



Pillars Of Progress: Exploring The Symbiosis Of Law And Policy In Kenya's Evolution

Kenya, a nation of diverse landscapes and rich cultural heritage, stands as a beacon of progress and potential in East Africa. Its legal framework, deeply rooted in both common law traditions inherited from British colonial rule and customary laws

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News>>Nyeri County Assembly Speaker Urges Leaders To Rally Behind DP

P. 8. Nyeri County Assembly Speaker, James Gichuhi, has called on elected leaders in Nyeri to fully support Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.



News>>Shakahola Deaths Witnesses Narates How Mackenzie Interpreted The Bible

P. 12. Several prosecution witnesses told a Mombasa court that Paul Nthenge Mackenzie interpreted bible verses to advance his messages leading to mass deaths of his followers.

Mbarire And Ichung'wa Behind DP's Ouster Bid - Malala

The former United Democratic Alliance (UDA) party Secretary General Cleophas Malalah has alleged that Embu County governor Cecily Mbarire who is also UDA chairperson and Leader of Majority in the National Assembly Kimani Ichung'wa were the main architectures of the ouster bid against Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

The two, according to Malala, conspired with other ruling party officials to plan the aborted impeachment against Gachagua; the second most powerful political leader in the country.



UDA chairperson governor Cecily Mbarire who is also and Leader of Majority in the National Assembly Kimani Ichung'wa

STORY ON PAGE 9

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VISIT MAGICAL KENYA

Equity Bank Contributed KSh25 M To Kenya Music Festival And Commits Additional KSh100 M Over The Next Four Years

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- While speaking during the Gala, Equity Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Dr. James Mwangi, expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Education and the Kenya Music Festival for allowing the Bank to be a partner in the festivals. He noted that interacting with learners and their trainers from the zonal level to the national level was a rewarding experience, highlighting the students' ability to express themselves through music and performance.
- "The festival underscored the role of music in education. The learners showed creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, which are key elements of the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC).



Dr James Mwangi.

Equity Bank partnered with the Ministry of Education and the Kenya Music Festival (KMF) to advance its mission of transforming lives through education. As a partner of the Kenya Music Festival, Equity Bank contributed KSh25 million for this year's festival and has committed an additional KSh100 million over the next four years, with an annual contribution of Kshs. 25 million. This collaboration underscores the Bank's commitment to supporting educational initiatives and highlighted its belief in the role of music in promoting culture as a powerful catalyst for positive change for a nation and its people. The Kenya Music Festival Awards Gala held at Moi Girls High School in Eldoret highlighted the talent and dedication of Kenya's youth. The festival featured tra-

ditional songs, dances, poetry, and public speaking, reflecting this year's theme: Talent Development for Growth of the Creative Economy. The festival featured thirteen standout performances on the Equity Anthem and Choral Verse, showcasing how Equity is transforming lives through education. While speaking during the Gala, Equity Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Dr. James Mwangi, expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Education and the Kenya Music Festival for allowing the Bank to be a partner in the festivals. He noted that interacting with learners and their trainers from the zonal level to the national level was a rewarding experience, highlighting the students' ability to express themselves through music and performance.

"The festival underscored the role of music in education. The learners showed creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, which are key elements of the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC). We appreciate the Kenya Music Festival committee's efforts in creating an experience that supports positive attitudes and career opportunities in music and arts." He appreciated the role that music and drama festivals played in nurturing his own creativity and innovation as he participated in the competitions in his early life. Dr. Belio Kipsang, Principal Secretary Ministry of Education, said, "The Kenya Music Festivals illustrate the impact of education and the arts on youth development. Our collaboration with our

partners reflects a shared commitment to nurturing talent and providing opportunities for young Kenyans." The Gala concluded with awards to some of the top performers, who will next perform at the State concert for President William Ruto at the Eldoret State Lodge. The festival has once again highlighted Kenya's remarkable talent and the significant role of music in personal and societal growth. Equity Bank reaffirmed its dedication to supporting educational initiatives and creating opportunities for all. The Bank stated that its ongoing partnership with the Ministry of Education, the Kenya Music Festival and the National drama festivals reflects its commitment to advancing education and nurturing future leaders. Equity is dedicated to advancing education as a fundamental driver of progress, offering transformative opportunities through its Wings to Fly and Elimu programs. These initiatives have provided scholarships to 60,009 deserving students, ensuring access to quality education and comprehensive support, including mentorship, leadership training, and psychosocial assistance. The Bank's robust mentorship framework, including school visits, academic monitoring, and the annual Education and Leadership Congresses, fosters both academic excellence and essential life skills. The Equity Leaders Program (ELP) further supports over 23,825 scholars with university entry facilitation and internships, helping them navigate the modern workplace. ELP has enabled 980 scholars to secure global scholarships and 218 to gain admission to Ivy League institutions. Additionally, through Equity Afia, Medical graduates are supported to provide affordable healthcare solutions, making a tangible impact on community well-being. Currently 118 Equity Afia clinics are operational in Kenya attending to over 110,000 clients every month.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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NEWS IN BRIEF



President William Ruto yesterday hosted Team Kenya's Olympic medalists at the Eldoret State Lodge where different leaders congratulated them for the splendid job they did in Paris Olympics. During the colourful event that was also attended by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, the medalists were gifted with cash prizes where Gold winners received KSh3 million, Silver KSh2 million with Bronze winners taking home KSh1 million. Gachagua called on them to invest wisely so not to regret when they will no longer be able to compete.



Women Governors caucus commonly known as The G7, led by the host Governor Wavinya Ndeti visited various development projects in the County ahead of the anticipated Machakos County Chapter G7 strategy launch to be held today at Kenyatta Stadium. The projects, which touch on key sectors including health, education and gender are expected to improve service delivery and transform the lives of the communities. The projects include; Mavoko level IV hospital, Muindi Mbingu Speciality hospital, KyeMuteke Vocational Training Centre, modern training workshops and dormitories, Machakos GBV rescue centre, Emergency services and disaster management centre and Machakos Sports complex



The KTDA MS Production and Marketing team with factory appointed tea brokers engaging in Mombasa on how to enhance tea sales for tea farmers. This year KTDA has increased tea sales by 10 per cent compared to last year, amidst a remarkable rise in production of over 20 per cent. The pictured are Vincent Mwingirwa (left) Ag. General Manager Sales and Marketing (KTDA), Ceaser Thairu (centre), Chair Tea Broker and General Manager Union Tea Brokers, and Collins Bett, Managing Director, KTDA Management Services.

Dozens of homesteads in Othaya Constituency have in past few months received a facelift, courtesy of an initiative led by area MP Wambugu Wainaina alias MountKenya. The MP, through his foundation, named after him and some of his friends have seen tens of families living in deplorable conditions gifted with new homes. The home includes at least a three-roomed semi-permanent house, a kitchen, furniture and washrooms. Since he assumed the role of the area representative in Parliament, the MP has dignified and uplifted the living standards of the underprivileged in his area. In the picture, the MP is seen assisting workers build one of the houses. The initiative has been praised by Othaya constituents with Kenyans in other parts of the country calling on their leaders to emulate him. Apart from the housing project, Wainaina has dedicated a lot of funds from NG-CDF and his personal resources to education. Further, security and roads infrastructure have also been his priority.



Nyeri Water and Sewerage Company (Nyewasco), hosted a delegation from the Malawi Northern Region Water Board. The visit, arranged in collaboration with ERP partners Smart People Africa, aimed to benchmark Nyewasco's operations and gain insights into its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. The Malawian delegation engaged in discussions that facilitated a valuable exchange of knowledge and strategies. The meetings allowed both teams to share best practices and innovative approaches in water management and service delivery. The benchmarking exercise highlighted Nyewasco's successful operations and provided an opportunity for collaborative learning and improvement.



World Vision Kenya has distributed 5 metric tonnes of iron-rich beans to 2,500 households in the Marakwet East sub-county to combat malnutrition. The program, which is sponsored by the German government, aims to improve the health and nutrition of mothers and children. Anaemia contributes significantly to malnutrition and maternal and child mortality in the county. The programme will continue to support vitamin A-rich sweet potatoes to boost immunity and reduce exposure to infections and diseases. The organisation will work with experts like Kalro and Harvest Plus to sensitise beneficiaries on agronomical and good husbandry practices, ensuring they store seeds and have local seed multipliers.



The Nairobi Anti-Corruption Court has sentenced former Lukenya area chief Tirus Ndambuki Musyoka to pay a fine of Ksh. 200,000 or serve four years in prison for receiving a bribe of Ksh. 50,000. He was convicted on three counts of bribery

and abuse of office. Principal Magistrate Isabellah Barasa sentenced Musyoka alongside former KBC Police Station officer commanding station (OCS) Chief Inspector Francis Bundi Wilson and former Joska Police Post OCS Inspector Kyalo Munyao Nthiwa. Wilson and Nthiwa were each fined Ksh. 100,000 or serve a two-year prison term after being convicted on two counts of bribery. The three were found guilty of accepting a bribe from Peter Muhia Njega in exchange for the release of his cattle held at KBC Police Station in 2019.



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**THEME: "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and
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US Ambassador Visits Kenya’s First Electric Bus Assembly Line In Thika



By:Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Africa heavily relies on Chinese technology for the growth of the EV sector, as Chinese EV technology currently leads on cost and performance.
- “In the long-term, as we locally assemble and manufacture these technologies at KVM, Kenya can become the new supply chain hub for the rest of the world,” said Jit Bhattacharya, CEO and Co-Founder of BasiGo.
- In February 2024, BasiGo completed the assembly of two E9 Kubwa buses, a 9-metre electric bus specifically designed for the Kenyan PSV market.



Meg Whitman, U.S. Ambassador inside an EBus when she visited BasiGo’s Electric Bus production line at the KVM plant in Thika. Whitman’s visit to KVM signifies the growing alliance between the two countries where the United States is eager to see growth in Kenya’s domestic manufacturing sectors..



From Left, Moses Abiero, General Manager, Kenya Vehicle Manufacturers, explains the painting process of an electric bus to Meg Whitman, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya as Marian Muthui, Head of Manufacturing - BasiGo Kenya, looks on..

Meg Whitman, US Ambassador to Kenya toured the Kenya Vehicle Manufacturers (KVM) high-volume E-Bus assembly line in Thika.

“The U.S. is committed to supporting Kenya’s transition to a green economy, and the development of electric mobility solutions like those pioneered by BasiGo is a critical component of that transition. This assembly line is not just about buses,it’s about building a sustainable future for Kenya and the broader African continent,” observed Ambassador Whitman.

During Ruto’s visit, the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) announced an over KSh32.5 billion new financing package for Kenya which includes investments to advance e-mobility in the country with E-Mobility company BasiGo getting approval for a KSh1.3

bollion loan to help expand its fleet of buses.

Africa heavily relies on Chinese technology for the growth of the EV sector, as Chinese EV technology currently leads on cost and performance.

“In the long-term, as we locally assemble and manufacture these technologies at KVM, Kenya can become the new supply chain hub for the rest of the world,” said Jit Bhattacharya, CEO and Co-Founder of BasiGo.

In February 2024, BasiGo completed the assembly of two E9 Kubwa buses, a 9-metre electric bus specifically designed for the Kenyan PSV market.

As the demand for electric buses increases, KVM is set to create 300 green jobs after receiving over 500 reservations from bus operators in Nairobi and an additional 300 reservations from bus operators in Kigali,

Rwanda.

“The assembly line is currently producing about five buses per month and is expected to increase to 20 buses per month in 2025 to deliver the 500 reservations by operators in Kenya,” said Marian Muthui, BasiGo Kenya Head of Manufacturing.

Citi Hoppa and Super Metro were the first operators to receive locally assembled electric buses, other operators include Oma Sacco, MetroTrans, KBS, Embassava, East Shuttle and Latema Sacco.

Moses Nderitu, Managing Director BasiGo Kenya stated that a key aspect of Africa’s transition to sustainable transport is green industrialization.

“We are talking about a brand new manufacturing sector in terms of the production of EVs. Green growth goes hand in hand with job creation.

The transition to clean, electric buses represents more than just an impact on the environment; it is an opportunity for Kenya to establish itself as a manufacturing hub for modern EVs,” Nderitu said.

Whitman’s visit to KVM signifies the growing alliance between the two countries where the United States is eager to see growth in Kenya’s domestic manufacturing sectors. The high-volume assembly line at KVM is set to significantly boost the production of electric buses in Kenya, with BasiGo planning to roll out thousands of units in the coming years, which will not only enhance public transport in Kenya but also create jobs and contribute to the country’s economic growth.

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Nyeri County Assembly Speaker Urges Leaders To Rally Behind DP

By: Paul Wanjiru
@themtkenyentimes

Nyeri County Assembly Speaker, James Gichuhi, has called on elected leaders in Nyeri to fully support Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

Speaking in Ruguru Ward, Mathira Constituency, where he joined Governor Mutahi Kahiga and his deputy David Kinaniri in distributing tents and chairs to empower youth groups, women, and persons with disabilities, Gichuhi emphasized the importance of standing behind the Deputy President.

“99 percent of those elected in the National Assembly and also in the County Assembly in Nyeri were assisted by the Deputy President. No one should engage in fighting Rigathi Gachagua,” Gichuhi stated.

“You all witnessed the Deputy President supporting his boss, President William Ruto, across the Mt. Kenya

region for the betterment of our people. Leaders should be at the forefront in supporting the Deputy President,” Gichuhi added.

Nominated MCA Anne Thumbi, who was also present at the event, echoed the Speaker’s sentiments, urging all leaders to openly support the Deputy President.

“We are only seeing a few of our Nyeri leaders openly supporting the DP, like Governor Mutahi Kahiga, who has publicly supported him on several occasions,” Anita said.

“Let’s not start debating and fighting over who will be what in 2027. When the time comes, we’ll have discussions and make proper arrangements because, as Nyerians, we believe in talking when the time is right. For now, let’s focus on uniting our people and ensuring that development takes place,” Anita said.

Nyeri County government has embarked on enhancing various empowerment programmes across the county.



From right Nyeri governor Mutahi Kahiga, his deputy David Kinaniri, Nyeri County Assembly Speaker James Gichuhi and nominated MCA Ann Thumbi during the empowerment project in Ruguru Ward, Mathira constituency.

Movie Shot In Turkana Set To Premiere At Anga Cinemas In Nairobi



By: Sefu Sabila
@themtkenyentimes

Nawi, a film produced by Kenyan-Germany collaboration will be premiering for the first time in Nairobi on Saturday, August 24 in Nairobi at Anga Cinema.

The film producers FilmCrew Media, Startup Lions Kenya and Baobab Pictures, and written by a Nakuru based film writer Milcah Cherotich addresses the challenges and dangers of child marriage and efforts to fight gender equity and education for girls.

According to the Cherotich, the film is based on the shun topic of child marriage, which she says it does not receive the much atten-

tion it deserves.

In Kenya, pastoralist counties lead in the numbers of child marriages, and importance of the girl child future fully ignored, as they are married off at a young age.

“Nawi is a film based on the winning story of a nationwide writing contest, written in Nakuru. Child marriage is a topic that doesn’t receive the attention it deserves. We must fight against these practices now,” she explained.

The movie which was fully shot and acted in Turkana County showcases the deep the culture and beauty of Northern Kenya.

Nawi Co-director Apus Mourine born in Turkana said the production of the film was more personal, as she grew in an environment that hugely struggled with early marriage.

“Creating Nawi was deeply a personal journey. As a native of Turkana, I grew up surrounded by the struggles of early child

marriage. This film tells the untold stories of my people and aims to inspire positive change,” she explained.

The team settled for premiering the film in Nairobi to capture established film makers in the industry, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and government through the Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB).

Hopeful of the film starting a discussion, Nawi Co-Producer Ludwig Prince of Bavaria said the film is a game changer in the narrative of fighting child marriage, gender equity and access to education.

“We believe Nawi is more than just a film, it is a movement. By sharing Nawi’s story, we hope to spark essential conversations on education and gender equity,” he stated.

Milcah Cherotich joins the big names in the film industry in telling grassroots stories with the face of Kenya.

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Mbarire And Ichung’wa Behind DP’s Ouster Bid - Malala

The Former United Democratic Alliance (UDA) Secretary General Claimed That The Duo, Alongside Other Officials Wanted Gachagua Impeached And That He Was Sent Packing For Refusing To Play Balls



By: Cynthia Masibo
@themkenyetimes



Worth Noting:

- Malala said he lost his position after he declined to be party to the machinations whose end game was to see the ruling Deputy party leader hounded out of Harambee House Annex office as well as the Karen official residence of the country’s Deputy President.
- Addressing a press briefing at The Sarova Panfric Hotel at the outskirt of the Capital city’s CBD, Malala who looked like a wounded tiger claimed that he had a dozen and half point-dossier against Mbarire, Ichung’wa and other party stalwarts who he did not name.
- He said he would be revealing details in the coming days. Malala, a former Kakamega Senator, said the idea of having Gachagua out was part of the 2027 and 2032 election and succession plans.



Cleophas Malalah addressing the media at a hotel in Nairobi

The former United Democratic Alliance (UDA) party Secretary General Cleophas Malalah has alleged that Embu County governor Cecily Mbarire who is also UDA chairperson and Leader of Majority in the National Assembly Kimani Ichung’wa were the main architectures of the ouster bid against Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

The two, according to Malala, conspired with other ruling party officials to plan the aborted impeachment against Gachagua; the second most powerful political leader in the country.

Malala said he lost his position after he declined to be party to the machinations whose end game was to see the ruling Deputy party leader hounded out of Harambee House Annex office as well as the Karen official residence of the country’s Deputy President.

Addressing a press briefing at The Sarova Panfric Hotel at the outskirt of the Capital city’s CBD, Malala who looked like a wounded tiger claimed that he had a dozen and half point-dossier against Mbarire, Ichung’wa and other party stalwarts who he did not name.

He said he would be revealing details in the coming days.

Malala, a former Kakamega Senator, said the idea of having Gachagua out was part of the 2027 and 2032 election and succession plans.

“This is one of the 18 reasons these individuals also want me out of the party,” Malalah stated, adding that the alleged plotters are motivated by their own political ambitions rather than loyalty to the party.

The former Kakamega Senator argued that the duo were vexed by his cordial relationship with the deputy president and his boss and thus choreographed the scheme to remove the obstacle, which he said would have frustrated the impeachment goal.

He described his removal as part of a well-orchestrated plan that goes beyond mere dissatisfaction with his performance.

“My ouster by these two officials had nothing to do with incompetence or my inability to run the UDA party but was a well-choreographed script intended to climax with the impeachment of the Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua,” he claimed.

According to Malalah, the alleged

plot to remove Gachagua has no connection to President William Ruto, the broad-based government, or any other narratives advanced by the purported coup plotters.

Instead, he argued that the conspiracy was driven by the personal ambitions of the senior officials, who are keen on consolidating their power ahead of the 2027 elections.

The former Secretary General went on to reveal that the two officials have engaged in various underhanded tactics to achieve their objectives, including forging signatures and manufacturing minutes of non-existent party meetings to access the party’s bank accounts.

Malalah further expressed his dissatisfaction with the manner in which he was removed from his position, terming it unlawful, unfair, and a blatant contravention of the party’s constitution and due process.

He then stated that he was neither informed of any charges against him nor given an opportunity to defend himself.

“I was convicted and sentenced without trial because my aggressors had nothing against me,” he lamented.

In response to his ouster, Malalah has submitted a petition to the party’s Internal Disputes Resolution Committee (IDRC) contesting his removal.

He also warned that he would not hesitate to take legal action if he did not receive justice from the party’s internal mechanisms.

“I confirm my availability for hearing and presentation of my case as and when required,” he stated, adding that he is prepared to move to an open court if necessary.

The allegations have thrown the UDA into turmoil, with questions arising about the party’s stability and the potential impact on its future political prospects. As the situation unfolds, all eyes will be on how the party handles the internal crisis and whether the alleged power struggle will have broader implications for the ruling coalition.

By the time of going to press, neither the Embu governor nor the Ki-kuyu MP had responded to claims by Malala.

Olympic Standard Swimming Pool Launched In Machakos Town

By: Raymond Wanjohi
@themtkenyatimes

Machakos Governor Wavinya Ndeti, yesterday, laid a foundation to the world-class project which is geared towards setting the stage for the country to become a key player in hosting major international swimming galas. Ms Ndeti said the mega project will provide an opportunity to nurture the next generation of aquatic sports talent in Kenya.

“I call upon other county governments to prioritize developing sports at the grassroots. This is a critical step towards creating opportunities for youth and placing Kenya on the global sporting map,” the Governor said.

Kenya Aquatics secretary general Collins Marigiri exuded confidence that the project, once complete, will enhance both sports and youth empowerment.

“I am delighted to see Machakos County prioritizing aquatics sports and youth development. As a federation, we are committed to collabora-



Construction of an Olympic-standard aquatic sporting facility ongoing in Machakos town

rating with the county government to ensure this facility meets all World Aquatics standards. This will position it as a premier venue for hosting sanctioned national and international meets,” Mr Marigiri said.

Construction of the pool is underway. It is designed to include top-tier features such as a warm-up pool, touchpads, System 7 timing technology, and a digital scoreboard.

The features are mandatory for hosting world-class swimming competi-

tions. The expansive facility is also aimed at supporting a broader range of sports, making it a hub for diverse athletic activities.

Already, Kenya Aquatics has submitted bids to host the inaugural Africa Aquatics Masters Meet and the Africa Aquatics Zone 3 Swimming Championship slated for 2025.

Machakos now stands as a beacon for other counties, demonstrating the potential of well-planned investments in sports infrastructure.



Olympic-standard aquatic sporting facility ongoing in Machakos town prototype.

Eng Mwangangi emphasized the broader vision behind the facility, saying swimming activities in the region will strengthen the role out of Kenya’s Competency Based Curriculum (CBC).

“Swimming is now a compulsory subject within CBC, which makes it crucial for counties to invest in standardized pools. This facility will set the pace, inspiring others to follow suit and provide learners with the necessary resources to excel in aquat-

ics,” the secretary general said.

The launch of the pool symbolizes Machakos County’s bold ambition to transform itself into a sporting powerhouse.

As the first of its kind in the region, this pool is poised to become a flagship facility, attracting both local and international attention while raising the standards of aquatics sports across Kenya.



Kenya Flaunts Its Infrastructural Prowess To The Rest Of Africa

By: MKT Correspondents
@themkenyatimes

The Ministry of Roads and Transport and the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, has managed to mobilize over 20 African ambassadors from different African countries, to witness some of the key infrastructural projects that have been conducted as different financing models. Speaking at the event, the Principal Secretary, State Department for Transport, Mohamed Daghar, informed that the visit began on Wednesday through the guidance of the Chinese Ambassador to Kenya in order to witness the Nairobi expressway, a first infrastructure under the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) framework that has been a success. Daghar noted that the Nairobi expressway is expanding across the Nairobi City for 27.1 kilometers witnessing over 69,000 vehicles daily, even as the ambassadors witness the Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway terminus, one of the key infrastructures under the belt and broad initiative in

Africa. “Ambassadors will embark today on a five-hour journey from Nairobi to Mombasa to witness first-hand experience of what it is to travel with the SGR terminus,” he stated. The PS reiterated that the government is determined to ensure the piece of infrastructure is extended through Phase Two ‘D’, that is, from Naivasha to Kisumu, a distance of 362 kilometers with a branch line to the Kisumu Port and Phase Two ‘C’ a distance of 106 kilometers from Kisumu to Malaba. “We are in the utmost gear to ensure that the Ministry is working with the National Treasury and Ministry of the Foreign Affairs for the extension and the forum of the China Africa Corporation, which is scheduled to take place from 3rd to 7th September, 2024,” affirmed Daghar, adding that the corporation between Kenya and China is fostered and enhanced between the two nations. Foreign Affairs PS, Dr. Korir Sing’oei re-affirmed that they are visiting the terminus in order to witness the important infrastructure projects. “Connectivity is core to develop-



ment, progress and transformation to unlock the continent such as agricultural potential, industrial, mineral potential in order to power investment and activate enterprise,” stated Dr. Sing’oei. He maintained that the partnership needs an Africa that is interconnected, since that’s the vision of the African free trade area and without connectivity, cannot realize first class ticket fee, thus, making them to come together with colleagues in order to

appreciate what the country is contributing towards regional connectivity, Rail connectivity, regional road and digital connectivity. PS added that the regional connectivity are the elements of connectivity that are fused under the framework for China-Africa Corporation. “Kenya is a key member and player within the Belta Road Initiative in China which will be attended by the president at the summit in September, to be able to showcase what the part-

nership has invaded in tangible and practical ways and contributed to the economic transformation and social progress of the country,” disclosed the PS. He said that the country is indebted to the partners, the Chinese government, driving sector including China Roads and Bridges Corporation and Kenya Railways for being able to facilitate the visit.

Laikipia County To resettle 15,000 Families In Kirimon

By: Kenya News Agency
@themkenyatimes

Laikipia County has begun the settlement of 1,500 families who have been squatting on a section of Kirimon Game Reserve for over three decades. The 43,000 acres of land have been at the centre of a dispute between the National Youth Service (NYS), the county government, and the squatters. In April, President William Ruto intervened to resolve the matter amicably. Area governor Joshua Irungu announced that resettlement plans are on course and that women will be included in the squatters’ resettlement committee. “We decided to set aside a section (14000 acres) for resettling squatters in those areas, and women have

asked for their rights to be included in the resettlement committee to air their voices,” said Irungu. The land was declared a wildlife conservation area in 1991 but has been hampered by ownership wrangles and uncontrolled human settlement. The Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife announced steps to resolve the long-standing disputes and supported Laikipia County in establishing its first game reserve without evicting families already settled on the land.



Laikipia County governor Joshua Irungu (left) when he visited the area.

Shakahola Deaths Witnesses Narrates How Mackenzie Interpreted The Bible

By: MKT Correspondents

[@themkenyentimes](#)



Worth Noting:

- The minor testified that Mackenzie contradicted a famous biblical teaching which states “Whoever doesn’t want to work shouldn’t be allowed to eat.”
- According to the witness, the accused preached to his followers to abandon work, meals, education, beauty and other worldly affairs.
- The court further heard that in some instances, Mackenzie did not make reference to any bible verses but decreed his followers to undertake certain actions.
- The witness also revealed that Mackenzie would regularly interpret dreams of his followers, as words of God directing them to perform among other praying and fasting non-stop.



Controversial preacher Paul Mackenzie with some of his co-accused during the hearing of their case

Several prosecution witnesses told a Mombasa court that Paul Nthenge Mackenzie interpreted bible verses to advance his messages leading to mass deaths of his followers.

The 1st prosecution testified in camera with the 2nd witness informing an open court that Mackenzie interpreted the word of God in a manner that led men and women to fast inside Shakahola forest and in the process deny their children food and water till they died.

The witnesses were testifying in the case in which Mackenzie, his wife Rhoda Mumbua Maweu and 93 others are faced with 283 counts of manslaughter.

A 17 year old girl told Mombasa Chief Magistrate Alex Ithuku that Mackenzie interpreted biblical verses in the context of his radical understanding including contradicting known verses.

The minor testified that Mackenzie contradicted a famous biblical teaching which states “Whoever doesn’t want to work shouldn’t be allowed

to eat.”

According to the witness, the accused preached to his followers to abandon work, meals, education, beauty and other worldly affairs.

The court further heard that in some instances, Mackenzie did not make reference to any bible verses but decreed his followers to undertake certain actions.

The witness also revealed that Mackenzie would regularly interpret dreams of his followers, as words of God directing them to perform among other praying and fasting non-stop.

The Good News International Church preacher’s deadly fasting decree led to deaths of children, men and women.

The witness further said she witnessed deaths of six people including a child near their makeshift home inside Shakahola forest.

The minor said the dead were buried in shallow graves inside the forest, which Mackenzie declared the ritual as weddings (harusi) a journey to meet Jesus.

The prosecution witness identified 83 out of 94 accused persons as among people she spotted inside Shakahola forest.

Among them, some worked as Mackenzie’s armed militia tasked to guard them from invaders mostly locals and herders within Furunzi in Lango Baya in Malindi sub county.

Former Officer Commanding Lango Baya police station, Hamara Hassan told the court that Mackenzie filed a complaint via OB no 15/8/2022 at 4pm against a woman who accused him of ferrying and killing people inside Shakahola forest.

Hassan also testified that another person also made a report via OB/10/17/03/23 AT 12:15pm over mistreatment of three children by their parents inside the forest.

The OCS testified that all the two matters were referred to the DCI team in Malindi due to the sensitivity of the claims.

He said they teamed up with DCI detectives to comb the forest and found 15 of Mackenzie’s followers who were

too weak to walk. Two died at the scene with the third one dying on the way to Malindi sub county hospital.

The witness said he was among the officers who discovered Mackenzie and his family hiding inside the forest and arrested them.

The Prosecution team include Senior Assistant DPP Peter Kiprop, Assistant DPP Jami Yamina, Principal Prosecution Counsel Victor Owiti and Betty Rubia, Senior Principal Prosecution Counsel, Alex Gituma, Senior Prosecution Counsel Victor Simbi and Hilary Isiaho and Prosecution Counsel Yassir Mohamed.

Hearing continues...

Startimes Enters Solar Business To Boost Power Connectivity In Kenya

By: MKT Correspondent
@themkenyatomes

Startimes has unveiled a cutting-edge solar power solution designed to enhance power connectivity across Kenya.

This new initiative is designed to enhance power reliability for both residential and commercial customers, integrating seamlessly into homes and businesses nationwide.

During the launch event, Carter Luo, CEO of Startimes, expressed his enthusiasm for the venture, emphasizing the company’s commitment to promoting green energy and environmental preservation.

“We are thrilled to introduce this advanced solar solution to our customers. Our goal is to ensure a reliable and continuous power supply, enabling seamless connectivity for communities throughout Kenya,”

Luo stated.

Carter said that the innovative solar system features robust warranties—a 15-year guarantee on solar panels, a 10-year warranty on batteries, and a 5-year warranty on inverters—emphasizing Startimes’ dedication to quality and reliability.

“This initiative is not just about energy; it’s about providing high quality products and services to tie Kenyan people across all walks of life,” he said.

Miss Tamima Ibrahim, Marketing Director at Startimes, highlighted the broader impact of the initiative noting that they will open several showrooms across the Country to enhance customer experience.

She said that the company aims to provide its customers with a dependable power source, further solidifying its position as a leader in both media and energy solutions.

“This solar power solution is a game-changer for Startimes. By in-

tegrating these systems into homes and businesses, we are not only supporting energy needs but also contributing to a more sustainable and reliable power infrastructure across the country. Our in-house installation services ensure that the transition to solar power is smooth and efficient,” she said.

She pointed out that the launch of this initiative coincides with the eagerly awaited start of the LaLiga season, which will be broadcast on Startimes’ premier sports channels—Sports Premium, Sports Focus, and Sports Life—beginning yesterday.



From Left, Hanisa Weru (Startimes lead solar consultant), Wesley Wasike, (Startimes Solar Engineer) and Miss Tamima Ibrahim (Marketing Director) cutting ribbon during the launch of Startimes Solar at Upper Hill, Nairobi.

Suspects In Godown Heists Nabbed As Police Recover Stolen Goods

By: The DCI

After days of scrupulous hunt for burglars that have reigned terror to godown owners in Nairobi and its environs, DCI detectives registered a major breakthrough with the arrest of a 10-man gang believed to be behind a spate of break-ins reported by devastated victims.

The 10 men aged between 36 and 50 are suspected to have been directly involved in the planning and execution of break-in incidents where assorted hardware goods, steel products, lubricants and motor vehicle spare parts have been reported stolen.

In a joint operation comprising detectives from DCI’s Crime Research and Intelligence Bureau (CRIB) Nairobi area and DCI Kasarani, the suspects; Paul Njoroge Muthoni 39, Job Onsomu Onkundi 38, Erick Irungu Karanja 37, Daniel Opiyo Oketch 45, James Maina Githua 36, Joseph

Maina Wambugu 50, Patrick Karani 39, Peter Karangi 44, Peter Karanja Kanyoro 42, Mathew Riunge Karinge 46; were smoked out of their hideouts in Nairobi and its surroundings.

After a brief interrogation, the suspects led the detectives to Faith Estate - Riverside Court within Juja - Mura, where 463 cartons of lubricants that had earlier been carted away from a go down at Thika Industrial Park were recovered.

During the operation, the crack team of detectives also recovered and detained four motor vehicles connected to the go-down break ins.

As investigations and search for more suspects and stolen goods continue, it has been established that the thugs are connected to a break in incident in Mwiki where in April 2024, they stole hardware items and laptops from Syzo International premises after breaking into two go downs.

In a similar incident that occurred in Kamulu on 26th July, this year, the hoodlums are reported to have scaled the walls of Patnet Steel makers and

tied two security guards using ropes, thereafter ambushing the night shift workers and killing one of them before carting away tonnes of nails and barbed wires.

The Directorate of Criminal Investigations reiterates its resolve to remain proactive and professional in investigating crimes, protecting life and property, apprehending offenders and supporting their prosecution.



Mother Is Such A Beautiful Word



By: Rozimurodova Marjona Bekzod,
Uzbekistan

Words cannot describe this word, which consists of only three letters. An example of a flower in the mother garden. Just as the smell of a flower enlivens the surroundings, the knowledge of a mother educates the whole society.

A mother is a loving person with a bright face, a burning heart, a healing person whose words and eyes take pains away. We were born on a full moon day. Now think about how many sleepless nights and troubled days there were during this period of time.

Swallowing these problems and carrying two hearts in one body with so many pains... It's hard to describe them.

As you enter the garden, you will encounter a variety of flowers. They have different colors and a unique appearance. Even a strange smell, the smells of which are not harmonized with each other, hits your nose. Just as the scent of a flower gives peace to a person's heart, so does a mother's voice give peace to a person's soul and spirit.

Mothers are like flowers in a garden, they all have the same purpose. If flowers awaken a beautiful feeling in a person's heart, mothers also teach their children to have faith in their hearts, good upbringing,

be honest and pure, knowledgeable, always truthful.

As Dr. Salakhuddin Koftaru said, "Women are said to be half of society. No, she is the whole society. She educates the remaining half of society.

The religious, national and social importance of a woman is very great.

She is a mother and grandmother.

She is a faithful husband, a beautiful sister and daughter.

She is a coach, an intellectual and a singer of goodness.

If we can prepare them for life, we will have contributed to the building of our common home."

May Allah have mercy on Ahmad Shawqi, who wrote the lines in Qui.

"The mother is the madrasa...

If you can educate him properly, you will educate a people of pure blood! "

What a beautiful and powerful sentence, no doubt. Of course, mothers are always in front of their children. A person is responsible for raising a child.

The more definitions and sentences we write for mothers, the less we write. They are a priceless blessing. Let's appreciate it, my dears. Wrinkles fall on their faces because we are children. They look forward to our roads as children. When the time comes for us to have ignorant children, we pretend that you are behind the times, we pretend that you don't speak your old words, in fact, the person who caused us to reach these days is not our Mother?

Now tell me, do we still have the right to be upset with our mothers and hurt their hearts?

Of course, it is foolishness to think like that. Make your mother happy during her lifetime.

Before tomorrow, one look at her face becomes a dream!

My First Teacher



By: Dilbar Kaldoshyeva, Uzbekistan

There are many honorable professions in the world. The greatest of them is the teaching profession. Kings also bowed to them.

My teacher, who introduced me to the first alphabet, was Sadulla Ochilov. The teacher followed in the footsteps of his father and chose this profession. The teacher valued us as his own children. It was not for nothing that our ancestors said, "Teacher is as great as your father". My first teacher, Sadulla Ochilov, is a very experienced teacher.

He started his career in 1991 in school 43. He has been teaching students since 32. They teach the secrets of science. Gulkhumor, Khadicha Shodiyeva, and Yulduz

Eshqagova are among them. Apart from that, students of O. Sodikova and G.

Allayorova are teaching the language to bring up a mature generation.

My teacher's students are distinguished not only in the field of education, but also in helping people. Most of the former students who have given education and training are guardians of the Motherland.

They are tirelessly protecting our Motherland day and night for the peaceful life of our people.

Usozi came to work in 1991, and for 32 years, he took 9 classes out of primary school. I am happy that I am among them.

Because when I first came to school, my teacher taught me how to read and write by putting a pencil in my hand.

My first teacher chose me out of 24 students and gave me the phone for the first time. I struggled with my youth and weaved everything through my fingers, one finger for each letter. As everything passes, everything is left behind.

But the knowledge that I have received illuminates my life path like a traveling star today. The place touched by the teacher's hand does not burn in hell. They say, "Knowledge acquired in youth is a pattern carved in stone."

Today I congratulate my first teacher Sa'dulla Ochilov and all teachers and coaches on October 1st professional holiday. We disciples always bow to them.

Enjoy Your Life



By: Orzigul Sherova, Uzbekistan

Close your eyes, take a breath,
Think your aim and may you dream.
taste the sweetness underneath,
Enjoy your life like sweet cream.

Light days will come after dark night,
It is your choice, it is your way.

Never think about sadness or fight,
Happiness is everywhere if I say.

It is all of yours and yours alone,
Fill your soul with all of needs.
Just consider in this match you won,
Do not worry you wrapped your deeds.

Life is a gift we are given each and every day,
Therefore do not do anything wrong.
Dream about tomorrow, but live for today,
Just enjoy your life and sing winners' song.

One Step Forward To The Moon



By: Shubhansh Goel, India

There were stars all around
pitch dark, scary night
and an evil fading sound.

A beam of light,
From a far fetched star
and it gleamed upon,
yours and mine unseen scars.
As the universe tends to unfold,
I wish to see you again, soon.
you thought it was about the stars,
because you never knew,
you were the moon.

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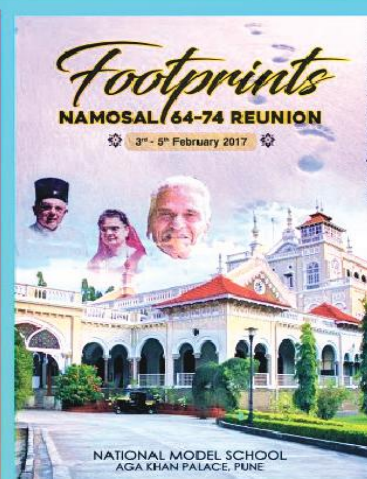
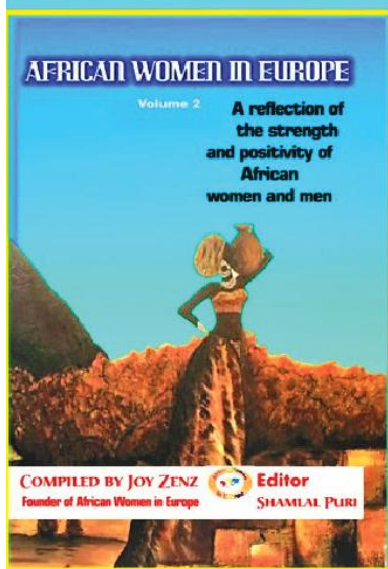
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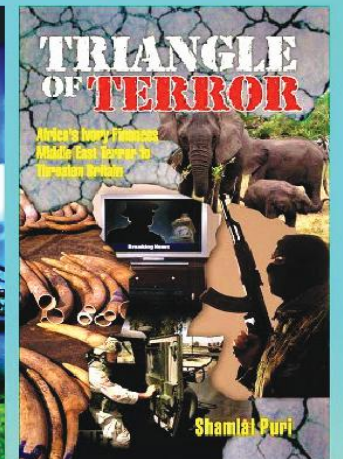
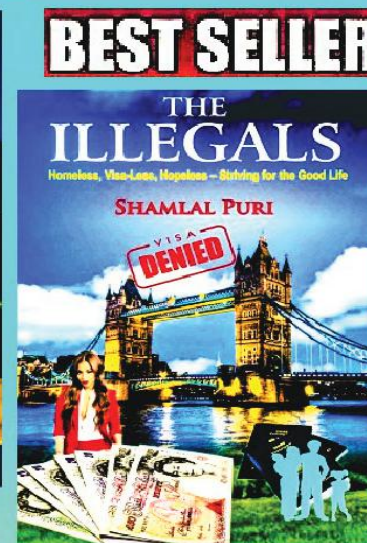
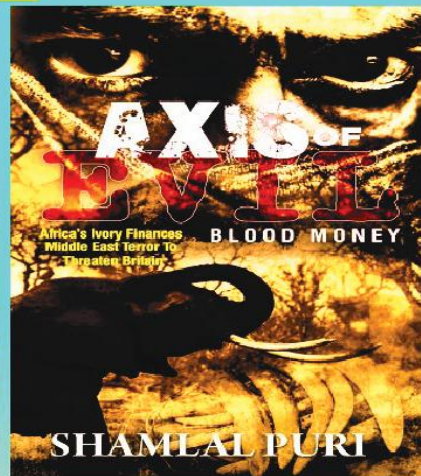
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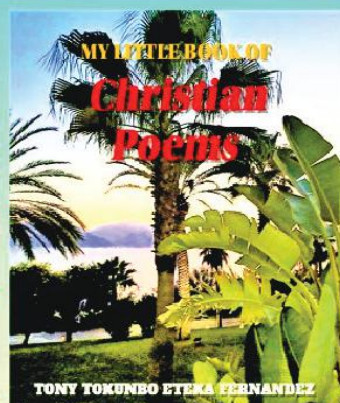
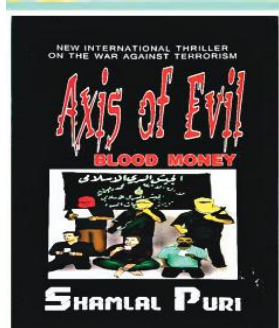
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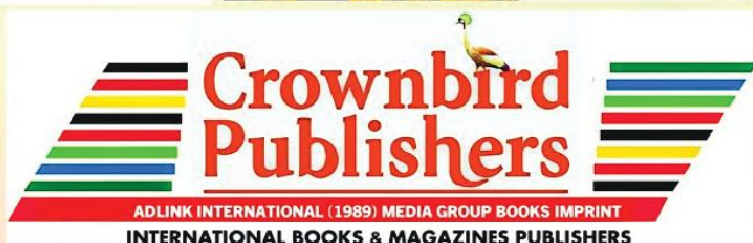


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Shelter Afrique Signs MOU With CPF Group To Scale Up Development Of Affordable Housing In Kenya

By: MKT Correspondent
@themkenyaintimes

Shelter Afrique Development Bank (ShafDB) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CPF Group, aimed at scaling up the development of large-scale affordable housing projects in the country.

The agreement which is expected to boost Shelter Afrique Development Bank's mandate of providing decent and affordable housing in Africa, was signed in Nairobi by CPF Group Managing Director, Dr. Hosea Kili, and Shelter Afrique Development Bank Head of Credit and Operations, Mr. Christopher Chege, on behalf of the Managing Director Mr. Thierno-Habib Hann.

"As a company, our overriding strategy is the provision of affordable housing across our member States through public-private partnerships. This strategic partnership with CPF Group will be key in expanding our projects in Kenya," stated Chege in a

press statement.

The agreement seeks to provide a platform for intervention across the affordable housing value chain by creating a partnership in affordable housing delivery through co-financing.

It also seeks to establish a Housing Solutions Fund for Kenya, which will make interventions on the supply and demand side of the affordable housing value chain.

In addition, both ShafDB and CPF Group will jointly design and manage the Fund, including offering capital raising and technical support to the management of the Fund.

"We are excited to partner with Shelter Afrique Development and leverage on each institution's strength as we jointly address the perennial problem of decent and affordable housing in Kenya. This partnership opens up opportunities for collaboration in many areas including product & services design and finding innovative funding solutions for our current and future projects," expressed Dr. Kili in a quick rejoinder.

Kenya has a total housing deficit



Officials during the signing ceremony

of 2 million housing units and this number could rise due to high rates of population growth and high urbanization rate at 4.4 percent, well above the global average of 2.1 per cent.

Out of Kenya's total population of 50.6 million, 29 percent reside in urban areas. In order to resolve the housing conundrum, the Kenyan government has put in place a global framework through the Bottom-up

Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) to deliver 250,000 housing units per year against the current 50,000 annual deliveries.

"It is against this background that Shelter Afrique Development Bank and the CPF Group are joining forces through the Collaboration Agreement to scale up affordable housing delivery. We believe our partnership with CPF Group will deepen our impact

on Kenya's and by extension, Africa's affordable housing value chain, from both the supply and demand side," Chege reiterated.

Shelter Afrique Development Bank is a leading Pan-African institution committed to financing and advancing housing, urban, and related infrastructure development across the African continent.

Co-operative University Launch Farmers' Digital Platform

By: Kenya News Agency

The Cooperative University of Kenya (CUK) has launched a digital platform in Narok County to help farmers improve their productivity and improve market access.

Speaking in Narok town during the farmers' forum, Professor Wycliffe Aluoch, a lecturer at CUK, said in the new programme, farmers will be expected to form cooperatives where they will be taught different value chains, depending on their produce.

Narok, Nakuru and Baringo Counties have been selected as pilot areas for the project, which is being funded by the African Development Bank (ADB).

Professor Aluoch hinted that the initiative will bring farmers, extension officers, value addition actors and the market in one digital platform,

where they will interact directly.

"There are cases where farmers produce but do not reach the markets because of various reasons like impassable roads and distance to the markets. This makes the middle men exploit them," he said.

The digital platform will also enable the farmers to access critical agricultural services and inputs as the system will incorporate agro-suppliers.

He reiterated the end result of the initiative will be in line with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) as farmers who have been earning poorly from their produce will earn more income.

The initiative, he continued, will also help to improve food security in the country as the farmers are expected to produce more especially in maize, dairy and Irish potatoes farming.

"The initiative will improve the sustainability of the farmers' cooperatives and value chain as the shared

platform will make it easy for farmers to interact with input suppliers, financial institutions and markets. At the end of the day, the farmers will pocket more profits," he said.

A Cooperative Officer in Narok County Ms. Hellen Surum lauded the initiative adding that the farmers' groups that have been struggling will be empowered through training.

"I urge farmers to form or join cooperatives to benefit from this project. Farmers who are not in any group will not benefit," said the officer.





PROJECT CATALOG

Malindi Phase 7	MALINDI	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.129,000	Kithimani Springs	MACHAKOS	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.1.50M
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Love Gardens	KAJIADO	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.950,000	Achievers Paradise Phase 2	NGONG	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.1.995M
Ushindi Gardens	NAKURU	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.1.095M	Achievers Business Park	NGONG	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.3.95M
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Pillars Of Progress: Exploring The Symbiosis Of Law And Policy In Kenya's Evolution



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The intersection of law and public policy is perhaps most visible in Kenya's efforts to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. The Constitution's prohibition of discrimination on the basis of gender has paved the way for progressive policies aimed at increasing women's participation in political and economic spheres.
- The two-thirds gender rule, mandating that no more than two-thirds of elective public bodies shall be of the same gender, exemplifies how constitutional provisions can drive policy changes, even as implementation remains a complex and contentious issue.
- Kenya's approach to land reform further illustrates the intricate dance between legal frameworks and policy implementation.



Rich cultural heritage, stands as a beacon of progress and potential in East Africa

Kenya, a nation of diverse landscapes and rich cultural heritage, stands as a beacon of progress and potential in East Africa. Its legal framework, deeply rooted in both common law traditions inherited from British colonial rule and customary laws that have shaped the social fabric for generations, forms the bedrock upon which the country's public policies are constructed. This intricate interplay between law and policy is not merely an academic exercise but a living, breathing mechanism that influences the daily lives of millions of Kenyans, from the bustling streets of Nairobi to the remote villages nestled in the Great Rift Valley.

The Kenyan Constitution, promulgated in 2010, serves as the supreme law of the land, embodying the aspirations and values of the Kenyan people. This groundbreaking document, born out of years of struggle and negotiation, represents a collective vision for a more equitable, just, and prosperous nation. It is within this constitutional framework that public policies are conceived, debated, and implemented, reflecting the delicate balance between individual rights and collective responsibilities. The Constitution's emphasis on devolution of power to county governments has ushered in a new era of localized decision-making, allowing for policies that are more responsive to the unique needs and challenges of Kenya's diverse regions.

Environmental conservation, a critical concern in a country blessed with extraordinary biodiversity, exemplifies the symbiotic relationship between law and public policy in Kenya. The Environmental Management and Coordination Act, enacted in 1999 and subsequently amended, provides the legal foundation for the

protection and sustainable management of Kenya's natural resources. This legislative framework has given rise to a myriad of policies aimed at safeguarding the country's ecological heritage, from the ambitious goal of achieving 10% forest cover to innovative community-based conservation initiatives that seek to balance human needs with environmental preservation.

Kenya's commitment to universal primary education is enshrined in law, reflecting the nation's recognition of education as a fundamental right and a cornerstone of social and economic development. The Basic Education Act of 2013 provides the legal underpinning for policies that have dramatically increased school enrollment rates and improved access to education for marginalized communities. These policies, informed by constitutional imperatives and international commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals, have transformed the educational landscape, though challenges in quality and equity persist, underscoring the ongoing need for policy refinement and implementation.

The intersection of law and public policy is perhaps most visible in Kenya's efforts to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. The Constitution's prohibition of discrimination on the basis of gender has paved the way for progressive policies aimed at increasing women's participation in political and economic spheres. The two-thirds gender rule, mandating that no more than two-thirds of elective public bodies shall be of the same gender, exemplifies how constitutional provisions can drive policy changes, even as implementation remains a complex and contentious issue.

Kenya's approach to land reform further illustrates the intricate dance between legal frameworks and policy implementation. The Land Act, Land Registration Act, and National Land Commission Act, all enacted in 2012, seek to address historical injustices and provide a more equitable and transparent system of land ownership and management. These laws have given rise to policies aimed at digitizing land records, resolving long-standing disputes, and protecting community land rights. However, the implementation of these policies continues to face challenges, highlighting the gap that often exists between legal ideals and practical realities on the ground.

In the realm of public health, Kenya's legal framework has evolved to address both longstanding challenges and emerging threats. The Health Act of 2017 provides a comprehensive legal foundation for the country's healthcare system, emphasizing the right to health as enshrined in the Constitution. This legislative backdrop has informed policies ranging from the expansion of health insurance coverage to ambitious plans for achieving universal health coverage. The COVID-19 pandemic has further underscored the importance of robust legal and policy frameworks in responding to public health crises, with Kenya's response drawing on existing laws while necessitating new policy interventions.

The fight against corruption, a perennial challenge in Kenya's governance landscape, demonstrates the critical importance of aligning legal frameworks with effective policy implementation. The Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act, coupled with institutions like the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, provide

the legal tools for combating graft. However, the persistence of corruption underscores the need for not just strong laws but also unwavering political will and comprehensive policies that address the root causes of corruption and strengthen accountability mechanisms across all levels of government.

Kenya's efforts to harness technology for development, exemplified by initiatives like the Digital Literacy Programme and the push towards e-government services, are grounded in legal frameworks that seek to balance innovation with data protection and cybersecurity. The Data Protection Act of 2019, for instance, provides a legal foundation for policies aimed at safeguarding personal information in an increasingly digital age. This interplay between law and policy in the tech sector reflects Kenya's ambition to position itself as a regional hub for innovation while addressing the ethical and security challenges posed by rapid technological advancement.

The management of Kenya's natural resources, particularly in the extractive sector, highlights the complex interrelationships between law, policy, and economic development. The Mining Act of 2016 and the Petroleum Act of 2019 provide legal frameworks for the exploitation of mineral and oil resources, respectively. These laws have informed policies aimed at maximizing the benefits of resource extraction for local communities and the nation as a whole, while also addressing environmental concerns. The ongoing debate over revenue sharing between national and county governments underscores the dynamic nature of policy formulation within the context of Kenya's devolved system of governance.

As Kenya continues to navigate the challenges of the 21st century, from climate change to urbanization to regional security, the symbiotic relationship between law and public policy will remain crucial. The country's legal framework, anchored by the 2010 Constitution, provides a solid foundation for addressing these complex issues. However, the true test lies in the formulation and implementation of policies that can translate legal principles into tangible improvements in the lives of Kenyan citizens. As the nation moves forward, the ongoing dialogue between lawmakers, policymakers, and the public will be essential in ensuring that Kenya's laws and policies continue to evolve in a manner that promotes justice, equity, and sustainable development for all.

The writer is a lawyer and legal researcher

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Expectations Of Kenya On Broad Based Government



Kenya's On Broad Based Government

By: **James Kilonzo Bwire**

As President William Ruto embarks on the ambitious journey of forming a broad-based government, the expectations of Kenyans are high. This initiative, aimed at integrating diverse political factions and stakeholders, is seen as a crucial step toward addressing the grievances of marginalized groups, particularly the youth who feel excluded from the political process. The success of this government will largely depend on its ability to genuinely reflect the needs and aspirations of all Kenyans.

At the heart of a broad-based government is the principle of inclusivity. Kenyans expect that this new administration will incorporate voices from various ethnic, regional, and social backgrounds. By doing so, the government can foster social cohesion and national integration, which are essential for a harmonious society. President Ruto has emphasized that the formation of this government is aimed at leaving no one behind, rallying all Kenyans behind the country's transformation agenda. This commitment to inclusivity should translate into policies that resonate with the population and effectively address

their diverse needs.

Economic transformation is a key objective of Ruto's government, especially in light of the frustrations expressed by the youth regarding economic opportunities. Kenyans expect the government to create comprehensive economic policies that tackle pressing issues such as unemployment, inflation, and access to quality healthcare. Initiatives like the Universal Health Coverage and the Affordable Housing Programme are seen as vital steps toward improving living standards and creating jobs. Recent reports indicate that the Affordable Housing Programme has already generated over 160,000 jobs for young people, showcasing the immediate impact of inclusive governance. Citizens are looking for a government that not only promises change but also delivers tangible results.

For a broad-based government to succeed, it must prioritize transparency and accountability. Kenyans expect avenues to voice their concerns and participate in the decision-making process. Regular consultations, feedback mechanisms, and public forums are essential for meaningful engagement. The recent protests against the Finance Bill highlight the need for a

government that listens and responds to the voices of its citizens, particularly the youth who feel neglected. Ruto's administration must ensure that these channels for communication are not only established but actively utilized to inform policy decisions. Trust in government is crucial for long-term stability and effective governance.

Political stability is vital for economic growth, and Kenyans expect that a broad-based government will help mitigate tensions arising from political polarization. By including opposition members and other stakeholders, the government can create a platform for dialogue and negotiation, reducing the likelihood of unrest. This collaborative approach can pave the way for a more peaceful political climate, conducive to development and progress. Ruto's outreach to opposition leaders is a strategic move to foster national unity and reconciliation, particularly in a politically polarized environment. Citizens hope that this inclusivity will heal divisions and build a shared identity among Kenyans.

Despite the potential benefits, a broad-based government must navigate significant challenges. Critics argue that merely including opposition members may not be sufficient

to address systemic issues within the government. Kenyans are wary that participation could be symbolic rather than substantive, potentially diluting the distinct identities of opposition parties and limiting their ability to hold the government accountable. The government must ensure that the inclusion of diverse voices translates into meaningful influence over policy decisions, rather than serving as a mere façade of unity. This requires a commitment to genuine collaboration and a willingness to address the underlying issues that have historically divided the nation.

For opposition parties like Azimio, joining a broad-based government can enhance their influence in policy-making and ensure that their supporters' interests are represented. However, it is crucial for them to establish clear conditions for their participation, including specific policy agreements and power-sharing arrangements. Kenyans expect opposition parties to maintain their autonomy and continue advocating for their principles while contributing to governance. The balance between collaboration and independence will be vital for the opposition to remain relevant and effective in holding the

government accountable.

In conclusion, Kenyans expect a broad-based government to be fundamentally people-centered, focusing on inclusivity, transparency, and accountability. By actively involving citizens in the policy-making process and addressing their diverse needs, the government can foster unity and drive economic transformation. The success of this initiative will ultimately depend on the administration's commitment to genuine engagement and reform, ensuring that the voices of all Kenyans are heard and valued. As the nation embarks on this new chapter, it is essential for President Ruto's government to recognize that the path ahead is not without its challenges. However, with a spirit of cooperation, a commitment to reform, and a genuine desire to serve the people of Kenya, the broad-based government has the potential to usher in a new era of progress and prosperity for the nation.

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The Untold Story Of Kenya's Eurobond And Anglo-Leasing Scandals



By: Midmark Onsongo

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Worth Noting:

- At the heart of the Eurobond scandal was the Jubilee government, led by President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Deputy, William Ruto. The National Treasury, under Cabinet Secretary Henry Rotich, was responsible for managing the funds.
- The first signs of trouble emerged when opposition leaders, particularly Raila Odinga, began raising concerns about the whereabouts of the Eurobond money. According to the government, the funds were channeled into the Consolidated Fund and used for various development projects. However, Odinga and other critics argued that the money was missing, questioning the transparency of the process.
- Despite numerous investigations, including one by the Auditor General, Edward Ouko, the exact whereabouts of the missing Eurobond money remain a mystery.



The Eurobond and Anglo-Leasing scandals are among the most infamous in Kenya's history, emblematic of deep-seated corruption that has plagued the nation for decades. These financial malpractices, involving billions of Kenyan Shillings, not only highlighted the vulnerability of Kenya's financial systems but also exposed the intricate web of deceit that connects politicians, companies, and countries in a dance of corruption.

The Eurobond Scandal: A Mirage of Development

In June 2014, the Kenyan government made history by successfully issuing its first-ever Eurobond. Worth a staggering \$2 billion, or roughly KES 200 billion, the bond was hailed as a significant achievement, symbolizing Kenya's entry into the global financial market. The money was intended to fund various infrastructure projects, which were expected to spur economic growth and improve the lives of ordinary Kenyans. However, what began as a promising venture quickly descended into a quagmire of suspicion and scandal.

The Cast of Characters

At the heart of the Eurobond scandal was the Jubilee government, led by President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Deputy, William Ruto. The National Treasury, under Cabinet Secretary Henry Rotich, was responsible for managing the funds. Other key players included the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK), led by then-Governor Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, and several top government officials who were supposed to oversee the disbursement and utilization of the funds.

The Plot Unravels

The first signs of trouble emerged when opposition leaders, particularly Raila Odinga, began raising concerns about the whereabouts of the Eurobond money. According to the government, the funds were channeled into the Consolidated Fund and used for various development projects. However, Odinga and other critics argued that the money was missing, questioning the transparency of the process.

As the drama unfolded, it became clear that a significant portion of the Eurobond funds could not be accounted for. Reports suggested that up to \$1 billion (approximately KES 100 billion) was untraceable. The government's explanation of how the funds were spent was riddled with inconsistencies, further fueling suspicions of corruption.

International firms such as J.P. Morgan and Citibank, which acted as lead managers for the Eurobond issuance, were also thrust into the spotlight. These global financial giants had vouched for the bond's credibility, making the scandal a matter of international concern. The trail even led to institutions in London, where the bond had been issued, raising questions about the involvement of foreign banks and whether they had turned a blind eye to the shady dealings.

The Aftermath

Despite numerous investigations, including one by the Auditor General, Edward Ouko, the exact whereabouts of the missing Eurobond money remain a mystery. The scandal underscored the lack of accountability in Kenya's financial manage-

ment and raised concerns about the country's debt sustainability. For ordinary Kenyans, the Eurobond scandal was a bitter reminder that grand promises of development often mask the reality of elite corruption.

The Anglo-Leasing Scandal: A Masterclass in Corruption

If the Eurobond scandal was a mystery, the Anglo-Leasing scandal was a masterclass in corruption. This scandal dates back to the early 2000s during President Mwai Kibaki's administration, though its roots can be traced to the previous regime under President Daniel arap Moi.

The Scheme

The Anglo-Leasing scandal involved a series of fraudulent contracts between the Kenyan government and several phantom companies. These contracts, valued at billions of Kenyan Shillings, were for the supply of security and communication equipment that was either overpriced or never delivered. The most infamous of these contracts was the one awarded to a shadowy company named Anglo-Leasing Finance Company, which was supposed to supply a passport printing system at an exorbitant cost.

Other companies involved in the scandal included Infotalent Limited, which was contracted to supply forensic laboratories, and Sound Day Corporation, which was to provide a secure communication system for the police. None of these companies had a credible track record, and some were later discovered to be non-existent.

The Puppeteers

The Anglo-Leasing scandal implicated some of the most powerful figures in Kenya's political landscape. Among them was David Mwiraria, who served as Finance Minister under Kibaki, and Chris Murungaru, the then Minister for National Security. The scandal also ensnared senior officials within the Office of the President, including then-Head of Public Service, Francis Muthaura, and former Vice President, George Saitoti.

Interestingly, the Anglo-Leasing contracts had been signed during Moi's presidency, but the payments continued under Kibaki, leading to speculation that both regimes had been complicit. The Swiss-born businessman Deepak Kamani, along with his family, emerged as central figures in the scandal, allegedly or-

chestrating the deals and acting as conduits for the illicit payments.

International Connections

The Anglo-Leasing scandal was not just a Kenyan affair. The money trail led investigators across the globe, from banks in the United Kingdom and Switzerland to offshore accounts in tax havens like the British Virgin Islands. These international connections highlighted the global nature of financial crimes and the challenges in holding the perpetrators accountable.

The scandal also put Kenya's relationship with its development partners under strain. The United Kingdom, which had been one of Kenya's key allies, was particularly vocal in demanding accountability. The British government even froze aid to Kenya at one point, citing concerns over corruption.

The Fallout

The Anglo-Leasing scandal had far-reaching consequences for Kenya. It tainted the Kibaki administration's legacy, which had otherwise been marked by economic recovery and infrastructure development. The scandal also sparked widespread public outrage and led to the resignation of several top government officials, including David Mwiraria. Despite numerous investigations and court cases, justice remains elusive. In 2015, a Kenyan court acquitted Deepak Kamani and his co-accused, citing lack of evidence. This decision was met with disbelief and frustration, as many Kenyans felt that the rich and powerful had once again escaped accountability.

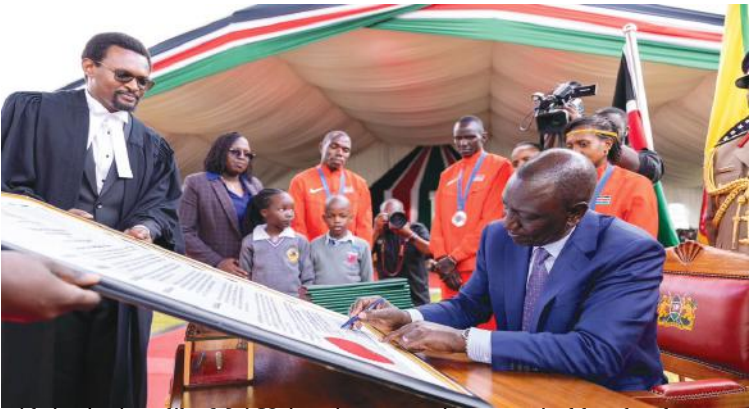
The Eurobond and Anglo-Leasing scandals are two sides of the same coin. Both represent a betrayal of the Kenyan people by their leaders, who were entrusted with the stewardship of public resources. These scandals have left a legacy of mistrust, where citizens question the sincerity of every government promise. They serve as stark reminders of the need for vigilance, transparency, and accountability in the management of public funds. Until these principles are upheld, Kenya risks remaining trapped in a cycle of corruption, where scandals are the norm, and justice is an exception.

This article was scripted by:
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Eldoret's Elevation To City Status

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
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Eldoret's elevation to city status yesterday, is a pivotal moment not just for the town but for the entire region of Uasin Gishu and Kenya as a whole. This development signifies the culmination of years of hard work and strategic planning aimed at transforming Eldoret into a modern urban center. The recognition by President William Ruto highlights the town's compliance with the Urban Areas and Cities Act, which sets forth stringent criteria for urban classification. The journey to city status began in earnest in 2021 when the Eldoret Municipality Board submitted its application. This process involved rigorous assessments to ensure that the town met the necessary infrastructural and administrative standards. The successful completion of this process is a testament to the dedication of local leaders and residents who have worked tirelessly to enhance the town's infrastructure, including roads, waste management systems, and public services. Eldoret's strategic location has positioned it as a vital trade hub in East and Central Africa. The town not only serves as a center for various government agencies but also boasts a thriving educational landscape,



with institutions like Moi University and the University of Eldoret contributing to its status as a center for higher learning. This educational infrastructure is crucial for fostering a skilled workforce that can support the town's growing industries. The economic implications of this elevation are significant. City status is expected to attract more investments, leading to job creation and improved public services. Governor Jonathan Bii's announcement of a revenue collection targets of Sh2.1 billion for the upcoming financial year underscores the potential for economic growth. This financial boost will enable the local government to enhance service delivery, thereby improving the quality of life for residents. However, with growth come challenges. Eldoret must navigate the complexities of urbanization, including managing urban sprawl and ensuring sustainable development. Effective urban planning will be essential to accommodate the increasing population while maintaining service quality. The local government must prioritize resource management and infrastructure development to address these challenges head-on. Moreover, Eldoret's designation as a city enhances its appeal to both local and international businesses. The improved infrastructure and urban planning create a conducive environment for various industries, including manufacturing and technology. The presence of an international airport further facilitates trade and connectivity, making Eldoret an attractive destination for investors looking to tap into the East African market. In conclusion, Eldoret's elevation to city status is more than just a change in classification; it represents a new chapter in the town's development



President William at the Eldoret Sports Club in Uasin Gishu County, presided over the conferment of City status to Eldoret Municipality looking on far right Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

journey. This recognition not only enhances Eldoret's profile but also sets the stage for future advancements in infrastructure, economic opportunities, and overall quality of life for its residents. As the town embraces its new status, it is imperative for local leaders and stakeholders to work collaboratively to foster sustainable urban development, ensuring that El-

doret thrives as a vibrant urban center in the years to come. James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and Communication student at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology kakamega.

Kenya's Olympic Glory: A Springboard for Greatness

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
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Kenya's triumphant performance at the Paris 2024 Olympics has ignited a renewed sense of pride and optimism among the nation's sports enthusiasts. The 11 medals, including four golds, serve as a testament to the country's immense potential in athletics and a reminder of the need to nurture and support this talent. President William Ruto's acknowledgment of the athletes at the State Lodge in Eldoret was a heartwarming gesture that underscored the government's commitment to elevating Kenya's profile as the "Land of Champions." The president's words, "Our potential remains immense and underexploited," echo the sentiments of many who believe that Kenya's athletic prowess has yet to reach its full potential. Beatrice Chebet's historic double gold in the women's 5000m and 10,000m events was a standout

achievement that captured the imagination of sports fans worldwide. Her success not only cemented her place in Kenyan sporting history but also served as a shining example of what can be accomplished through dedication, hard work, and unwavering determination. Emmanuel Wanyonyi's gold medal in the men's 800m was another highlight that showcased the depth of talent within the Kenyan athletics team. His victory was a testament to the country's ability to produce world-class athletes in a variety of disciplines, from long-distance running to middle-distance events. The government's decision to award a total of \$163,000 in bonuses to the medalists was a commendable move that demonstrated the value placed on athletic success. This investment in the athletes serves as a strong signal that the government is serious about supporting and nurturing the country's sporting talent. As Kenya looks ahead to future Olympic Games, it is crucial that the momentum generated by the Paris 2024 success is maintained and built upon. This will require a concerted effort from all stakeholders, including the government, sports federations, coaches, and the athletes themselves. One key area that requires attention is the development of grassroots sports programs. By investing in youth sports initiatives and providing access to quality training facilities and coaching, Kenya can ensure that the next generation of athletes is well-equipped to continue the country's legacy of athletic excellence. In conclusion, Kenya's performance at the Paris 2024 Olympics has demonstrated the nation's immense potential in athletics. With continued support and investment, there is no doubt that Kenya can cement its status as a global powerhouse in sports and inspire generations of young Kenyans to pursue their athletic dreams. The future is bright for Kenyan athletics, and the world should be prepared for the rise of the "Land of Champions."



President William Ruto at the Eldoret Sports Club in Uasin Gishu County, receives flag from olympiad captain Faith Kipyegon looking on far right Deputy President Rigathi Gacha..

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

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Sports >> *An elated Sharon Lokedi felt there was little she could have done to make an Olympic medal on the very last 200-meters as she reminisced about an incredible experience in Paris.

Marathoner Lokedi Proud Of
Nerve-Racking Paris Olympic
Experience Despite Missing Out On
Medal

An elated Sharon Lokedi felt there was little she could have done to make an Olympic medal on the very last 200-meters as she reminisced about an incredible experience in Paris.

Lokedi, 30, came fourth on her Olympics debut clocking a personal best of 2:23:14, behind compatriot Hellen Obiri, who clinched bronze in a personal best of 2:23:10.

Sifan Hassan of The Netherlands won gold in an Olympic Record of 2:22:25 ahead of Ethiopian Tigst Assefa who scooped silver in 2:22:58.

“I wish I could have done better but I am really proud of my performance. I really thought I was in the medal bracket. I wish there was a medal for number 4. I want Kenyans to know that I worked hard and gave it my all,” an emotional Lokedi reflected on her last moments of the epic race.

Kenya’s Tokyo 2020 champion Peres Jepchirchir, who holds the women’s only world record, settled for 15th contrary to all expectations.

“It was tough for me; the competition was tough. We were hoping to sweep the podium but it did not go our way. We are grateful though we lost gold both men and women, but we have bronze,” Jepchirchir said.

Kenyans went into the Paris extravaganza with high expectations, with a world-class trio but Lokedi saw her chances go up in smoke in the last 200-meters where she saw her opponents pull away, much to her chagrin.

“Honestly, I’m very proud of myself. I saw myself being in the top three all the way through. I knew the last few kilometers would be tough but I just wanted to fight as much as I could being in the top group all the way close to the end. I also knew I don’t have a kick, so I really had to work hard and make sure I run with the top 5,” USA based Lokedi stated.

Asked about next year’s world championships, Lokedi quipped: “I want more, I didn’t get a medal



Sharon Lokedi crossing the finish line fourth at the Paris Olympic Games . Photo/TEAM KENYA

in Paris but I will just keep working hard, keep training hard,” Lokedi, who was a late inclusion in the team after the withdrawal of Brigid Kosgei said.

-Sharon Lokedi Fact File-
Name: Sharon Lokedi
Sport: Marathon
Born: March 10, 1994
County: Elgeyo Marakwet
Gender: Female
Personal best: 2:23:23

About Lokedi
Lokedi started her career as an athlete student at the University of Kansas in the US where she could represent her institution at the National Collegiate Athletic Association where she could major in the 5,000m and 10,000m races recording mixed results.

The Kapkenda Girls High School in Elgeyo Marakwet alumni started competing in high school with the 5,000m and 10,000m races as her favorites.

Having graduated with a degree in Business Logistics and Supply chain, she decided to continue training and running in various

races before she ventured in the marathon races.

She made her marathon debut at the 2022 New York Marathon where she surprised many by winning the title after a brilliant final kick. She would once again head to the New York Marathon in 2023 where she finished in third position. This year she lined up for the Boston Marathon coming second behind Hellen Obiri.

The Olympic debutant was initially named in the team as a reserve but got confirmed as a late replacement for 2020 Silver medalist, Brigid Kosgei who got injured in training.

Olympics goal
“I have done three marathons and it is still a learning process and competing with some of the best in a marathon, that gives me more motivation to work hard. I’m also eyeing a podium position.”

TO 15 RESULTS
1. Gold Sifan. Hassan (The Netherlands) 2:22:55

- 2. Silver T. Assefa (Ethiopia) 2:22:58
- 3. Bronze Helen Obiri (Kenya) 2:23:10 4
- 4. Sharon Lokedi (Kenya) 2:23:14 5
- 5. A. Beriso Shankule (Ethiopia) 2:23:57 6
- 6. Y. Suzuki (Japan) 2:24:02 7
- 7. D.R. Meringor (Romania) 2:24:56 8
- 8. S. Chesang (Uganda) 2:26:01 9
- 9. L.C. Salpeter (Israel) 2:26:08 10
- 10. E. Chumba (Bahrain) 2:26:10 11
- 11. F.E. Gardadi (Morocco) 2:26:30 12
- 12. D. Lindwurm (United States) 2:26:44 13
- 13. J. Stenson (Australia) 2:26:45 14
- 14. S. Trofimova Kyrgyzstan 2:26:47 15
- 15. P. Jepchirchir Kenya 2:26:51 16

-Alex Isaboke is reporting from Paris, France-

Sports >> *Arsenal are in talks with Real Sociedad about signing Spain midfielder Mikel Merino.

Arsenal In Talks To Sign Real Sociedad’s Merino



Mikel Merino was a stand-out player last season for Real Sociedad

Arsenal are in talks with Real Sociedad about signing Spain midfielder Mikel Merino. Merino was part of the Spain team that won Euro 2024 and featured in all seven matches in the tournament, scoring a late winner against Germany in the quarter-final. The 28-year-old has less than one year remaining on his contract and

that may help Arsenal to complete a deal, as he would be able to speak to clubs about signing on a free transfer in January. Merino’s team-mate Martin Zubimendi rejected a move to Liverpool earlier this week after La Liga side Sociedad were able to persuade the player to stay. Arsenal have been active in this transfer market with both incom-

ings and outgoings, selling Emile Smith Rowe to Fulham in a deal that could rise to £34m and signing Riccardo Calafiori for a fee in the region of £42m. The future of Eddie Nketiah is also uncertain. The striker is of interest to Marseille and is being monitored by Premier League sides Bournemouth and Crystal Palace – but no bids have been

made for the striker.
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Overcoming Conflicts Among Youngsters



By: Turg'unov Jonpolat
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

Initially, my personal character has caused many misunderstandings with schoolers during my school years, for example I do not fancy having a conversation with the people who are irresponsible, irresistible, irrespective, rough, rude and also stupid, nonetheless, we must have admitted these types of people are more and more around us, once upon a time. When I have paid a visit to school in the back years, some teens in my school had kidding me and say something worse about me, at that time I did not give pay attention to their stereotypes, I thought it was a simple childish things of them



Well, the essay of mine is based on overcoming conflicts in my personal life. If I reveal something about my personality, character or lifestyle, I am such a calm, peace, introvert, relaxed person I can say, not having upsetterd the people is one of my manner, because, my character prevent to them, definitely you have a question, why am I writing or exposing my character in that essay, so to explain I have encountered so many problems, conflicts, issues and longitude considerations. Relatively, I am absolutely say as one of the minor member of this generation -people especially youngsters do not want to respect others, genuinely I had had some kind of conflicts with children, individuals and school organization that year, I am going to speak about them one by one in my essay.

Initially, my personal character has caused many misunderstandings with schoolers during my school years, for example I do not fancy having a conversation with the people who are irresponsible, irresistible, irrespective, rough, rude and also stupid, nonetheless, we must have admitted these types of people

are more and more around us, once upon a time.

When I have paid a visit to school in the back years, some teens in my school had kidding me and say something worse about me, at that time I did not give pay attention to their stereotypes, I thought it was a simple childish things of them, but it was not going that I thought, due to their permeate, usual sentences, then it was reached to the high volume and I should have done something to prevent these bad things for me.

At this time I had a few conceptions to get rid of their violations or bullying, genuinely you cannot say only done of the bad words, or actions must not be a violation, nevertheless it was not like you thought, therefore I have three ways to figure out this conflict, first of I can utilize adequate manipulations to their psychology, coz if they had had a good personality, they wouldn't have behavioral themselves in this way, in this situation, only did we influence them with the true and impactful opinions and conversation, it was likely to be influencer, or just I

ought to address to their guardians or parents, if I was not able to manage it, I would call their parents, so that I have selected the initial manner in the light of straightforward and easy one.

Next day I did come across again to them in the prior corridor, tranquility was really dominated at that condition, they bound to reveal some of nasty or unacceptable sayings again and again, after that I had been trying to have a top-notch and real conversation with them, I requested them why they were doing it to me, I had spoken about their life, be a merciful person, like how??? You have a question like that, I brought them to the orphanages' house firstly, and then we went to the refugee's ones and puberty locations which poor people reside.

Then I said it was not too complex to be better individual, every person has an admirable personality, favourable hobbies, closest acquaintances who is able to shape that person from the core.

After this phenomenal situation, every member of his "crew" left there without any words, genuinely

they realized that we must have been thankful, respectful, and responsible human, we must take a look for the significant issues around our world, they understood, by kidding someone or embarrassed condition they did not attain their perspectives, it is such an ordinary, provisional feeling. I was both happy to influence for someone to find out the significance of their life why they are living in this life, what the importance of their goals dreams and, indispensably, to be grateful person, due to the fact that's not only did they do these actions for me but also for others, that's why I did these campaigns manners to them, it was beneficial for everyone who were suffering from them, because everyone has a right to live proudly, independently.

You might think, these type of people are exist in everywhere and everytime, but if you, me and they don't pay attention, what happens next, I think my story about overcoming the conflict can influence in you to make a big difference.

Thanks for your attention, it was my essay