Forging a Path to Justice: Enhancing Kenya's Criminal Justice System

The criminal justice system stands as a sentinel, tasked with upholding the rule of law, protecting the rights of citizens and ensuring that justice is served with fairness and impartiality. However, in Kenya, this system has long been plagued by challenges that have eroded public confidence

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News>>Kiambu County Informal Sector Set For Upgrade

P. 8. The informal settlement within Kiambu County is set for upgrade after the State department of housing and urban development contracted South Consulting Africa Limited to develop slum upgrading

News>>Youths Encouraged To Leverage Gov't Programs For Employment, Entrepreneurship

P. 12. The government has urged the youth to harness opportunities available in the national and county governments for personal development.

Ruto: Kenya Kwanza, ODM Have No Coalition Deal

The Kenya Kwanza Alliance and the Orange Democratic Movement have not entered into a coalition agreement but have agreed to unite the country and serve Kenyans, President William Ruto has said. The President said the two political formations have agreed to join forces to help confront the challenges facing Kenyans.

President William Ruto

STORY ON PAGE 6

Kirinyaga Central MP Sued Over KSh80 M Land

By: Felix Njenga
@themtkenyatimes

A family in Kiambu county has moved to court to sue Kirinyaga Central Member of Parliament Joseph Gachoki Gitari over claims that he has grabbed a prime land worth over KSh80 million in Ruaka area, Kiambaa constituency.

The family of Munyui Gathwira has accused the legislator of conspiring with some of the family members to deprive some of the family members of their inheritance land.

According to Fredrick Mburu, one of the aggrieved party speaking during an interview said that the legislator was sold the land without the consent of all family members present.

"We are a total number of seven members who were documented as beneficiaries. We came to learn about the sale of the land recently where two of our brothers conspired with the legislator and sold the land without our consent," Mburu said.

Mburu said that Gachoki allegedly conspired with John Wagacha, one of his brothers and altered ownership of LR Kiambaa/Ruaka 618 measuring 0.510 acres removing one of their brothers, David Ngigi as co-registered administrator of the land and claimed the other family members were deceased.

"The sale of our land was facilitated after it was claimed that we are deceased. our father's legacy was meant for all of us and we have never authorized any transfer of ownership," he said.

The family members claimed that corrupt dealings were undertaken with land officials in Kiambu lands registry where they were issued fake death certificates of family members who are still alive.

"Corrupt land officials in Kiambu facilitated this egregious act by accepting fraudulent death certificates of family members who are still alive. We are shocked and appalled by this blatant corruption," they said.

He said that once he got wind of the sale of the land, he immediately mobilized his siblings and were able to put a restriction on the land in the office of the assistant county Commissioner in Kihara, Kiambaa.

The restriction letter drafted by Peter,

Fredrick Mburu pointing at the piece of land. Photo/Felix Njenga.

Kamau, David Ngigi, Fredrick Mburu, Stephen Ndungu and Stephen Mungai was presented and received by Eldwin Ongeto Assistant County Commissioner Kihara Sub-County on 20th April last year, stating that one John wagacha has registered LR Kiambaa/Ruaka 618 under his name and were concerned that he wants to dispose the land without consent of all parties.

"We are concerned that our brother wants to dispose of the property without involving family members. we request you to kindly restrict the piece of land until such a time both parties come to an agreement,' read part of the restriction letter.

He said that the legislator was allegedly able to compromise one of the brothers to single handedly remove the restriction without the consent from the others thus enabling the transfer of the land documentation to go through.

The family members have vowed to fight tirelessly until justice is served.

"The MP and our brother will face the consequences of their actions. We demand accountability and restitution for this injustice perpetrated against our family," he said.

When reached for comment, the MP said that he bought the land from Wagacha who had a Title Deed of the land with him.

The lawmakers said he had no reason to doubt the transaction as the seller had all the documents required.

"I have copies of succession which he did without me. I was not there during the succession and if there was any family feud, I was not aware since this was a buyer-seller transaction," Gachoki said.

He denied the claims of grabbing land saying he complied and fulfilled all the requirements while acquiring the land.

Worth Noting:

- **Mburu said that Gachoki allegedly conspired with John Wagacha, one of his brothers and altered ownership of LR Kiambaa/Ruaka 618 measuring 0.510 acres removing one of their brothers, David Ngigi as co-registered administrator of the land and claimed the other family members were deceased.**
- **"The sale of our land was facilitated after it was claimed that we are deceased. our father's legacy was meant for all of us and we have never authorized any transfer of ownership," he said.**

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times

The Mt Kenya Times is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative.
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Mama Judith Ongoro

MEDICAL APPEAL

Our Mother, Mrs. Judith Ongoro is battling Cancer of the Oesophagus. She has been referred to India, Apollo Hospital, for treatment and management. We have started the first course of urgent treatment at MP Shah Hospital, Nairobi. The Ongoro Family is seeking your humble and generous support to enable the doctors commence urgent and immediate treatment at the cost of:

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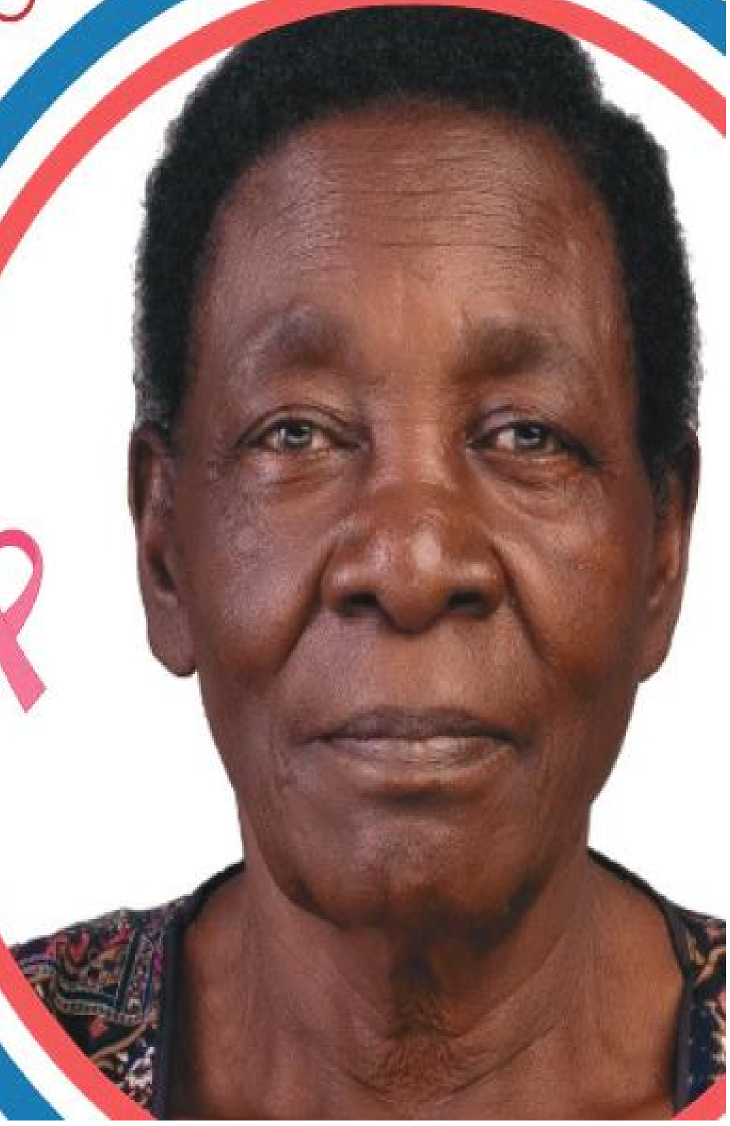

May God Bless you,

As You Stand With Us.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Donkey farmers in the Ewaso Kidong area, near Narok and Kajiado counties, have expressed concern over the rampant slaughter of around 70 donkeys every week. The meat is transported to major towns and cities and sold to unsuspecting customers as goat meat. The animals, once prestigious for transporting the elderly and sick, are now considered a source of livelihood for many families. Donkeys are used to transport goods, fetch water, firewood, and livestock feed. John Maina of the Farming System Kenya emphasized the importance of protecting their animals from theft and cautioned against consuming cheap meat at restaurants.

Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) Assistant Secretary-General Hesbon Otieno awarding one of the teachers for excellence during the Annual General Meeting for Tinderet/Nandi East Region held at St Mary's Girls Tachasis Secondary School Hall.

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) yesterday joined other stakeholders in the criminal justice system to launch a prison decongestion initiative at the Nairobi Remand and Allocation Maximum Security Prison (Industrial Area). Ms Dorcas Rugut, the acting regional head, Nairobi Region, described the initiative as a significant step towards ensuring that prison facilities operate within their recommended capacities. Ms Rugut in supporting the initiative noted that the ODPP has introduced policies aimed at decongesting prisons, including plea bargaining agreements, and diversion policies. She encouraged remandees to utilize these policies to expedite their trials and urged them to avoid unnecessary adjournments, particularly when witnesses are present.

Youthful former banker turned businessman Dominic Muraya has started sending shivers down the spine of leaders seeking to contest the Mathira constituency parliamentary seat in 2027. Due to his striking humane strides, the locals have nicknamed him 'Mathira Finest' and vowed to support his bid. The new phrase in Karatina town, the constituency political bedrock is, "Deputy President bedroom produces a new phase and hope for Mathira constituency". The businessman and who is also a 1st Class Honours graduate has been spotted supporting all and sundry across the six wards in the constituency with his age, kindness and soft sportedness coming in hardy with his futuristic plans and vision for the constituency making many like him and confessing they are ready to make him their representative in the National Assembly.

Outgoing Narok South Deputy County Commissioner Felix Kisalu has urged the Kipsigis and Maasai communities to continue embracing brotherhood for development. He said he had managed to unite the two communities, which were divided at the time he took office in 2019. Kisalu praised the communities for embracing unity and supporting him. He also highlighted the protection of the Maasai Mau forest from further destruction after over 3000 families were evicted in 2018 and 2019. Kisalu is moving to Sogowet-Soin Sub County in Kericho county and George Omolo, formally DCC Mbeere South Sub County in Embu County is taking over as the new DCC of Narok South Sub County.


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Ruto: Kenya Kwanza, ODM Have No Coalition Deal

By: PCS

Worth Noting:

- Speaking in Nyamira and Kisii counties on his first day of a three-day inspection of development projects, he noted that his most important job is to unite the country.
- He was accompanied by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Governors Simba Arati (Kisii) and Amos Nyaribo (Nyamira), Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba, MPs and MCAs.
- The President commended ODM for agreeing to work with the government for the sake of driving the country's development agenda to the next level.

President William Ruto speaking in Kisii County

The Kenya Kwanza Alliance and the Orange Democratic Movement have not entered into a coalition agreement but have agreed to unite the country and serve Kenyans, President William Ruto has said.

The President said the two political formations have agreed to join forces to help confront the challenges facing Kenyans.

He said the arrangement is not guided by selfish, personal or political party interests but by the well-being of the people of Kenya.

"There comes a time when the most important thing is not what benefits leaders or political parties, but what benefits the people," he said.

Speaking in Nyamira and Kisii counties on his first day of a three-day inspection of development projects, he noted that his most important job is to unite the country.

He was accompanied by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Governors Simba Arati (Kisii) and Amos Nyaribo (Nyamira), Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba, MPs and MCAs.

The President commended ODM for agreeing to work with the government for the sake of driving the country's development agenda to the next level.

He urged the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary to work in harmony for the interest and benefit of Kenya.

He asked Kenyans to rally behind the broad-based government that for the sake of national unity.

He asked all leaders, including from Gusiiland, to set aside their political differences and work together to serve the people.

"I urge you to unite so that we can have the strength to take Nyamira, Kisii and Kenya forward," he said.

On development, President Ruto said the government is upgrading facilities in 68 schools in Borabu, North Mugirango, West Mugirango and Kitutu Masaba constituencies in Nyamira County.

In North Mugirango Constituency, he laid the foundation stone for the construction of a dormitory at Kiabonyoru High School.

He also laid the foundation stone for the construction of a tuition block at Kenyerere Primary and Junior School in Kitutu Masaba Constituency.

Later, he commissioned an electrification project at Nyang'eni village in Nyaribari Chache, Kisii County.

The President announced that the government, in partnership with the European Union, will spend Ksh 650 million to connect 10,000 households in the county to power.

Mr Gachagua asked the Gusii community to continue supporting the government, saying it is focused on transforming their lives.

Governor Arati told the President that leaders from the Gusii community, drawn from various political parties, are ready to unite and work together.

Governor Arati also supported what the President had said that ODM was not in a coalition with Kenya Kwanza.

He noted that the government's affordable housing programme is of key importance in Gusiiland because land holdings have significantly reduced.

President Ruto explained that the government will build 4,000 units under the Affordable Housing Programme, creating

Kiambu County Informal Sector Set For Upgrade

By: Felix Njenga
@themtkenyatimes

Mr Gabriel Muli, Deputy Director of the Slum Upgrading Department addressing the meeting during introducion of South Consulting Africa Ltd who were contracted to develop slum upgrading and prevention..

Mr Julius Mwololo County KISIP coordinator chairing the meeting of consultant introduction to develop slum upgrade and prevention in Kiambu county.

The informal settlement within Kiambu County is set for upgrade after the State department of housing and urban development contracted South Consulting Africa Limited to develop slum upgrading and prevention strategy for the county.

The upgrade, which is under the Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project-II (KISIP-II) programme has selected Umoja settlements in Ruai, Kiangombe settlement in Thika Municipality, and Kiandutu settlement in Thika.

This will involve the provision of Title Deeds, drainage, floodlights installation, provision of street lights, laying of sewerage lines and water and electricity connectivity among others.

Julius Mwololo, Kiambu County KISIP 2 Coordinator, while welcoming the South Consulting Africa Ltd team emphasized the county's unwavering support for the life-changing initiative for informal settlers.

Mwololo highlighted the importance of a strategy grounded in the needs and voices of Kiambu's residents.

"Our approach must be community-inclusive, ensuring that the strategy truly reflects the unique challenges and aspirations of our people. By engaging directly with our communities, we can develop solutions that not only address their current needs but also pave the way for a more resilient community," Mwololo said.

He noted that they are committed to developing strategies that will address both slum upgrading and prevention.

"This approach will enable us to create actionable plans, estimate the required financing, and integrate these plans into key county documents like the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) for effective budgeting and resource allocation from development partners," he said

Gabriel Muli, Deputy Director of the Slum Upgrading Department from the KISIP 2 National Project Coordination Team (NPCT), stressed the necessity for customized solutions to address the unique needs of Kiambu County.

"Each county has distinct characteristics. The strategies we will develop here will be tailored specifically to Kiambu's needs, ensuring that our solutions are both relevant and effective in addressing the unique challenges faced by the residents,"Muli said.

Musyimi Mbathi representative South Consulting Africa Ltd emphasized the importance of the critical document and reiterated the pressing issue of emerging vertical slum expansion.

Mbathi highlighted the need for an actionable strategy to address slum expansion both in counties and across Kenya.

"Slum upgrading and prevention are crucial for ensuring that urban growth is sustainable and beneficial for all residents," Mbathi said.

He said that the strategy will involve a thorough situational analysis, extensive field studies, and input from residents and leaders to create an actionable plan for slum upgrading and prevention.

The KISIP project is a national government project that was launched back in 2011 to improve the living conditions in informal settlements in selected urban centers and is instituted under the Ministry of Land, Housing, and Urban Development in the Slum Upgrading department.

This initiative is bolstered by the KISIP 2's Institutional Capacity Development Component and receives support from major stakeholders, including the Government of Kenya, the World Bank, the European Union, and AFD France

Raila, ODM Decided To Walk Away From Azimio – Eugene Wamalwa

By: Eric Biegon

Former Defence Minister Eugene Wamalwa says the constituent parties of Azimio la Umoja can no longer work with the Orange Democratic Movement led by Raila Odinga.

Wamalwa, who leads the DAP-Kenya party, states that Raila and his team have chosen to collaborate with the ruling party, making their position in the opposition party untenable.

He categorically states that Raila has aligned himself with the enemy and is no longer part of the union that once bound them against the current regime.

"Kwa ndoa kuna kitu inaitwa irreconcilable differences, that is a ground for divorce. When a marriage breaks down irretrievably, and you are no longer compatible, you go separate ways. Wao (ODM) wanataka kuokoa Zakayo, sisi (wengine katika Azimio) tunataka kuokoa Kenya. Hatuwezi kuwa pamoja," he said ruing a church service in Makongeni, Thika town.

Wamalwa explains that ODM is now integrated into the Kenya Kwanza administration and cannot separate themselves from the new political alliance, particularly since some of its members have been appointed to government positions as Cabinet Secretaries.

"Team Okoa Zakayo (ODM), we wish you well kwa serikali hiyo. Mumegawana mawizara na sasa nasikia wanataka kugawana PSs. State corporation's pia wanataka kugawana. Lakini sisi tutasimama imara, kidete na Wakenya," added

He further expresses his discomfort with leaders within Azimio who claim that everything is fine when there are actually problems, especially considering that leaders are no longer reading from the same script.

"We must tell Kenyans the truth. Tukiwa kwa Azimio, all is not well. Martha Karua ametoka na Narc Kenya, na Peter Munya anataka kutoka na PNU. Hii ni kwa sababu tunasema Zakayo must go lakini kuna wenzetu wanasema Zakayo must stay," he said

Former Defence Minister Eugene Wamalwa.

EQUITY GROUP HOLDINGS REPORTS HALF YEAR PROFIT AFTER TAX OF KSHS 29.6 BILLION

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

From left to right: Equity Group Chief Finance Officer, Moses Nyabanda, Equity Group Managing Director and CEO, Dr. James Mwangi and Equity Group Chief Internal Auditor, Beth Kithinji.

Worth Noting:

- Total Assets grow by 6% to Kshs 1.75 trillion
- Deposits grow by 11% to Kshs 1.3 trillion
- Half-year profit after tax up by 12% to Kshs 29.6 billion
- Regional businesses contribute 49.7% of total assets and 50.2% of profit before tax for the period
- EGH continues product diversification with the receipt of a General Insurance license.
- Highest market capitalization in Sub-Saharan Africa

Against a backdrop of continued macroeconomic headwinds of high interest rates and volatile exchange rates across the markets that the Group operates in, Equity Group Holdings Plc (EGH) continues to demonstrate resilience, recording a balance sheet growth of 6% which is above the prevailing inflation rate of 4%, bringing its total assets as at 30th June 2024 to Kshs.1.75 trillion with the regional subsidiaries accounting for 49.7%.

The Group, which has been named as the top financial brand in Africa and the 2nd Strongest Banking Brand in the world and backed by its motto of ''Growing Together in Trust'' has seen its deposit franchise grow 11% year on year to Kshs.1.3 trillion with its customer base now at 20.7 million. This growth in deposits has resulted in a 55% increase in cash and cash equivalents to Kshs.341 billion and growth in investment securities to Kshs.459 billion resulting in an overall strong liquidity position of 57%.

While releasing the half year results, Dr. James Mwangi Equity Group Holdings Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer said "We are optimistic that the strong liquidity of the Group has positioned us to effectively support our customers as the economy starts showing signs of improvement in the key markets we operate in, signaled by some of the regulators' reduction of the Central Bank Reference rates. With the improved liquidity, the Group continued to optimize its balance sheet reducing leverage by Kshs.75 billion of expensive borrowings,"

Shareholders' funds grew by 13% to Kshs.220 billion strengthening the Group's ability to underpin the private sector led Africa Resilience and Recovery Plan (ARRP) by investing in new subsidiary undertakings in the Insurance Group as well as positioning it well to continue to take advantage of any market opportunities similar to the acquisition made in Rwanda in 2023.

The Group registered a robust top line growth with interest income growing by 22% to Kshs. 84.8billion from Kshs 69.8billion despite the high inflation and high interest shocks which saw returns to customers in the form of interest expense grow 30% to Kshs. 30.4 billion from Kshs. 23.4 billion. Non-funded income continues to grow steadily increasing by Kshs.5 billion and yielding a total income growth of 16% to Kshs.95.1 billion, up from Kshs.82.1 billion year on year.

The Group's offensive strategy of regional and product diversification continues to bear fruit with Kenya banking subsidiary contributing 43% of revenue from 46% in the previous period. As business continues to grow in the DRC and with synergies realized from the Cogebanque acquisition in Rwanda, subsidiaries now account for 47% of total loans (2023- 44%) and contribute 51% of profit after tax.

The operating environment characterized by turbulent global macro-economic shocks saw the Group continuing with its defensive conservative and prudent approach with loan loss provisions growing by 35% to Kshs. 8.5 billion. This has seen NPL coverage ratios remain at 70% with a Non-Performing Loans (NPL) ratio of 12.9%, way below the latest published industry average of 16.3%. The Group continues to make significant strides in its differentiated managerial capability and in enhancing its control environment to better position the Group to navigate the challenging macroeconomic and complex regulatory landscape while driving sustainable growth. The Group's continued investment to modernize its infrastructure coupled by high inflation has seen its expenses increase by 27%.

The Group recorded a half-year Profit after Tax of Kshs.29.6 billion representing a 12% year on year growth, with earnings per share increasing to Kshs.7.6 up from Kshs. 6.7. Regional subsidiaries accounted for 50.2% of the profit before tax for the period. This performance is coupled by strong capital buffers with core capital ratio of 15.8% and total capital ratio 18.4% versus regulatory threshold of 10.5% and 14.5% respectively.

"We are proud that the Group has sufficient cushion on its key balance sheet buffers being liquidity, capital and NPL coverage while at the same time it continues to report above industry profitability metrices with return of average equity of 26.7% and return on average assets of 3.4%,"added Dr. Mwangi.

Having disrupted and transformed the banking industry, EGH identified insurance as critical to contribute to business and individual resilience and protection. The Group was recently granted a general insurance license in addition to the already existing life assurance license. With this, the Group will offer holistic and integrated financial services to both corporate, SME and retail customers by availing insurance solutions for all customer needs by protecting life, health and wealth through its diverse product offering. By leveraging on the strategic capabilities and partnerships in banking, healthcare, distribution, SMEs, agriculture and technology sectors, the Group aims to provide customer centric, digital first and efficient products that are accessible to millions of customers and enable them to bridge the protection gap and fulfil their goals. EGH's extensive branch network, as well as unparalleled network of over 1.1 million agents and merchants continues to play a critical part of the insurance distribution strategy for all customer segments by ensuring ease of access and service for customers. As at June 2024, the Group had issued over 12 million life policies and had 1.5 million unique customers consuming life assurance and pension products.

The Group's transformation goes beyond regional and product offering diversification, to a technology led and enabled business under One Equity offering, that enables self-services with unparalleled convenience and case based on freedom of channel choice. Digital channels dominate with 84% of transactions, Agency channels process 9% of transactions while ATMs and Merchant acquiring each process 2% of transactions and branches handle only 3% of transactions. The Group has rolled out a common product house that allows cross selling and bundling of products under the One Equity offering – a one stop shop for financial services.

The Group has developed an iconic brand and was ranked one of the most valuable in the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) and Africa's top banking brand. The Group's impact continues to be felt in climate action, where the International Finance Corporation (IFC) recognized Equity as having the highest number of climate finance eligible transactions, most of which were in climate adaptation and mitigation in agriculture. The Group has also partnered with Microsoft and Mastercard Corporation to digitize 10 million customers under the community pass initiative.

On 8th August 2024, EGH commissioned 113 Equity Leaders Program (ELP) scholars from Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and DRC who have received full scholarships to pursue their university education in various global universities across the world. The scholarships, worth Kshs 2.8 billion (USD.2.7 million) saw 13 students admitted to Ivy League universities, bringing the total number of Equity Leaders Program Scholars who have attended the Ivy Leagues to 204. The total number of scholars that have attended global universities through this program is 970. In the backdrop of a challenging macroeconomic environment, Equity Group Foundation has offered customized capacity building programs to 570,006 Micro and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) that received Entrepreneurship training, with a total of Kshs. 355.4 billion disbursed to 305,771 MSMEs under the Young Africa Works Program. This program has created at least 1.3 million jobs for young people.

Dr. Mwangi said, "Despite the challenging environment, Equity has chosen to operate in a sustainable manner. In the coming weeks the Group will release its third sustainability report that highlights the Group's approach to embed Sustainability in its strategy by becoming an early adopter of Taskforce for Nature Finance Disclosure in Africa, demonstrating not only a sustainability focus at customer level but also supporting nature restoration by having achieved 29.5 million trees planted. The Group continues to take a leading role in climate finance through extending over Kshs. 26 billion (USD 200 million) in the form of climate finance."

Ruto Urges CSs, PSs To Focus On Service Delivery

By: Muraya Kamunde
@themtkenyatimes

Cabinet and Principal Secretaries have been urged to focus on the implementation of transformative programs and policies to improve the lives of Kenyans.

Speaking after holding talks yesterday morning, President William Ruto also rallied Kenyans to support the new broad-based government in fulfilling its mandate.

"We have formed a broad-based government to unite the country and rally all Kenyans behind the country's transformation journey," the Head of State said in State House, Nairobi.

"I call on those selected to serve in the cabinet to focus on the implementation of programmes and policies that will transform the lives of Kenyans and move the country forward. Let us not waste this golden opportunity," he added.

The newly constituted cabinet includes members of Opposition leader Raila Odinga's party ODM who now take up the Treasury, Energy, Cooperatives, and Mining dockets.

Those who took an oath of office Thursday include; Kithure Kindiki (Interior) Soipan Tuya (Defense), John Mbadi (National Treasury), Justin Muturi (Public Service), Aden Duale (Environment), Alice Wahome (Lands), Julius Migos Ogamba (Education), Davis Chirchir (Transport), Rebecca Miano (Tourism), Hassan Ali Joho (Mining), Alfred Mutua (Labour), Eric Muug (Water), Salim Mvurya (Trade), Debra Mlongo Barasa (Health), Kipchumba Murkomen (Sports), Opiyo Wandayi (Energy), Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u (ICT & Digital Economy), Wycliffe Oparanya (Cooperatives), and Andrew Mwihia Karanja (Agriculture).

President William Ruto addressing CSs and PSs.

Did Claims By President Ruto's Critics That He Was Being Held Hostage By IMF Holds Any Water?

By: **Joseph Mutua Ndonga**
mutuandonga@yahoo.com

Worth Noting:

- **Gen-Z and their sponsors would want Kenyans to buy a lie that this is the first time that the IMF is imposing the conditions.**
- **I disagree. Allow me to first make one thing clear. Britton Wood institutions do not invite themselves into a country. But once invited, each was at liberty to come up with terms of engagement.**
- **Failure to live up to the terms of agreement is the main reason why many African countries have been grappling with the conditionalities.**
- **During their respective tenures, Presidents Daniel Arap Moi, Mwai Kibaki and Uhuru Kenyatta faced public back-rashes.**
- **For President Ruto, he has been assuring Kenyans that his main goal was to safe guard their economic interests.**

President William Ruto .

Occasionally, the critics of President William Ruto were dragging the name of International Monetary Fund (IMF) in trying to justify their claims that he was taking the country in the wrong direction.

This is in regard to fiscal and monetary policies that had been put in place by his administration.

They would aver these policies had been imposed by IMF and term them as punitive and a bitter pill to swallow.

During the campaigns, President Ruto promised Kenyans that he would revive and turn around our economy.

His interventions are not bearing the fruits. This is because he had succumbed to blackmail and other machinations of IMF, they would further allege.

The claims resurfaced and took a center stage during the Generation-Z protests.

The chants that President Ruto had sold the country to Britton Wood institutions would rent the air.

In trying to justify the claims, GenZ would cite Finance Bill 2024 claiming that it had drafted by IMF.

Gen-Z and their sponsors would want Kenyans to buy a lie that this is the first time that the IMF is imposing the conditions.

I disagree. Allow me to first make one thing clear. Britton Wood institutions do not invite themselves into a country. But once invited, each was at liberty to come up with terms of engagement.

Failure to live up to the terms of agreement is the main reason why many African countries have been grappling with the conditionalities.

During their respective tenures, Presidents Daniel Arap Moi, Mwai Kibaki and Uhuru Kenyatta faced public back-rashes.

For President Ruto, he has been assuring Kenyans that his main goal was to safe guard their economic interests.

Therefore, we are not going to embrace these conditionalities blindly.

We will only implement what is good for our country in terms of uplifting the living standards of our people.

Being a global financial institution, IMF engages both the developing countries and developed/industrialized nations.

For me, GenZ protests were a blessing in disguise for President William Ruto.

The writing was already on wall that the President was uncomfortable with several things that were happening in the country.

To avoid a political back rash, he knew that he needed to undertake some of these reforms with caution.

A case in point is the push to remove Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mithika Linturi.

Despite his name being adversely mentioned in procurement and supply of the fake fertilizer, he survived bid to oust him through impeachment.

This is because the MPs from Mount Kenya region blindly rallied behind him.

For them, the issue of integrity and other qualities of a good leader will not matter.

Hon Linturi is one of our own. So we cannot abandon him in this hour of need.

This is the reasoning even in other parts of the country.

You would hear elected leaders defending top government officials who hails from their tribe and region.

So, the Gen-Z protests were timely trigger. Going by his latest pronouncements, President Ruto is committed to address this recurring problem.

In the initial stages the protests were peaceful. The President was happy to see young people coming out in big numbers to speak their mind. He in particular admired these protests because they were tribe less and party less.

Their message is clear. Kenya belongs to all of us. As your President, I have been reiterating this. So, when he dissolved the entire cabinet, he minced no word in stating.

The new-look cabinet will be broad based, all-inclusive and one that will help him to fulfill a raft of pre-election promises. He has lived to his word.

Unlike his predecessors, President Ruto is running the country in the era of advanced digital technology. This explains why the mobilization of Gen-Z protesters happened very fast. As President Ruto noted, the issue of youth bulge also came into play.

On IMF prescriptions, there was no doubt that he was opposed to some of them.

His decision to reject the Finance Bill 2024 was a bold move.

On reconstitution of his cabinet, the President had earlier read several riot acts to his cabinet secretaries (CSs).

In the eyes of the public, your performance is below expectation.

Some of you are totally clueless about what you are supposed to do.

I even know more than you regarding the mandate of your respective ministries.

So, I don't see the point of having you in my cabinet.

With this, the President had drawn the line and it was only a matter of time before the he cracked the whip and sent them home.

As per the constitution, the prerogative to hire and fire members of the cabinet lies squarely with the President. The role bestowed on them is delegated. The President is the CEO of Kenya and he hires them to help him discharge the constitutional mandate of his office.

Since he assumed office, the President curves a niche of being a strong believer in the tenet of democracy and rule of law.

President Ruto followed the footsteps of former President Mwai Kibaki.

In the aftermath of 2007/2008 post election violence, Kibaki caved in to pressure and agreed to form a unity government with ODM leader Raila Odinga.

The only difference at the time was that the pressure came from the international community.

For President Ruto, he has so far managed to use his wisdom to contain pockets of violence and prevent Kenya from sliding into a full blown anarchy.

The other key demand raised by Generation-Z and millennials touched on reconstitution of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).

A few days ago, the President signed the IEBC Bill into law paving the way for the recruitment of the commissioners.

The Bill emanated from the talks held at the Bomas of Kenya.

The 10-member national dialogue committee (NADCO) was co-chaired by national assembly majority leader Kimani Ichungwah and Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka.

The President was flanked opposition leaders led by Raila Odinga during the signing ceremony held at KICC.

The new law to reform the IEBC is a product of the views and memoranda presented by the people of Kenya during the public hearings.

So, we have no reason to doubt that this process will lead to formation of a truly independent commission.

We want to assure Kenyans that the commissioners will conduct a free, fair and credible polls in 2027, the opposition leaders reiterated.

I have heard some members of Gen-Z expressing reservations to the steps that President Ruto has so far made.

A friend of mine told me. Those were extremists who had coined a Hastag of 'RutoandGachaguaMustGoNow'.

We know their ultimate goal was to attempt to overthrow President Ruto through popular uprisings.

So, they won't see anything good that the President was doing.

Why their bid won't see the light of day? Majority of Kenyans abhor use of unconstitutional means to remove a democratically government from power.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a Writer and Political Analyst based in Nairobi

Youths Encouraged To Leverage Gov't Programs For Employment, Entrepreneurship

By: Fatma Said and Sadik Hassan
@themtkenyatimes

The Founder of Patron of Smart Mechanized Agriculture and Climate Action for Humanity and Sustainability (SMACHS) Foundation Charlene Ruto addressing the forum yesterday

Worth Noting:

- **"Through the efforts of the President, we can now convince some of the social media companies to allow Kenyans to get money out of the content they create," the PS noted.**
- **Last year, the PS stated that the Ministry of Youth collaborated with the Ministry of Education to undertake a talent search program in football and creativity.**
- **"Out of that program, we have managed to scout 2000 young Kenyans and taken them to a talent and skilling camp at the Kenya Academy of Sports. Six young Kenyans have been scouted by international football teams and are now playing for different clubs in Europe and America," said Madey.**

The government has urged the youth to harness opportunities available in the national and county governments for personal development.

Speaking during an occasion to mark the International Youth Day in Mombasa, Youth Affairs and Creative Economy Principal Secretary Ismail Madey said the country's youth segment was important, thus their efforts, creativity, energy, and all the programs they are undertaking are worth celebrating.

The celebration had a representation of youths from all 47 counties and began with a procession from the iconic elephant tusks to the Swahili Pot Hub.

The youth had an opportunity to exchange ideas and engage the leadership in dialogue to shape how their programs are run in the government.

This year's theme was, From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development."

The PS noted that the theme is timely as the country is making strides in creating online jobs for the youth through the Ajira Hub and other platforms.

"Through the efforts of the President, we can now convince some of the social media companies to allow Kenyans to get money out of the content they create," the PS noted.

Last year, the PS stated that the Ministry of Youth collaborated with the Ministry of Education to undertake a talent search program in football and creativity.

"Out of that program, we have managed to scout 2000 young Kenyans and taken them to a talent and skilling camp at the Kenya Academy of Sports. Six young Kenyans have been scouted by international football teams and are now playing for different clubs in Europe and America," said Madey.

The Talanta Hela initiative now will focus on creatives and a new talent search program dubbed "Who is Next" will be unveiled soon.

Through Talanta Hela, he added, the Ministry has signed agreements with International partners to provide a gateway for Kenyans.

The government, he said, has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Grammy awards on music and Hollywood Innovation studios for Kenyans in Hollywood.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer of the National Youth Council, Margaret Kiogora expressed her excitement for the honour to host this year's Youth International Day in Mombasa County, noting that their main agenda of the day is to explore what the young people have been up to, including their success stories.

She added that they aim to listen to the youth's challenges and use the insight to influence policies and laws to enhance their growth and development.

"We continue to encourage young people to join these initiatives by actively engaging with government platforms, whether at the national or county level without fear," Kiogora said.

On matters of strengthening the National Youth Council Kiogora reiterated that the PS has pledged that they have put in place measures to establish election guidelines and an Act that aligns with the Constitution. The next crucial step is gathering input from young people on how they would like to see the constitution strengthened.

The chairperson of the Youth Advisory Board at the National Youth Council, Sophie Nikoye Waliyaula, encouraged the youth to interact using the digital aspect and embrace technology in all activities that they do.

The Founder of Patron of Smart Mechanized Agriculture and Climate Action for Humanity and Sustainability (SMACHS) Foundation Charlene Ruto said that she had a lengthy discussion with the youth of Mombasa and affirmed that they are well supported by the County Governor.

"I encourage the young people to continue reaching out to our leaders, especially within our youth networks so they can help us implement our ideas and dreams into reality," Charlene said.

She emphasized that many important developments in the country are often overlooked by the youth. To address this, she is actively bridging the information gap between leaders and young people through her social media platform, ensuring they stay informed and engaged.

"Information is power, especially during this time and age, I try to bring this connection to the youth to know what is happening, but it's up to you to put in the effort, and put yourself out there because the best I can do is give you the information," Charlene reiterated.

Judiciary Commits To Decongest Prison Facilities

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

The judiciary is implementing long-term measures to prevent unnecessary detention of unconvicted persons and decongestion of correctional facilities.

Chief Justice Martha Koome is leading critical reforms in the criminal justice system to stem overcrowding in Kenya's prisons, focusing on fostering proper rehabilitation of offenders.

The Judiciary will promote the use of Community Service Orders by reviewing sentences and releasing convicts to perform community service instead of serving time in custody.

The process for posting bail, bonds, and sureties will be streamlined to make it more efficient and expeditious, transforming the correctional system into one that reflects the highest standards of justice and human dignity.

The second phase of the initiative will involve continuous review of sentences by Judges of the High Court until a sustainable prison population is achieved.

The current state of Kenya's prisons is untenable, with 9,458 inmates in the Nairobi region alone, with 2,496 convicts, and 4,962 unconvicted persons awaiting trial.

The Rapid Results Initiative aims to achieve a sustainable prison population that aligns with the established capacity of correctional facilities.

The first phase of the decongestion initiative focuses on reviewing bail and bond terms for unconvicted persons currently in remand within the Nairobi region.

The Judiciary is also emphasising restorative justice to foster social harmony within the community and facilitate the reintegration of released individuals into society.

The Judiciary will also provide rehabilitative avenues for children who find themselves in conflict with the law from the formal criminal justice system, allowing them to grow into law-abiding citizens.

Chief Justice Martha Koome

The CJ said petty offenders should not be subjected to incarceration but should instead be diverted to community service or alternative sentencing options that enable them to contribute positively to society.

Gov't In Partnership With Organizations For Water Delivery Support

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyatimes

The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation is collaboration with international organizations in seeking support for various projects across the country.

Under the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) methodology, the ministry is spearheading more than 34 projects mainly on water harvesting, storage, and distribution for irrigation and multipurpose use.

Further, under the same procedure, the government is also involved in PPP on food security such as Galana Kulalu Food Security Project.

The Ministry has sought technical assistance from the World Bank to explore Public Private Partnership (PPP) in the water and irrigation space that culminated with consultations that were held yesterday at Maji House, Nairobi.

The discussion, chaired by Principal Secretaries, Ephantus Kimotho (Irrigation) and Julius Korir (Water and Sanitation) centred on the diagnosis of the challenges and opportunities for PPPs, development of a pipeline of priority PPP projects, and stakeholders engagement.

Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation alongside officials from World Bank and KPMG during yesterday's meeting at Maji House, Nairobi.

The diagnostic assessment being undertaken by KPMG with support from World Bank will aid a number of issues on financing irrigation and water projects relating to sustainability link bond, blended financing, unlocking other private capital for public goods and tapping into climate financing.

This remarkable opportunity presents a platform for harnessing a collective expertise and resources, propelling the Ministry towards a more resilient and sustainable future.

Kimotho said that he was hopeful that the projects will address potential in the water sector where bridging the gap in concessionary financing will be highlighted, opportunities in fine-tuning blended financing and looking into both policy and technical capacity in setting up a de-risking fund to open up potential of investment in the irrigation projects.

On the other hand, Korir echored on the timely collaboration that will ultimately deliver on the government's Bottom up Economic Transformation Agenda (BeTA) and ensure direct impact on Kenyas economy through irrigated agriculture, water services and climate financing.

The meeting was attended by the Ministry's top leadership, KPMG team led by James Woodward and the World Bank team led by Sam Banya

Language Is The Mirror Of The Nation

By: Kucharova Ugiloy, Uzbekistan

Our great-grandfather, the sultan of poetry, Alisher Navoi, said, "Language is the jewel that separates man from beast." A person who does not know his mother tongue does not know his family tree or roots. Every nation calls the language it has used throughout its life as its mother tongue. The reason for this name is the mother's role in raising a child and bringing it to adulthood. The language of each nation is called the mother tongue because the baby heard the sounds and words from his mother.

In ancient times, our mother tongue was called Turkish. Our ancestors have preserved our language for centuries. Those who have done noteworthy work in order to strengthen the mother tongue. Among them, Amir Temur also enjoyed the poems and finished the stanzas. Husayn Boykara and Zahiriddin Muhammad are not only sultans of Babur's time but also recognised poets. Just like every period has its own problems, in the 15th century, problems started to arise in the Turkish language. In Khurasan and Movorounnahr, poems were written in the easy and comfortable Persian language. Because Persian made things easier. There was enough literature in Persian. A person who writes poetry in the Turkish language had to search and puzzle over every word, phrase, and expression, as no significant literature was created in this language either. The honourable and responsible Alisher Navoi took responsibility to demonstrate the possibilities of the Turkish language scientifically and practically, to add the pride and honour of the nation to its rightful place. The great poet wrote a special work entitled "Muhokamat ul-lu atayin" (Discussion of two languages) and compared the Turkish and Persian languages. He showed the inexhaustible possibilities of the Turkish language with irrefutable scientific evidence. He demonstrated the richness of vocabulary, elegance, and melodiousness of the Turkish language with many examples. He proved this in practice with his colourful poetic work, which consisted of approximately one hundred thousand verses, first of all, with four divans called "Khazayin ul-Mani" (Treasure of Meanings) and "Khamsa". These works, which have passed the test of centuries as examples of high art, were a unique collection of the culture of the Turkish peoples of the 15th century. Navoi writes:

Turk nazmida chu men tortib alam, Ayladim ul mamlakatni yakqalam (I raised the flag of Turkish poetry high and united the Turkic world.)

In this work, he received great help from one of Navoi's contemporaries, Husayn Boykara. It is known that Husayn Boygaro issued a decree on writing works in Turkish. These verses can be quoted many times:

Agar bir qavm, gar yuz yo'qsa mingdur Muayyan turk ulusi xud meningdur Olib men taxti farmonim a oson Cherik chekmay Xitoydin to Xuroson (The Turkish nation is mine, whether it is one nation, a hundred, or a thousand. I conquered the territory as far as Chindin Khurasan without soldiers).

We young people should always remember such examples and that the first characteristic of a nation is its language!

My Sister

By: Bobozonarova Gulzova
Uzbekistan

Sister, you are my only joy,
You are my ointment for a thousand pains,
If a stone of sorrow falls on my head,
You are my immediate concern.

I have no wings like my mother,
Always supporting me.
If I'm a little sad
My frustration is gone.

Trust me, my confidant,
Every moment, always by my side,
You are beautiful, flawless.
Alone in the world.

The Psychological Significance Of Memory In The Acquisition Of English Language In Primary School Pupils

By: Abduganiyeva Gulbanu, Uzbekistan

Abstract: This article focuses on the importance of the memory process in learning English for students of junior school age and the development of the ability to remember information well in language learning.

Key words: Memory, memorial abilities, cognitive development, foreign language, acquisition.

In today's rapidly developing era, knowledge of foreign languages is important. In particular, one of the most important requirements of today's time is to learn English. In the current modern education, necessary conditions are being created for the young generation to become mature and qualified personnel in all respects and to learn the language.

Why is it important to teach children foreign languages from childhood?

Learning English from a young age helps in both educational and intellectual development. When you learn another language of another community, you get to know both the language and their cultural diversity.

Learning a foreign language from childhood develops the child in all aspects. Language shapes our thinking and affects our cognitive processes. Language expands the world, improves the child's memory, intelligence, develops the ability to observe.

Therefore, in today's developed society, the importance of forming interest in English in children is increasing.

Children speak in languages they hear. So introducing English into your child's life will help him start using the language. In the future, when the child grows up, his spoken English will be repeated unconsciously and using correct grammar.

However, in order for the lessons to be really effective and not overload the child, they must follow certain guidelines, which can be called the voluntary nature of the lessons.

Under no circumstances should children be forced to learn English. Especially children of preschool age are among them. If lessons become a chore, they can quickly become boring and children may find it difficult to learn the language later on.

The main goal of parents and teachers is to arouse interest in language, and in this process play activities help in this.

It is appropriate that we give the following recommendations on the best time to teach English to students of junior school age.

The sooner you start introducing your child to English, the better. Scientists think so. They say the following:

Half of cognitive abilities are formed in the first 4 years of human life.Basic skills are formed at the age of 7-8.

From the age of 8-10, all abilities should be developed through education.

That is, the older a person is, the more time and effort he has to spend on learning English. Therefore, the best way to teach children English is to start before the age of 4.

For this reason, the role of the memory process in teaching children a language is of particular importance:

Memory plays a crucial role in second language acquisition. Working memory, a cognitive space for managing and storing information, has been identified as a key individual difference variable in language learning: It mediates various aspects of language learning processes and outcomes.

In conclusion, phonological short-term and working memory spans are related to vocabulary and grammar learning in second language learners. Typically, short-term retention, as measured by simple intermediate tasks such as word repetition, is associated with vocabulary learning. Grammar learning is usually related to the working memorial system. This system is often tested with complex span tasks that require participants to simultaneously process and store information.

EXECUTIVE

CS Adan Duale Officially Assumes Environment Docket

By: Kenya News Agency

Worth Noting:

- "We will continue to strengthen our Climate Action Agenda, promote green growth and ensure sustainable natural resource management. We will mobilise climate finance resources from diverse sources and channel them to support our own initiatives," said Duale.
- The CS further said climate change is a global challenge that demands international collaboration and promised that his Ministry will champion for active national engagement as well as advocate for more support from the developed countries, to fulfil their climate finance obligation for sustainable mitigation.
- Duale said that it was imperative that global emissions are reduced, while financial and technological capacity-building support is provided, in line with international commitments.

Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry, Aden Duale take-over ceremony from his predecessor, Soipan Tuya.

The newly appointed Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry, Aden Duale, has pledged to tackle climate change and restore all degraded wetlands and riparian lands in the Country.

Duale, in a brief take-over ceremony held at the Environment Ministry Headquarters, NHIF building, Nairobi, said Kenya has made a very significant contribution in climate change mitigation and adoption measures under the previous leadership of his predecessor, Soipan Tuya, who now moves to the Ministry of Defence,

"Climate change will remain the major focus for me, for it is not only an environmental issue, but also a very serious challenge that humanity faces today, and its impact is profoundly far-reaching and deeply personal to all of us," he noted.

The CS pointed out that practicable strategies, policies, and programmes put in place by the government, including promoting renewable energy, advancing tree planting, and strengthening climate resilient, have laid a solid foundation for the country's continued progress towards environmental conservation.

Duale promised to strengthen the Climate Action agenda, promote green growth, and ensure sustainable natural resource management by collaborating with government agencies, climate actors, private entities, civil society organizations, and donor communities.

"We will continue to strengthen our Climate Action Agenda, promote green growth and ensure sustainable natural resource management. We will mobilise climate finance resources from diverse sources and channel them to support our own initiatives," said Duale.

The CS further said climate change is a global challenge that demands international collaboration and promised that his Ministry will champion for active national engagement as well as advocate for more support from the developed countries, to fulfil their climate finance obligation for sustainable mitigation.

Duale said that it was imperative that global emissions are reduced, while financial and technological capacity-building support is provided, in line with international commitments.

Kenya is already front-runner in climate negotiations, even as President William Ruto serves as the Chair of the Committee of African States on Climate Change.

He said that Kenya continues to face the harsh reality brought about by climate change, including prolonged drought for the past two years, followed by destructive floods, which have caused loss of lives and livestock, as well as destruction of government infrastructure.

Consequently, the CS said he will put in place sustainable measures to minimise environmental impact by planting trees, teaching people living in ASAL areas, to adopt to alternative livelihoods, restore all 11, 000 wetlands, as well as degraded forests.

He said that under his leadership, the Environment Ministry, will continue to implement the 15 billion tree planting programme, through national landscape and ecosystem restoration strategy.

"We have already grown over four hundred million trees in an effort to restore our ecosystem, and we will continue to have a programme for our conservation and management of our ecosystem."

Duale pledged to protect all the 2.6 million hectares of public forest by engaging communities and the private sector, focusing on agroforestry and commercial forestry for sustainable benefits.

"We will implement institutional reforms, involve resource mobilization such as the carbon credit market and payment for ecosystems, to enhance our resource mobilization, so as to bring good governance in the forest sector.

The CS said he will fast-track all waste management regulations and work together with counties to ensure towns, cities are clean by protecting all ecosystems.

On rivers restoration, Duale said he will be spearheading a programme to clean all rivers, starting with the Nairobi River, by involving all actors, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UN-Habitat.

He said he will champion the culture of planting trees among Kenyans, while encouraging road contractors, to adopt the practice of replacing trees cleared during road construction.

On her part, Tuya extended gratitude to the Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies and the entire staff at Ministry of Environment, for the immense support they gave her, during her tenure.

"The ministry remains in good hands under the leadership of the incoming CS," adding that Duale was highly ranked in the restoration of the ecosystem programme, while serving in the Ministry of Defence.

Tuya expressed confidence that her successor will propel the Ministry to even higher levels, while promising to continue offering her support in order to achieve the National government's ambitious plan of planting 15 billion trees by 2032.


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FROM AS LOW AS
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FROM AS LOW AS
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Forging a Path to Justice: Enhancing Kenya's Criminal Justice System

By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
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Worth Noting:

- **Addressing the persistent issue of prolonged pre-trial detentions and overcrowded prisons is paramount. This requires a multi-pronged approach, encompassing legislative reforms to review and revise bail and sentencing laws, as well as the exploration of alternative measures such as electronic monitoring and community-based supervision programs.**
- **By reducing the reliance on incarceration and prioritizing rehabilitation and reintegration efforts, Kenya can not only alleviate the strain on its prison system but also promote a more humane and effective approach to addressing criminal behavior.**
- **Crucially, enhancing the criminal justice system in Kenya necessitates a comprehensive overhaul of the legal and regulatory frameworks that govern its operations.**

The criminal justice system stands as a sentinel, tasked with upholding the rule of law, protecting the rights of citizens and ensuring that justice is served with fairness and impartiality. However, in Kenya, this system has long been plagued by challenges that have eroded public confidence and undermined the principles of due process and equitable access to justice. As the nation strives to build a more just and inclusive society, the imperative to address these shortcomings and forge a path towards a truly effective and transformative criminal justice system has never been more pressing.

At the heart of Kenya's criminal justice woes lies a complex web of systemic issues, ranging from inadequate resources and outdated legislation to endemic corruption and the lingering legacies of colonialism. These challenges have manifested in myriad ways, from prolonged pre-trial detentions and overcrowded prisons to the disproportionate impact on marginalized communities and the erosion of public trust in the system's ability to deliver justice.

To confront these challenges, Kenya must embrace a holistic and multifaceted approach, one that recognizes the interconnectedness of the various components of the criminal justice system and the need for comprehensive reform. This approach demands a collaborative effort involving policymakers, legal professionals, law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations, and the broader public, all united in a shared vision of creating a system that upholds the principles of fairness, accountability, and respect for human rights.

One groundbreaking avenue for reform lies in the adoption of restorative justice practices, which seek to repair the harm caused by criminal offenses and promote reconciliation between offenders, victims, and the broader community. By incorporating restorative justice principles into the criminal justice system, Kenya can shift the focus from punitive measures to a more holistic approach that addresses the root causes of criminal behavior, empowers victims, and fosters accountability and reintegration.

The implementation of restorative justice practices can take various forms, such as victim-offender mediation programs, community conferencing, and circle processes. These approaches not only provide a platform for open dialogue and healing but also offer opportunities for offenders to take responsibility for their actions, repair the harm caused, and reintegrate into society as productive members. By embracing restorative justice, Kenya can reduce recidivism rates, alleviate the burden on overburdened prisons, and cultivate a culture of empathy, forgiveness, and community-driven problem-solving.

Alongside restorative justice practices, Kenya must prioritize the modernization of its criminal justice infrastructure and the adoption of cutting-edge technologies. This includes investing in modern forensic laboratories, digitizing case management systems, and leveraging data analytics to identify patterns, predict risks, and allocate resources more effectively. By harnessing the power of technology, Kenya can streamline processes, enhance transparency, and ensure that evidence-based decision-making becomes the cornerstone of a fair and efficient criminal justice system.

Addressing the persistent issue of prolonged pre-trial detentions and overcrowded prisons is paramount. This requires a multi-pronged approach, encompassing legislative reforms to review and revise bail and sentencing laws, as well as the exploration of alternative measures such as electronic monitoring and community-based supervision programs. By reducing the reliance on incarceration and prioritizing rehabilitation and reintegration efforts, Kenya can not only alleviate the strain on its prison system but also promote a more humane and effective approach to addressing criminal behavior.

Crucially, enhancing the criminal justice system in Kenya necessitates a comprehensive overhaul of the legal and regulatory frameworks that govern its operations. This includes a thorough review and revision of antiquated laws, ensuring that they are aligned with contemporary human rights standards and reflect the evolving needs of a modern, democratic society. By embracing progressive legal reforms, Kenya can eliminate discriminatory provisions, strengthen due process protections, and establish mechanisms for accountability and transparency within the criminal justice system.

Furthermore, the empowerment of legal professionals and the fostering of a robust and independent judiciary are essential components of a well-functioning criminal justice system. This involves investing in comprehensive training programs for lawyers, judges, and law enforcement personnel, ensuring that they are equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills, and ethical grounding to uphold the principles of justice and safeguard the rights of all parties involved.

Additionally, the role of civil society organizations and community-based initiatives cannot be underestimated in enhancing the criminal justice system. By fostering partnerships and collaborative efforts, these entities can serve as watchdogs, advocate for reforms, provide legal aid and support services to marginalized communities, and facilitate public education and awareness campaigns. This collaborative approach not only strengthens the criminal justice system's accountability but also promotes greater public trust and engagement.

Crucially, addressing the issue of endemic corruption within the criminal justice system is a paramount priority. This requires a multipronged approach that combines robust anti-corruption legislation, independent oversight mechanisms, and a culture of transparency and accountability at all levels. By rooting out corruption and ensuring that the system operates with integrity and fairness, Kenya can restore public confidence and uphold the fundamental principles of justice and the rule of law.

The pursuit of an enhanced criminal justice system must be accompanied by a concerted effort to address the root causes of crime and promote social and economic development. This involves investing in education, job creation initiatives, and community-based programs that provide support and opportunities for at-risk youth and vulnerable populations. By tackling the underlying drivers of criminal behavior, Kenya can not only reduce the burden on the criminal justice system but also foster a more inclusive and equitable society.

The path towards enhancing Kenya's criminal justice system is undoubtedly arduous, fraught with challenges and complexities that demand unwavering commitment and a long-term vision. Yet, the stakes are high, for a fair and effective criminal justice system is not merely a legal imperative but a cornerstone of a thriving democracy and a catalyst for social cohesion and economic progress. By embracing innovative approaches, leveraging technology, and fostering collaboration among all stakeholders, Kenya can forge a path to justice that upholds the rights of all citizens, promotes accountability, and serves as a beacon of hope for a future where the ideals of fairness, equity, and the rule of law reign supreme.

The writer is a legal researcher and lawyer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Crucial Opportunity For Reform And Public Trust

The recent swearing-in of 19 new Cabinet Secretaries in Kenya represents a critical juncture for President William Ruto's administration, which has faced considerable public scrutiny and protests in recent weeks. As these leaders step into their roles, they are confronted with the dual challenge of addressing pressing national issues while simultaneously working to regain public trust. The effectiveness of their leadership will be pivotal in determining whether the government can implement necessary reforms and foster accountability among its citizens.

To gain public trust, the new Cabinet Secretaries must prioritize transparency and accountability in their operations. This involves not only adhering to the rule of law but also ensuring that their actions are visible and understandable to the public. Engaging with citizens through open forums, community outreach, and active participation in decision-making processes will be essential. By listening to the concerns of the populace and incorporating their feedback into policy-making, the Cabinet can demonstrate its commitment to serving the people rather than merely fulfilling bureaucratic duties.

Moreover, the Cabinet must actively address the pressing issues that have led to public discontent, such as economic challenges, youth unemployment, and social justice. Implementing President Ruto's reform agenda effectively will require a collaborative approach that involves various stakeholders, including civil society organizations and opposition parties. The inclusion of members from Raila Odinga's Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) in the Cabinet is a step towards fostering bipartisan cooperation, which can help bridge political divides and create a more unified front in addressing national challenges.

The new appointees, including notable figures like Kindiki Kithure (Interior) and Deborah Barasa (Health), bring a mix of experience and fresh perspectives to their respective ministries. Their success will depend on their ability to work cohesively as a team, aligning their goals with the President's vision while also being responsive to the needs of the citizens. The emphasis on youth inclusion and representation in governance is particularly critical, as many young Kenyans feel marginalized and disconnected from the political process. Addressing this demographic's concerns will be vital in restoring faith in the government.

The approval process for the new Cabinet was not without controversy, as evidenced by the rejection of Stella Lang'at for the Gender docket and the mixed reactions from Members of Parliament regarding the overall composition of the Cabinet. Some MPs criticized the lack of youth representation and the retention of previous members deemed ineffective. This highlights the importance of addressing public sentiment and ensuring that the Cabinet reflects the diversity and aspirations of the Kenyan populace.

As the Cabinet Secretaries take their oaths of office, they must remain mindful of the lessons learned from past administrations. Eldas MP Adan Keynan's warning against opulence and excess serves as a reminder that humility and service should be at the forefront of their leadership. By adopting a servant-leadership approach, the Cabinet can foster a culture of accountability and responsibility that resonates with the public.

In conclusion, the newly sworn-in Cabinet Secretaries have a unique opportunity to redefine governance in Kenya. By prioritizing transparency, engaging with citizens, and addressing pressing national issues, they can work towards rebuilding public trust and ensuring that the government is truly representative of and responsive to the needs of its people. The coming months will be critical in shaping the future of governance in Kenya, and the effectiveness of these leaders will determine whether the administration can emerge from the shadows of discontent and lead the nation towards a brighter future.

As they embark on this journey, the Cabinet must also remain vigilant against the backdrop of ongoing protests and calls for accountability. The Kenya Human Rights Commission has emphasized the need for integrity and competence in the new appointments, urging the administration to conduct thorough audits and ensure that all public servants adhere to the highest standards of ethics. This sentiment echoes the broader demand for a government that not only addresses immediate concerns but also lays the groundwork for sustainable development and social equity in Kenya.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication student at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology kakamega.

Opinion Piece: Celebrating Youthful Leadership In Kenya's Cooperative Sector

In a country where leadership is often equated with age and experience, CPA Rehema Onyango's remarkable ascent to the role of Chief Executive Officer at Wevarsity Sacco Limited at just 26 years old challenges this narrative. Her journey is not only inspiring but also serves as a powerful reminder of the potential that young leaders hold in transforming organizations and communities.

Rehema's story is one of resilience and determination. Born in Siaya County as the youngest of twelve siblings, she faced numerous obstacles but remained steadfast in her pursuit of education. Her academic journey, culminating in a Bachelor of Commerce degree and her current pursuit of a Master's in Finance, laid the groundwork for her impressive career. Starting as a volunteer at Wevarsity Sacco, she quickly demonstrated her capabilities, rising through the ranks to become the youngest CEO in Kenya's cooperative sector.

Upon taking the helm, Rehema faced the daunting task of restoring confidence in an organization plagued by mismanagement and financial instability. Many members had withdrawn their contributions, and the Sacco's reputation was in tatters. However, her proactive approach and commitment to fostering strong relationships within the organization became the cornerstone of her leadership. By ensuring a cordial working relationship between staff and the board, she significantly enhanced service delivery, setting the stage for a remarkable turnaround.

Rehema's innovative strategies have been pivotal in revitalizing Wevarsity Sacco. By introducing tailored financial products and expanding membership beyond the university community, she has diversified the Sacco's portfolio and improved its financial stability. Her initiatives, such as the 72-month Mega Loan and the My January Akiba savings challenge, have not only attracted new members but also encouraged existing ones to increase their savings, thereby enhancing the Sacco's capital base.

Moreover, Rehema's commitment to financial literacy is commendable. By organizing workshops and seminars, she empowers members with the knowledge they need to make informed financial decisions. This focus on education is crucial for sustainable growth and fosters a sense of ownership among members, encouraging them to actively participate in the Sacco's development.

As Wevarsity Sacco celebrates its 20th anniversary, the transformation under Rehema's leadership is evident. The Sacco has regained its footing, with total assets growing to Sh460 million and total revenue reaching Sh79 million. This success is a testament to the effectiveness of her leadership and the potential of young leaders to drive meaningful change.

Rehema Onyango's journey serves as an inspiration to many young people in Kenya and beyond. It highlights the importance of believing in one's capabilities and the need for organizations to embrace youthful leadership. In a world that often underestimates the potential of young leaders, Rehema stands as a shining example of what can be achieved with determination, innovation, and a commitment to community.

As we look to the future, it is essential to support and nurture young leaders like Rehema. Their fresh perspectives and innovative ideas are vital for driving progress in various sectors, including cooperatives, where traditional approaches often fall short. By empowering the next generation of leaders, we can pave the way for a more inclusive and prosperous society.

In conclusion, CPA Rehema Onyango's story is not just about her personal achievements; it is a call to action for all of us to recognize and support the potential of young leaders. As Kenya continues to navigate the challenges of the modern world, let us celebrate and invest in the bright minds that will shape our future. The time for change is now, and with leaders like Rehema at the forefront, the possibilities are endless.

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The Economic Implications Of Jimmy Wanjigi's Statement: Understanding The Risks And Solutions

By: Midmark Onsongo
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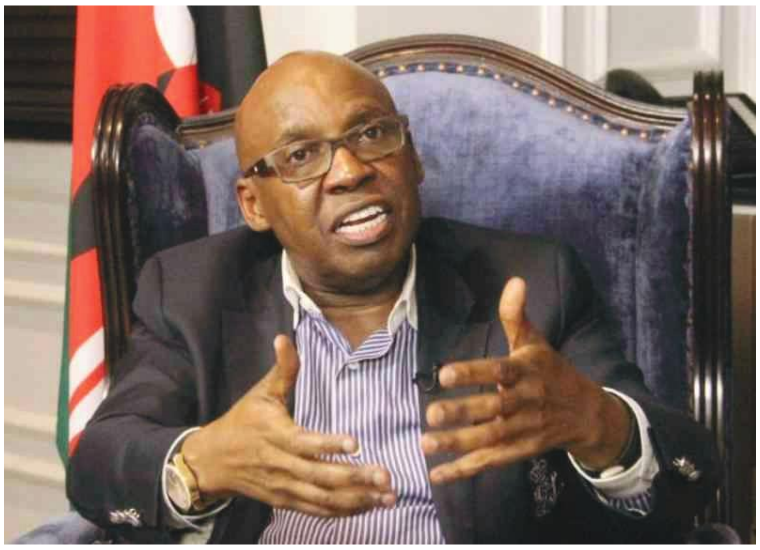
Worth Noting:

- **Inflation Rate: The inflation rate measures the percentage increase in the price level of goods and services over time. High inflation can erode purchasing power and savings, leading to economic instability.**
- **Unemployment Rate: This is the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed and actively seeking work. A high unemployment rate can indicate economic distress and inefficiencies in the labor market.**
- **Current Account Balance: This reflects the difference between a country's savings and its investment. A positive balance indicates that a country is a net lender to the rest of the world, while a negative balance suggests it is a net borrower.**



Jimmy Wanjigi, a prominent Kenyan businessman and political figure

Jimmy Wanjigi, a prominent Kenyan businessman and political figure, is known for his outspoken views on the country's economic and political landscape. His recent statement, which has sparked widespread debate, touches on critical issues regarding Kenya's economic health. To fully grasp the weight of Wanjigi's concerns, it is essential to understand both who he is and the broader economic concepts he alludes to, such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Gross National Product (GNP), and other related terms. Moreover, understanding these concepts in the context of Kenya's current situation reveals the potential dangers Wanjigi is hinting at and suggests pathways for addressing these challenges.

Who is Jimmy Wanjigi, and What Did He Say?

Jimmy Wanjigi is not just a businessman but also a significant political influencer in Kenya. Known for his involvement in various high-profile deals and his influence behind the scenes in Kenyan politics, Wanjigi has often positioned himself as a critic of the government's economic policies. In his recent statement, Wanjigi raised alarm over the state of Kenya's economy, particularly focusing on the government's management of economic indicators like GDP and GNP. His concern is not just a general critique but a pointed observation that Kenya's economic policies might be leading the country down a precarious path.

Wanjigi's statement suggests that Kenya's economic indicators are not reflecting the true state of the economy. He implies that despite what the numbers might show on the surface, the lived economic reality for many Kenyans is deteriorating. This discrepancy between the perceived economic health and the actual conditions on the ground is what makes his statement particularly troubling.

Understanding Key Economic Terms

To fully appreciate the implications of Wanjigi's concerns, it's crucial to understand several key economic terms:

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): GDP is the total value of all goods and services produced within a country's borders over a specific period, typically a year. It is a broad measure of a nation's overall economic activity and is often used to gauge the health of an economy.

Gross National Product (GNP): GNP takes the concept of GDP a step further by including the value of all goods and services produced by the residents of a country, both domestically and abroad. GNP subtracts the income earned by foreigners within the country and adds the income earned by nationals abroad.

GDP per Capita: This is the GDP divided by the population of the country. It provides an average economic output per person, which is often used as an indicator of the standard of living.

Inflation Rate: The inflation rate measures the percentage increase in the price level of goods and services over time. High inflation can erode purchasing power and savings, leading to economic instability.

Unemployment Rate: This is the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed and actively seeking work. A high unemployment rate can indicate economic distress and inefficiencies in the labor market.

Current Account Balance: This reflects the difference between a country's savings and its investment. A positive balance indicates that a country is a net lender to the rest of the world, while a negative balance suggests it is a net borrower.

National Debt: The total amount of money that a country's government has borrowed, typically through issuing bonds. High levels of national debt can lead to higher interest rates and reduced public investment.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): This refers to investments made by a foreign entity into the economy of another country. High levels of FDI are often associated with economic growth and development.

Exchange Rate: The value of a country's currency in relation to another currency. Exchange rate fluctuations can impact international trade and investment.

Budget Deficit: This occurs when a country's expenditures exceed its revenues. Persistent budget deficits can lead to an accumulation of debt.

The Dangers Highlighted by Wanjigi

Wanjigi's statement suggests that Kenya is facing several economic dangers, particularly if the government continues on its current trajectory. The first danger is economic stagnation. If Kenya's GDP is not growing at a sufficient rate, the economy could stagnate, leading to higher unemployment, lower income levels, and decreased consumer confidence. This stagnation can create a vicious cycle, where reduced spending leads to lower production, further exacerbating unemployment and economic decline.

Another significant danger is income inequality. If GDP growth is concentrated in certain sectors or regions, it could lead to a widening gap between the rich and the poor. This inequality can breed social unrest, as large portions of the population may feel left behind by the country's economic progress. Furthermore, high levels of national debt, as highlighted by Wanjigi, are particularly concerning. If a large portion of the government's revenue is devoted to servicing debt, there will be less available for critical investments in infrastructure, education, and healthcare, all of which are necessary for long-term economic growth.

Additionally, if Kenya's current account balance is negative, it indicates that the country is importing more than it is exporting, leading to a depletion of foreign reserves and increased dependency on foreign debt. This situation can make the country vulnerable to external economic shocks, such as fluctuations in global commodity prices or changes in foreign exchange rates.

Lessons from Other Countries: The Case of South Korea

South Korea's economic transformation is a remarkable example of how a country can overcome significant challenges, including a massive debt burden, to achieve long-term prosperity. After the Korean War (1950-1953), South Korea was left in ruins, with a per capita income equivalent to around 9,380 KES in 1953. The country faced enormous challenges, including significant external debt and limited natural resources. In the early stages of rebuilding, South Korea relied heavily on foreign aid and accumulated substantial debt to finance its industrialization.

By the 1960s, South Korea's debt had grown as the country pursued aggressive economic development policies. By the early 1980s, South Korea's debt had reached approximately 4.9 trillion KES. This debt was primarily used to fund the development of key industries such as electronics, automobiles, and shipbuilding, which were crucial to the country's export-oriented growth strategy. To manage and eventually reduce this debt, the South Korean government implemented several strategic measures. One of the key strategies was promoting exports to generate foreign exchange, which was vital for repaying external debt. The government also invested heavily in education and infrastructure, which created a skilled workforce and a supportive environment for industrial growth.

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, South Korea maintained strict fiscal discipline by reducing government spending and controlling inflation. This prudent management helped stabilize the economy and reduced reliance on external borrowing. Additionally, favorable global economic conditions allowed South Korea to export its goods and services at competitive prices, further boosting economic growth. In the late 1990s, South Korea faced a severe financial crisis, known as the Asian Finan-

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The Economic Implications Of Jimmy Wanjigi's Statement: Understanding The Risks And Solutions

By: Contd from page 20

cial Crisis of 1997, which forced the country to seek financial assistance. The government responded by implementing structural reforms, including deregulating the financial sector, improving corporate governance, and enhancing transparency in business practices. These reforms, combined with continued economic growth, enabled South Korea to repay its debts ahead of schedule. By the early 2000s, South Korea had effectively liberated itself from the burden of external debt. The country's economy continued to grow, and today, South Korea is one of the world's leading economies, with a gross domestic product (GDP) in the trillions of Kenyan shillings and a per capita income well above 4.2 million KES. South Korea's success story is a testament to the power of strategic planning, economic diversification, and resilience in overcoming debt and achieving long-term prosperity.

To understand how Kenya might navigate these challenges, it is instructive to look at the example of South Korea. In the late 1990s, South Korea faced a severe economic crisis, partly due to high levels of national debt and a negative current account balance. However, through a combination of fiscal discipline, structural reforms, and increased investment in key sectors like technology and education, South Korea was able to pay down its debt and stabilize its economy. Today, South Korea is one of the world's leading economies, with a strong GDP growth rate, low unemployment, and a high standard of living.

Solutions for Kenya

For Kenya to avoid the pitfalls that Wanjigi has pointed out, the government must take proactive steps to strengthen the economy. First, there needs to be a focus on reducing the national debt through prudent fiscal management and reducing unnecessary expenditures. The government should also aim to diversify the economy by investing in sectors like technology, manufacturing, and agriculture, which have the potential to drive long-term growth.

Additionally, addressing income inequality should be a priority. This can be achieved by implementing social programs that provide education, healthcare, and employment opportunities for marginalized communities. Finally, improving the business environment to attract more foreign direct investment can help boost economic growth and create jobs.

Jimmy Wanjigi's statement serves as a crucial reminder of the economic challenges facing Kenya. By understanding key economic indicators and learning from the experiences of other countries, Kenya can develop strategies to mitigate these dangers and build a more stable and prosperous future. The road ahead will require strong leadership, sound economic policies, and a commitment to inclusive growth. With the right approach, Kenya can overcome its current challenges and achieve sustained economic development.

Jimmy Wanjigi, a prominent Kenyan businessman and political figure

I owe my deep understanding and ability to articulate these complex economic issues to Dr. Wamuyu Wamai, my Spatial Organization lecturer. Her guidance has greatly enhanced my analytical skills, enabling me to explore and explain these topics with clarity and depth.

This article was scripted by;
MIDMARK ONSONGO
(Sustainable economist, Geo-Politics strategizer)

WORLD ELEPHANT DAY

World Elephant Day, celebrated on August 12, serves as a vital reminder of the urgent need to protect these magnificent creatures. Established in 2012, it highlights the alarming threats faced by both African and Asian elephants, including poaching, habitat destruction, and mistreatment in captivity.

Despite their revered status, elephants are on the brink of extinction, with estimates suggesting that they could disappear within a decade if current trends continue. The ivory trade fuels this crisis, with poachers killing approximately 20,000 elephants annually. This relentless slaughter not only threatens their survival but also disrupts entire ecosystems, as elephants play a crucial role in maintaining the environments they inhabit.

The emotional and social complexity of elephants cannot be overlooked. They form strong bonds within their herds, demonstrating behaviors that indicate deep emotional intelligence. Yet, these traits are exploited in the tourism industry, where elephants are subjected to unnatural and often cruel treatment for human entertainment. Activities like riding and performing in circuses inflict significant suffering, undermining the very essence of what it means to coexist with these sentient beings.

World Elephant Day calls for global action to support conservation efforts and promote sustainable interactions with elephants. It encourages individuals and organizations to advocate for the welfare of elephants and the preservation of their habitats. Awareness campaigns can mobilize communities to take a stand against poaching and habitat destruction, fostering a culture of respect and compassion for wildlife.

As we reflect on our relationship with elephants, it is crucial to recognize their intrinsic value beyond their economic worth. Elephants are not just symbols of strength; they are vital to the health of our ecosystems. Their ability to modify habitats creates opportunities for other species to thrive, making their conservation essential for biodiversity.

In conclusion, World Elephant Day is more than just a date on the calendar; it is a call to action. By raising awareness and engaging in conservation efforts, we can ensure that these majestic animals continue to roam the earth for generations to come. Let us unite in our efforts to protect elephants and create a world where they can live freely and thrive in their natural habitats.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and Communication student at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology kakamega.

Sports >> *Faith Kipyegon on Saturday night inscribed her name in the annals of history as the greatest 1,500m runner after she showed her competitors a clean pair of heels earning Kenya her fourth gold medal at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Faith Kipyegon Completes Olympic Three-Peat, Bags Gold In 1,500m

Kenya's Faith Kipyegon celebrates after the women's 5000m final of the athletics event at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games at Stade de France in Saint-Denis, north of Paris, on August 5, 2024. (Photo by MARTIN BERNETTI / AFP).

Faith Kipyegon on Saturday night inscribed her name in the annals of history as the greatest 1,500m runner after she showed her competitors a clean pair of heels earning Kenya her fourth gold medal at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

En route to victory, Kipyegon deployed a tactical race and stuck to her plan. She stayed with the leading pack but with less than 250m to go she surged forward before engaging the front gear, crossing the line in 3:51.29 - an Olympics record.

Coming to the Games, Kipyegon had hoped to bag two golds but in 5,000m, she fell short losing the top honours to compatriot Beatrice Chebet who is enjoying a rich vein of form.

Chebet, 24, claimed gold in two disciplines, the other coming in women's 10,000m.

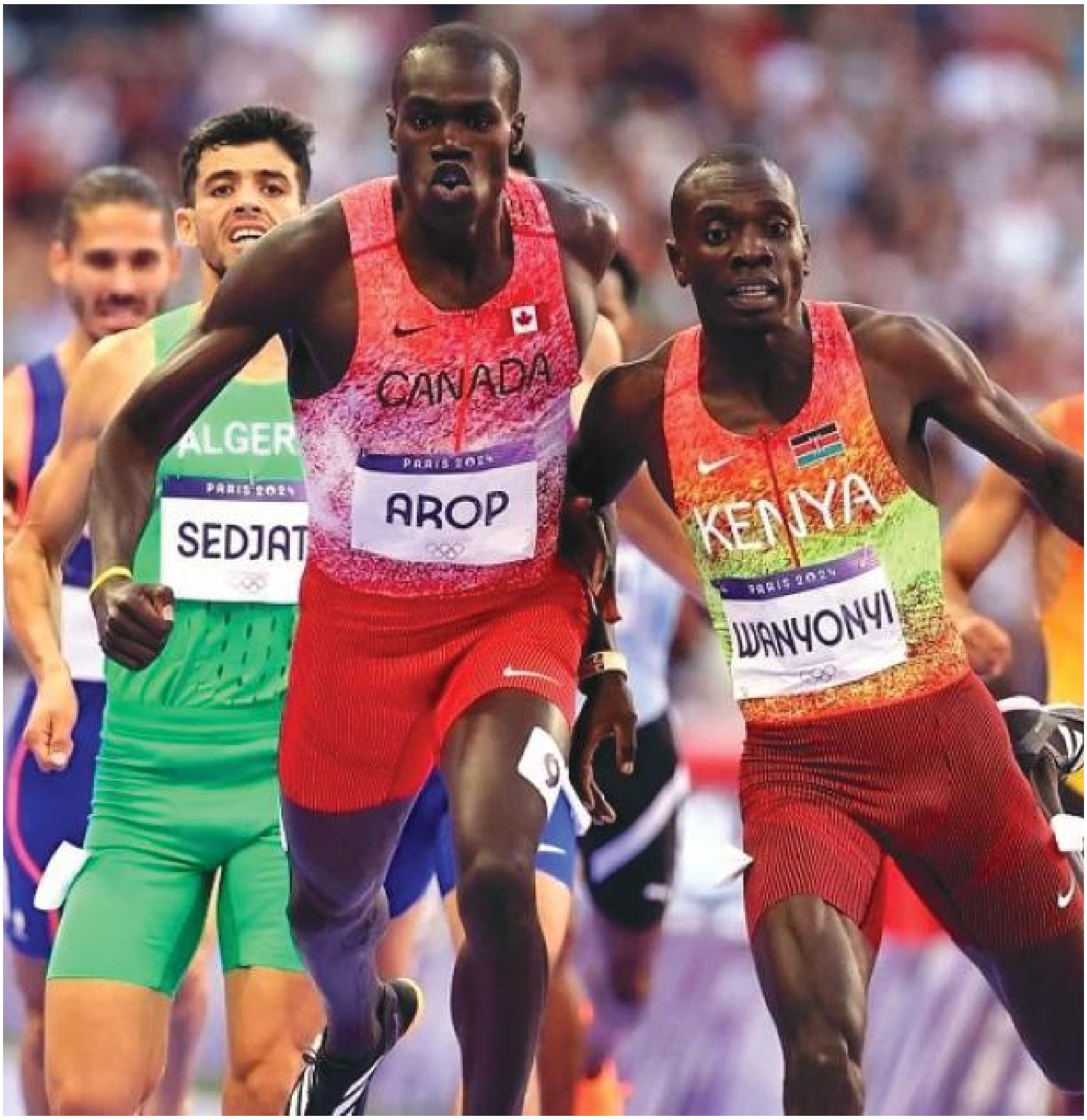
It was a rather good evening for Kenya in Paris with Emmanuel Wanyonyi also beating his closest challenger, Canadian Marco Arop in a photo finish to claim gold in men's 800m while Ronald Kwemoi settled for silver in the men's race behind Norwegian Jacob Ingebrigtsen who timed 13:13.66.

Kenya has so far bagged 10 medals - 4 gold, 2 silver, and 4 bronze, and will be aiming to extend this tally Sunday morning when Hellen Obiri, Peres Jepchirchir and Sharon Lokedi line up in the women's marathon.

Citizen Sport

Sports >> *World 800m silver medalist Emmanuel Wanyonyi held off Canada's Marco Arop to deliver Kenya's third gold in the final day of the Paris Olympics at the Stade de France on Sunday.

Wanyonyi Wins Kenya Her Third Gold At Paris Olympics



World 800m silver medalist Emmanuel Wanyonyi held off Canada's Marco Arop to deliver Kenya's third gold in the final day of the Paris Olympics at the Stade de France on Sunday.

The duo duelled down the stretch in what was a lean, forehead and an eyelash contest but youngster Wanyonyi prevailed in a personal best time of 1:41.19 as the reigning world champion Arop settled for silver in a North-American record time of 1:41.20.

Wanyonyi's heroics increased Kenya's medal tally to eight; three gold, one silver and four bronze.

The David Rudisha-inspired Olympics rookie started in front as he often does, and at the bell Wanyonyi made his intentions known as he refused to relinquish the race's grip and Arop, who had started at the back hard-kicked at the bend but the Kenyan had enough to hold him off to defend the two-lap race title for Kenya.

Algeria's Djamel Sedjati, the man with the fastest time this year, finished with bronze.

Citizen Sport

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A Candle That Illuminates Our Path

By: Yondasheva Nozanin
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Worth Noting:

- From time immemorial, it is not for nothing that "Teacher is as great as your father" has been celebrated. This wise people of ours considered the level of the teacher equal to the level of our father. The respect shown to the teacher, the manners of talking with them, walking next to them, and standing next to them, should be the same as our father's actions.
- When we come into this world, our first teachers are our parents from the time we are young. They teach us the first lessons of life, teach us how to walk, stand, talk manners and a number of other things. When we reach school age, they are the first teachers who greet us at the school entrance.

"Without a teacher, you can travel a week's distance in seven years"
(From the book "The Key to True Success or the Traders' Master")

Master. This one word contains a whole world of meaning and respect. A teacher is a great person who leaves an imperceptible, but very important mark in the life of everyone after him. After all, every professional will find his way in the hands of a teacher. There is no person who has matured without the lessons of a mentor! In all times, people respected the services of teachers who gave their knowledge, talent and life for the perfection of humanity, and they honored themselves. Teacher-source of knowledge. It will not be used up by the total number of people on earth. The teacher is the sun that fills the world with light. His light will be enjoyed by all those who seek knowledge. When you first stepped into the so-called school of knowledge, it was a respected teacher who welcomed you with an open face and taught you to read, write and write. It's no secret that thanks to him, we have conquered the heights of science and reached the current level.

From time immemorial, it is not for nothing that "Teacher is as great as your father" has been celebrated. This wise people of ours considered the level of the teacher equal to the level of our father. The respect shown to the teacher, the manners of talking with them, walking next to them, and standing next to them, should be the same as our father's actions.

When we come into this world, our first teachers are our parents from the time we are young. They teach us the first lessons of life, teach us how to walk, stand, talk manners and a number of other things. When we reach school age, they are the first teachers who greet us at the school entrance. There are probably few people who do not love and respect their first teacher. School years seem to pass like water. The next step is to enter the university, get a good job after graduating from the university. There are many people who will accompany us, prevent us from making all kinds of mistakes, and show us the right path in our life path will not be. We call those people "masters". That is, in some sense, when the term "mentor" is mentioned, it is the only person who is embodied in our eyes.

We all have such a person. They teach us first of all. They will accompany us in every step of our life. No matter what difficulties we face, they show us the right way and give us advice. No matter how much we fulfill our duty of discipleship to a person who supports us in any situation, it is not enough.

What a blessing, isn't it, to have our name mentioned next to our teacher's names as his students? It is not a lie to say that this is the real dream of every student.

The respect shown to the teacher in the book "The key to real luck or the mentor of traders" is worth mentioning. It would be appropriate for every young generation to read this book today. Nowadays, the lack of respect shown by the majority of the young generation towards teachers and parents makes a person's heart a little sad. It is necessary to express how much their misbehavior in educational institutions hurts the teachers. At this point, it is not an exaggeration to say that the words of Hazrat Ali (r.a.) are a confirmation of our statement. Hazrat Ali says: "I am the slave of the one who taught me one letter". If he wants, let him sell it, if he wants, free him from slavery, if he wants, let him use it as a slave." Another of the actions that earned the respect of the teacher is to respect the children and relatives of the teacher. His Holiness Burkhaniddin Marginani, the owner of the book Shaykhulislam, "Hidaya", tells the story: "One of the great scholars of Bukhara Sharif was in the classroom. He sometimes stood up during the lesson.People asked the reason for this. He respectfully said: "The children of my kind teacher are playing with children on the street". Sometimes, when they come to the door while playing, I immediately get up to pay respect to my teacher. It is clear from this that it is our duty to show respect to teachers not only to themselves, but also to their loved ones.

It would not be wrong to say that becoming a teacher and receiving education is a never-ending process. And again, the profession under the honorable title of teacher to lead is a great honor. To be surrounded by students, to teach them what you have learned, to show them the right way is a dream that is kept deep in the heart of every person. As much as our teachers are proud of our small achievement, we are also happy and proud of the achievement of our students. There is probably no better feeling than showing the right way to achieve their goals, giving them education, and finally hearing thanks.

In conclusion, I should say that our teachers are the light of our path. It is the duty of us students to show respect and honor to them. And if we teach the growing young generation to honor, value, and respect them, it will be the same thing.

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