologies to New Zealand Football, to all the players affected, and to the New Zealand Olympic Committee."

The NZOC said it has "formally lodged the incident with the IOC integrity unit and has asked Canada for a full review".

"The NZOC and New Zealand Football are committed to upholding the integrity and fairness of the Olympic Games and are deeply shocked and disappointed by this incident."

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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Children With Down Syndrome



By: Mirzayeva Sabo
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Children With Down Syndrome

Annotation. This article contains scientifically very important and accurate information on the topic "Children with Down's syndrome". By reading this article, you can learn about the origin of this condition in children with Down's syndrome and ways to treat it.

Key words. Children with Down syndrome, origin, methods of treatment, parents, child, doctor.

Down's syndrome is one of the chromosomal diseases, and this disease was named after the English doctor - John Down in 1866. Down's syndrome is a chromosomal disorder. Among children with severe forms of mental retardation, the number of children diagnosed with Down's syndrome is significantly higher. This disease is associated with chromosomal pathology, in which 47 chromosomes are formed in a human cell instead of the usual 46. Half of them are born with heart disease. Such children make up 30 or more percent of the total number of children in special institutions. The appearance of children with Down syndrome has the following characteristics: narrow eyes, a small "button" nose, rosy cheeks. The mouth is half open, the tongue is fat, skin folds and deep ridges, the teeth are eroded and open, the skull is smaller than normal, the forehead is cut, the fingers of the paw are very short. There is no single view. Some authors, especially psychiatrists, emphasize the very slow and difficult development of these children and the complete cessation of development at the age of 12-14 years, while defectologists emphasize the slow development of these children under the influence of special education.

Resolution No. PQ-892 dated

16.06.2008 was adopted by the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the State program for the early detection of congenital and hereditary diseases for the prevention of disability during 2008-2012".

Today, the organizational structure of the screening center exists in all regions of the Republic.

Children with Down's syndrome have more impaired motor skills. They are characterized by ease of movement, high flexibility of joints. A delay in the development of the main static functions (holding the head, sitting, reaching, coordination) has been detected, and the more difficult the movement, the more difficult the movement, the periods of relaxation and execution are delayed.

Defects in balance skills are clearly expressed in these children. Children with Down syndrome can discriminate the shape of objects by sight, like other children with mental retardation, but the results of object recognition are poorer in these children. This situation is explained by the lack of development of finger movements in children with Down's syndrome.

In the process of education and correction of the disorder, the development of children's cognitive activity and mental functions can be carried out in the presence of a number of conditions. To them:

- start corrective work as early as possible;
- good environment in the family and connection with the family with a special institution.
- the use of educational methods and an adequate program (child's age, educational opportunities and educational goals)

It is very important to start correctional work with abnormal children because it can lead to a big shift in

their development. The work with children of early childhood and preschool age includes communication, speech, object activities, office,

should be aimed at forming self-service skills, goal orientation, and behavior regulation. Early initiation of correctional work is not only for the development of the child, but also an effective tool for diagnosing the child, because during the long pedagogical influence and as a result of observations, the child's capabilities and characteristics are determined, and when the child reaches school age, it is possible to determine which school to send him to. .

In recent years, various rehabilitation centers have been established in our country, where children with severe mental retardation are provided with assistance.

Severe mental retardation is usually detected and diagnosed early, before the child is one year old or in the first years of the child's life. will have Psychoneurological studies show that a number of defects can be observed in such children in their early youth.

In infancy and preschool age, they show slowness and inactivity, they pay weak attention to the surroundings, and they have a late reaction to visual and auditory impressions. Children with undeveloped speech often have poor directed actions. There is a lack of interest and attention. Mental retardation in preschool age. This is reflected in my child's behavior and activity. Their games are the same, their emotions are unchanged and meaningless. Severe defects in mental activity are considered the result of damage to the central nervous system and occur as a result of various etiological factors. In particular, in some pre-school educational institutions in Moscow and St. Petersburg, children with Down syndrome are educated together with their healthy peers. It turned out that as a result of joint upbringing, it has a significant impact on the development of children with Down's syndrome and the formation of social skills in them. In healthy children, qualities such as tolerance (breadth of tolerance) and a sense of togetherness are brought up. During the study of small children with severe developmental disabilities, attention should be paid to the following aspects of their condition: - preserva-

tion of the emotional environment; - to correctly perceive the intonation of adult speech and differentiate relatives;

- liulq, communication with others, types of communication;
- state of the traffic environment;
- the game;
- the possibility of inclusion in goal-oriented activities and the level of development of various activities;
- state of speech: a) understanding of formal speech;
- b) understand and execute a series of simple instructions;
- d) active speech;
- the level of the child's imagination about himself and the surrounding world;
- partially because of self-serving and busyness-work with professional skills;
- the state of the ability to target in space and time.

Later, this information is supplemented with the results of observing the characteristics of attention, work ability and drug withdrawal of the child, his memory, his character and interests. It is observed that the emotions are relatively reserved in children, most of them are affected by the feedback given by others. When they hear praise, they fully express their joy, when they are reprimanded, they get upset, have a negative mood, and they can become angry and aggressive. At the same time. Children with severe form of mental retardation often have multifaceted and stratified emotions, and these children are characterized by slowness and difficulty in engaging in activities.

Down's syndrome is a form of congenital oligophrenia, in which, along with mental retardation, the child's appearance is colored in a unique way.

In Down's syndrome - due to a change in the set of chromosomes, metabolism at the cellular level is disturbed, and as a result, most organs and tissues in the body are damaged. In this way, congenital heart disease, visual or hearing impairment is observed in the child.

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Worth Noting:

- Children with Down's syndrome have more impaired motor skills. They are characterized by ease of movement, high flexibility of joints. A delay in the development of the main static functions (holding the head, sitting, reaching, coordination) has been detected, and the more difficult the movement, the more difficult the movement, the periods of relaxation and execution are delayed.
- Defects in balance skills are clearly expressed in these children. Children with Down syndrome can discriminate the shape of objects by sight, like other children with mental retardation, but the results of object recognition are poorer in these children. This situation is explained by the lack of development of finger movements in children with Down's syndrome.