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Revolution in higher education financing is long overdue. Kenyan universities, traditionally tethered to government purse strings, stand at a crossroads where the path to true academic excellence and innovation intersects with the pressing need for financial self-sufficiency.

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Daily ePAPER

Thursday, August 29, 2024

No. 01120 www.mountkenyatimes.co.ke

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News>>Government Collaborates With Huawei On Cloud Computing Security Training

P. 8. The government has partnered with Huawei to enhance the security of cloud computing systems, emphasizing the critical importance of safeguarding records and data accessible via the internet.



News>>40-Year-Old Chuka Market Demolished To Pave Way For 300 million Modern Market Construction

P. 12. Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki has led the county in the demolition of the 40 year old Chuka Market to pave way for the construction of an ultra-modern market worth KSh300 million.

Ruto Receives Rousing Welcome In Kisumu

President William Ruto received a warm welcome during his state visit to Kisumu, marking the second leg of his Nyanza tour. After completing his first stop in Migori County, Ruto arrived in Kisumu for an overnight stay. Addressing a large crowd of Kisumu residents who lined Oginga Odinga Street, waving white handkerchiefs, the President called for national unity.



President William Ruto

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Kalonzo Musyoka Announces Azimio's Plans To Form A Shadow Cabinet



By: Cynthia Masibo
@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- “The opposition’s Cabinet will encompass Kenyans across all age groups, including Gen Zs who have in recent past demonstrated against the government,” Kalonzo stated. This move suggests an effort to not only reflect the demographic diversity of Kenya but also to harness the energy and frustrations of younger citizens who feel increasingly disenfranchised by the current administration.
- The concept of a shadow Cabinet is not new in global politics, particularly in parliamentary systems where opposition parties often designate their own spokespeople for each government ministry.



Wiper Leader Kalonzo Musyoka issues his address to the media looking on is DAP-K leader Eugene Wamalwa at the Ufungamano House..

In a bold political move, Wiper Party leader Kalonzo Musyoka has declared that the Azimio la Umoja One Kenya Alliance, Kenya’s leading opposition formation, will soon unveil its own “Cabinet.” The announcement, made during the Katiba@14 address at Ufungamano House on Wednesday, signals a significant escalation in the opposition’s strategy to counter President William Ruto’s government.

Kalonzo, who has increasingly asserted himself as the de facto leader of the opposition, emphasized that this alternative Cabinet would be an inclusive body, representing all segments of Kenyan society. Of particular note, he mentioned that the Cabinet would include members from Generation Z, a demographic that has

become increasingly vocal and active in protests against the current administration.

The decision to form a shadow Cabinet appears to be a strategic response to what Kalonzo and other opposition leaders perceive as the shortcomings of President Ruto’s government. By establishing a team that will “shadow” the official Cabinet, the opposition aims to hold the government accountable on key issues, provide alternative policy solutions, and keep the public informed about the government’s performance.

“The opposition’s Cabinet will encompass Kenyans across all age groups, including Gen Zs who have in recent past demonstrated against the government,” Kalonzo stated. This move suggests an

effort to not only reflect the demographic diversity of Kenya but also to harness the energy and frustrations of younger citizens who feel increasingly disenfranchised by the current administration.

The concept of a shadow Cabinet is not new in global politics, particularly in parliamentary systems where opposition parties often designate their own spokespeople for each government ministry. However, in Kenya, where the political system is heavily presidential, such an initiative is relatively novel and could set a new precedent in how opposition parties operate.

Kalonzo was unequivocal about the role this unofficial ministerial team would play. “The said unofficial ministerial team will be tasked with shadowing

and keeping President William Ruto’s Cabinet in check and accountable,” he remarked. This suggests that the shadow Cabinet will serve as a watchdog, scrutinizing government policies and decisions, and offering counter-narratives where necessary.

This initiative also highlights the growing tensions between the government and the opposition. Since the last general election, where President Ruto narrowly won, the opposition has consistently challenged the legitimacy of his administration. Kalonzo’s latest move can be seen as an attempt to consolidate the opposition’s position as the voice of the Kenyan people, particularly those who feel left behind by the current regime.

During his address, Kalonzo also took the opportunity to criticize President Ruto’s ongoing trip to Luo Nyanza, a region traditionally seen as a stronghold of opposition leader Raila Odinga. Kalonzo downplayed the significance of the visit, suggesting that it was a superficial attempt to win over voters in a region that remains skeptical of Ruto’s intentions.

“Kenyans are already aware of his true colors,” Kalonzo said, adding that Ruto would not be able to win in a fair election if it were held today. This statement underscores the deep-seated animosity between the two political camps and reflects the opposition’s belief that Ruto’s support base is weakening.

As Azimio la Umoja One Kenya prepares to unveil its shadow Cabinet, the political landscape in Kenya is set to become even more polarized. The opposition’s move could invigorate its supporters, particularly among the youth, and put additional pressure on the Ruto administration. However, it also raises questions about the potential for increased political tensions and the stability of the country’s democratic institutions.



Our Contacts



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Embu County Commissioner Jack Obuo announced that 6,400 replacement National Identity Cards are ready for collection at Huduma Centre. The IDs were for residents who sought replacement between September and July last year. Obuo appealed to owners to collect them to continue accessing government services. The delay in processing and issuance was attributed to a printer breakdown, which has been resolved after procuring new printers. Obuo also asked those applying for fresh registration at National Registration Bureaus to follow-up with the offices. He assured them of a speedy process as the Department of Registration of Persons increased its capacity. The production is currently proceeding smoothly, and applicants can receive their IDs within a month of registration.



Agriculture Cabinet Secretary (CS), Dr. Andrew Karanja, says Kenya plans to reduce rice imports by 50% in the next five years.

The government is now fast-tracking a food diversity approach to assist Kenyans in embracing more varieties of food and modern farming technology. The CS confirmed that every year, the government is spending more funds to import rice to feed the population as production remained low.

He said that every year, close to 800,000 metric tonnes are imported into the country, with our production standing at between 150,000 and 200,000 metric tonnes. This has continued to strain the government, as every year substantial resources have to be committed to bridge the gap. He noted that demand for rice was increasing following the population surge and the rapid urbanisation the country is experiencing, and the country has been undertaking research and capacity-building for the scientists to increase production.

The anti-corruption court in Nairobi has convicted former Samburu Governor Moses Lenolkulal in a Sh83 million graft case involving a petroleum tender.

Chief Magistrate Thomas Nzioki ruled on Wednesday that sufficient evidence showed Lenolkulal acted in conflict of interest while in office.

The evidence from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) demonstrated that Lenolkulal and his proxy, Hesbon Ndathi, were the primary beneficiaries of the misappropriated public funds.

“After reviewing the evidence and submissions, the prosecution has proven its case beyond reasonable doubt,” said the Magistrate. “Moses Lenolkulal and 11 other accused are found guilty of public property acquisition violations.”

The prosecution’s case was supported by testimony from 11 witnesses and 388 documentary exhibits, indicating a systematic misuse of public funds.

Lenolkulal, charged in 2019 by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission for abuse of office and conflict of interest, was found to have used his company, Oryx Service Station, to supply fuel to the county government from 2014 to 2019.



Principal Secretary for the State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action Anne Wang'ombe says the government is promoting economic empowerment for women, youth, and persons with disabilities. The government, through the Women Enterprise Fund, the National Government Affirmative Action Fund, and the Anti-FGM Board, is driving initiatives to empower women and promote gender equality. The Women Enterprise Fund provides financial support and capacity-building programs for women-owned businesses, while the National Government Affirmative Action Fund supports projects promoting women’s leadership and empowerment at the grassroots level. The Anti-FGM Board leads campaigns against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), raising awareness and supporting survivors through advocacy and healthcare services.



Homa Bay County Woman Representative Joyce Bensouda Osogo has launched a registration programme for all the people living with disabilities (PWDs) in the county. Osogo said there was need for the government to employ an accurate modern scientific system of identifying and registering PWDs. She expressed concern that a high number of people with disabilities have not been registered because of the systemic challenges in capturing their data. The exercise was launched on Tuesday.



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**THEME: "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and
Trade Initiatives for sustainable Economic Growth"**



AGRA Leads East Africa In Post-Summit Strategy For Fertilizer And Soil Health



By: Aoma Keziah
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Discussions during the workshop centered on establishing a sustainable and competitive fertilizer production system in East Africa. Stakeholders emphasized the importance of regional collaboration, resource mobilization, and effective coordination to ensure the successful implementation of the action plan.
- They also explored ways to strengthen the agricultural value chain, from production to distribution, to make fertilizers more accessible and affordable for smallholder farmers across the region.



Prof Wole Fatunbi, Director of Research and Innovation, FARA giving his presentation during the workshop..

Following the previous Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Summit (AFSH) 2024 held in May, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) hosted a critical post-summit workshop to outline the roadmap and action plans for East African Community (EAC) partner states. The workshop, held under the theme “Advancing Fertilizer Use and Soil Health for Sustainable Agriculture,” convened key stakeholders from the region to deliberate on strategies for implementing the Summit’s ambitious 10-year action plan.

The workshop brought together government representatives, agricultural experts, development partners, and private sector players to discuss regional priorities. With a focus on improving fertilizer use, enhancing soil health, and boosting crop yields, the participants aimed to align the East African agenda with the broader continental goals set during the Summit.

Discussions during the workshop centered on establishing a sustainable and competitive fertilizer production system in East Africa. Stakeholders emphasized the importance of regional collaboration, resource mobilization, and effective coordination to ensure the successful implementation of the action plan. They also explored ways to strengthen the agricultural value chain, from production to distribution, to make fertilizers more accessible and affordable for smallholder farmers across the region.

“Today, we’re focusing on the critical role of regional cooperation in advancing soil health and fertility across Africa. Our goal is to enhance the capacity of regional and country-level institutions, ensuring effective implementation of soil health strategies. By creating sub-regional hubs, we’re not just sharing knowledge, we’re building the foundation for a resilient and sustainable agricultural future for our



The African Fertilizer and Soil Health Post-Summit Workshop on The Roadmap and Action Plans For The East Africa Community.

continent.” Noted Prof. Wole Fatunbi, Director of Research and Innovation, FARA

A key outcome of the workshop was the development of a detailed roadmap for implementing the 10-year action plan in East Africa. This roadmap includes clear timelines, responsibilities, and mechanisms for monitoring progress. Additionally, participants agreed on commitments to support capacity building, research and innovation, and policy reforms necessary to achieve the Summit’s goals.

AGRA’s President, Dr. Agnes Kalibata, highlighted the significance of this workshop in advancing the region’s agricultural transformation.

“The commitments made today by the East African Community partner states are a testament to our collective determination to improve soil health and fertilizer use, which are critical to ensuring food security and sustainable development in the region,” she said.

The workshop also established a framework for coordination among the EAC partner states, ensuring that efforts to improve fertilizer use and soil health are harmonized across the region. This framework will facilitate the mobilization of resources and the engagement of stakeholders at all levels, from local communities to international donors.

Moving forward with the implementation of the action plan, AGRA and its partners remain committed to supporting the efforts of EAC partner states to achieve a more productive and resilient agricultural sector. The post-summit workshop marks a significant step towards realizing the vision set out at the AFSH 2024 and ensuring that the benefits of improved soil health and fertilizer use reach farmers across East Africa.

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Government Collaborates With Huawei On Cloud Computing Security Training

By: Aoma Keziah
@themkenyaintimes

The government has partnered with Huawei to enhance the security of cloud computing systems, emphasizing the critical importance of safeguarding records and data accessible via the internet. This initiative underscores the government’s commitment to improving service delivery through technology while addressing the associated security challenges.

Speaking at the launch of the training program, Internal Security and National Administration Principal Secretary Dr. Raymond Omollo urged government officers to prioritize the security of their digital records and data. Dr. Omollo noted that while adopting technology has significantly improved service delivery across various government sectors, it has also introduced new vulnerabilities that must be addressed.

“The adoption of cloud technology is no longer an option but a necessity for governments, businesses and organizations globally. However, with these advancements come heightened risks to data security, privacy, and integrity. Cyberattacks are becoming more sophisticated, and the need for



Internal Security and National Administration Principal Secretary Dr. Raymond Omollo and Huawei Kenya's Deputy CEO for Public Affairs, Mr. Steven Zhang.

robust cloud security measures have never been more critical. The digital transformation of our public services has brought about unprecedented efficiency and convenience. This training program with Huawei is a crucial step in equipping our officers with the necessary skills to protect our systems from cyber threats,” Dr. Omollo stated.

The collaboration with Huawei includes comprehensive training on cloud computing security, focusing on best practices for data protection, threat detection, and response strategies. The training is part of a broader

initiative to ensure that government departments are resilient against cyber-attacks and can maintain the integrity of their digital infrastructure.

According to Huawei Kenya’s Deputy CEO for Public Affairs, Mr. Steven Zhang, the collaboration, aimed at improving Kenya’s cloud computing security, builds on previous trainings on cybersecurity governance. It is part of a long-term collaboration on, among others areas, training of government officers to improve their knowledge and skills as well as enhance implementation of international cybersecurity standards.



Internal Security and National Administration Principal Secretary Dr. Raymond Omollo, Huawei Kenya's Deputy CEO for Public Affairs, Mr. Steven Zhang and other stakeholders during the event.

He also thanked the Government of Kenya for considering Huawei as a trusted partner in the Digital Economy and Cyber Space.

“The company would “always provide secure, trustworthy and high-quality products whilst improving the capabilities of our people and our partners, because cybersecurity is always evolving and we want to help build capacity in Kenya.” Remarked Mr. Zhang

This initiative comes at a time when cybersecurity has become a global priority, with governments and organizations recognizing the need to

protect critical digital assets from potential breaches. The collaboration between the Kenyan government and Huawei is expected to set a benchmark for cloud computing security in the public sector.

In conclusion, PS Omollo reiterated the government’s commitment to leveraging technology for improved service delivery while ensuring that the security of government records and data remains uncompromised.

High School Teachers On Strike Despite Court Order

By: Capital Correspondent

Teachers under the Kenya Union of Post-Primary Education Teachers (KUPPET) have defied a court order issued on Tuesday, refusing to suspend their ongoing strike.

Despite the Employment and Labour Relations Court’s directive to halt the strike, KUPPET Secretary General Akello Misori affirmed that the industrial action would continue.

The union has instructed its lawyers to challenge the court order, with Misori criticizing the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) for using adversarial methods to address the dispute.

“The TSC has shown bad faith in choosing adversarial means to address an industrial relations issue,” Misori stated. “They have considered themselves to be the superior party in



Secondary school teachers on strike in Kisumu in August 2024.

this industrial relations, yet we both are creations of the law, and therefore they must abide by what the law stipulates.”

Misori further explained the union’s decision to seek legal interpretation

of the matter: “This is the reason for which we have moved to the courts to seek interpretation of the same.”

The TSC had filed an urgent application in the Employment and Labour Relations Court after teachers refused

to report to classes as the third term commenced. The case is scheduled for mention and further directions on September 5.

Meanwhile, secondary school teachers in Eldoret, Nyeri, Mombasa, and other towns held protests, demanding that their grievances be addressed. Misori accused the TSC of neglecting the principles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and failing to pay teachers special allowances.

“In fact, the Teachers Service Commission, the people presiding over it should watch out. They have killed the morale of teachers,” Misori warned.

In Mombasa, police have repeatedly denied teachers a permit to hold protests, despite requests from union officials. KUPPET Mombasa Branch Executive Secretary Lynnet Kamadi criticized the TSC for underpaying teachers with degrees and called for intern teachers to be employed on permanent and pensionable terms.

“Police officers are out here carrying firearms and wearing uniforms forgetting that it was the teachers who taught them. The world will teach their children,” Kamadi remarked.

Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba announced that teachers would receive their July and August salary increments by Friday. He also promised the government would employ an additional 20,000 teachers by the end of the year to address the shortage of educators.

The ongoing strike has disrupted learning in high schools, many of which remain closed, and has raised concerns for students scheduled to sit for their national examinations in October and November. The teachers’ demands include the confirmation of 46,000 interns, the promotion of 130,000 teachers who completed interviews, and improvements to sub-standard healthcare services.

Ruto Receives Rousing Welcome In Kisumu

By: Ojwang Joe

President William Ruto received a warm welcome during his state visit to Kisumu, marking the second leg of his Nyanza tour.

After completing his first stop in Migori County, Ruto arrived in Kisumu for an overnight stay.

Addressing a large crowd of Kisumu residents who lined Oginga Odinga Street, waving white handkerchiefs, the President called for national unity.

“Kisumu people love peace; I am surprised and happy to see that,” Ruto said in his first visit to the Lakeside city since appointing three ODM members into his broad-based government.

They include John Mbadi who was appointed National Treasury Cabinet Secretary, Opiyo Wandayi (Energy and Petroleum), Hassan Joho (Mining and Blue Economy) and Wycliffe Oparanya (MSME Development).

Ruto emphasized his commitment

to forging a united country and urged the people of Nyanza to join his agenda. “We are one people, a family, and I want you to join me in building a united country,” he said.

Ruto also expressed gratitude to ODM party leader Raila Odinga for supporting his efforts to form a broad-based government. “I had helped Baba (Raila) before, and there is nothing wrong if he helps me steer the government,” Ruto stated.

The President is set to travel to Homa Bay County tomorrow for development projects and to attend the homecoming of the new Treasury Cabinet Secretary, John Mbadi. On Friday, he will visit Siaya before concluding his tour in Kisumu over the weekend.

“I am here in Kisumu until this weekend; I will open development projects,” Ruto announced.

In Kisumu, the President plans to launch 10,000 affordable housing units on Saturday, starting with 4,000 units at Lumumba Estate. He noted that the housing projects would create thousands of jobs for the local youth.



Thousands turned up to receive President William Ruto in Kisumu on August 28, 2024.

Uproar As Mudavadi Fails To Appear Before Committee On Diaspora Affairs

By: Gladys Munga

Members of the National Assembly Committee on Diaspora Affairs and Migrant Workers has expressed outrage over the failure by Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Musalia Mudavadi to appear before the committee for a record fifth time to address queries regarding the evacuation of Kenyans in Lebanon.

The absence of the Cabinet Secretary led to an intense debate, with MPs questioning government’s commitment to ensuring the safety of its citizens in Lebanon amid the ongoing conflict.

The meeting was meant to address concerns over the evacuation of Kenyans stranded in Lebanon.

The aggrieved MPs refused to discuss the matter with Principal Secre-

tary Diaspora Affairs Roseline Njogu claimed the matter was weighty.

As a result of the impasse, the session was abruptly adjourned, with lawmakers accusing the Foreign Affairs Ministry of neglecting its duty to protect Kenyans abroad.

Meanwhile, Kitui Governor Julius Malombe appeared before the Senate County Public Accounts And Investments Committee over the current state of Kitui Textile Industry.

The committee is mulling summoning immediate former Kitui Governor Charity Ngilu over misuse of public funds at the industry.

The Auditor General revealed that only two employees at the textile industry were permanently employed while the rest were on three months contract.



Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Musalia Mudavadi .

Make A Choice



By: Eric Musa
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The Scripture states, "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live (Deuteronomy 30:19)."

A third way to discover where you belong is by an act of your will, you choose what to do. For instance by profession and training, I am an Auditor. That was my choice, and I had a very nice time in it. That was my choice. God respects your choice. Whatever you choose becomes your lot in life. You can choose a particular career and by following the principles of God, prosper there.

Note however, that although God reckons with your choice per time, if

He has called you to do something, your choice becomes irrelevant. Outside of this, the discovery of His endowments in you and your choice count before the Lord.

When we were children in school, our teachers would ask us, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Every one of us said something, but very few actually believed in what they said. Those who did and kept driving towards their goals arrived at their destinations. Many people have left their future blank, they are not expecting anything, so they get there to find nothing.

Your expectation will always set the pace for your experience. Someone said, "Aim nothing, hit nothing". It is time to have an expectation for your tomorrow.

HALELUJAH, GOD IS GRACIOUS AND YOU'LL MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES IN YOUR LIFE.

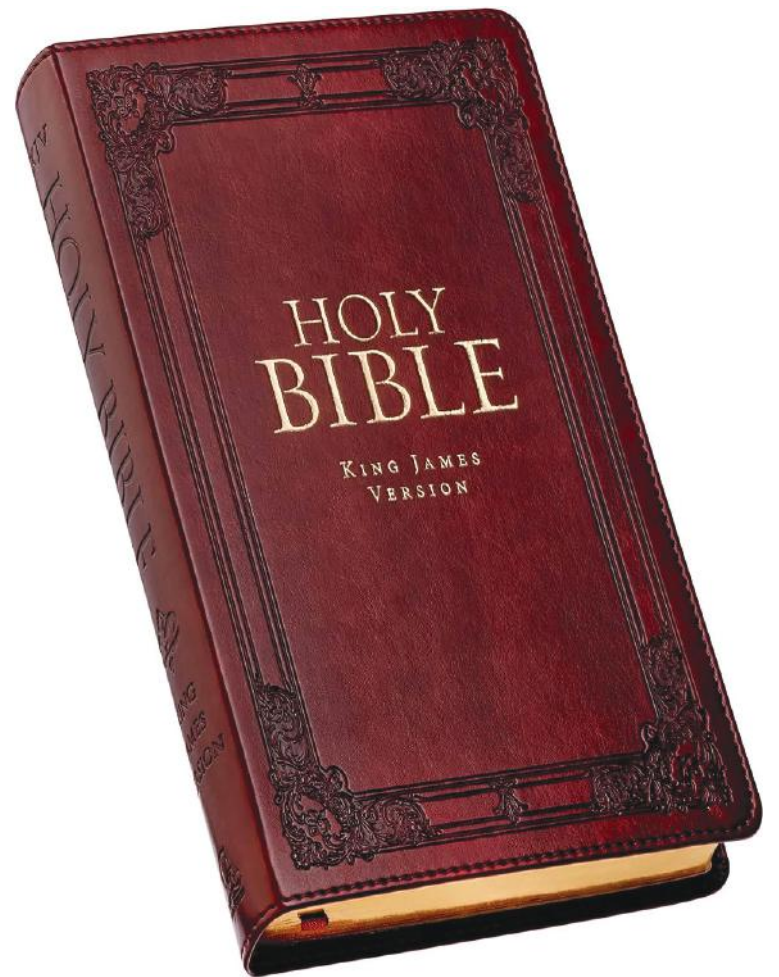
References:

The Living Bible.

Pastor Dr. David Oyedepo.

Evangelist Eric Musa:

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



The Mt. Kenya Times



Rugene Is Right, DP Gachagua Never Issued Ultimatums On Elected Leaders From Mountain



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Worth Noting:

- Reacting to the latest attacks on his boss, the Director of Communication in the Office of Deputy President Njeri Rugene stated that the DP had not issued ultimatums to elected from the Mountain. He had only advised to listen to the ground.
- It is worth to recall in the run-up to 2022 polls, Kirinyaga Governor Ann Waiguru, who is now perceived to be a fierce critic of DP Gachagua, had made similar sentiments. I have listened to the ground. People of Kirinyaga have told me to join Dr William Ruto's United Democratic Alliance (UDA), she declared when she ditched President Uhuru Kenyatta's Jubilee party.

A section of the elected leaders from Mount Kenya region have renewed their onslaught against the Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

This comes just two weeks after President William Ruto toured the region during which he called on local leaders to stop attacking the DP.

You were elected to serve the electorate. Stick to that lane. If you fail to perform, you will face their wrath.

The widely held view in the Mount Kenya is that the anti-Gachagua brigade is comprised of President Ruto's loyalists.

This brings to fore the questions. Did their actions amount to defying their boss?

All the eyes are now trained on the President. Many are waiting to see whether he will call out their names and reprimand them.

Reacting to the latest attacks on his boss, the Director of Communication in the Office of Deputy President Njeri Rugene stated that the DP had not issued ultimatums to elected from the Mountain. He had only advised to listen to the ground.

It is worth to recall in the run-up to 2022 polls, Kirinyaga Governor Ann Waiguru, who is now perceived to be a fierce critic of DP Gachagua, had made similar sentiments. I have listened to the ground. People of Kirinyaga have told me to join Dr William Ruto's United Democratic Alliance (UDA), she declared when she ditched President Uhuru Kenyatta's Jubilee party.

A few days earlier I had an opportunity to follow the proceedings of town hall meeting organized by President William Ruto. In attendance were University student leaders.

After shedding more light on the new University funding model, the President invited the students to present their views. You should be candid and open enough. If you don't agree with the model let me know why and give solution. There will be no consequences.

One of the student told him. The model is not good. It does not address the financial challenges that students from poor families face.

Your Excellency the President, this problem emanates from fact there was no public participation.

The student added in apparent reference to DP, I like this leader. This is because he listens to the ground and acts in accordance with the wishes of the people.

In answering this question, the President avoided echoing his sentiments in praise of DP.

Instead Dr Ruto stated that he had invited and hosted Vice Chancellors of Universities for three meetings during which they supported the funding model.

Can the Vice Chancellors really faults the President? If they do this, they risk losing their jobs. This is fate that befell Professor Kiama of UoN, a number of student leaders later stated.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

The latest attacks on Gachagua comes days after a friend of mine told me that he does not believe in the rumors doing round that President William Ruto has abandoned his Deputy Rigathi Gachagua.

We all know that Gachagua was the team leader of Mount Kenya political machinery that catapulted Dr William Ruto, then Kenya Kwanza presidential candidate, to the seat of power.

Besides being ready to pay the ultimate price and committing all his energy and time to this course, the second-in-command bankrolled Ruto's from his own pocket.

My friend added: If the rumors turn out to be true, this would be a betrayal of the highest order. He however exonerated President from having originated and hatched this plot (if it is real) and instead pointed an accusing at his "kitchen cabinet".

In the recent past, we have been hearing the DP complaining that some of the key confidantes and allies of the head of state were belittling and disrespecting him.

President Ruto is not coming out strongly to reprimand them.

So, in the event that the threat to oust Gachagua is actualized, it will be hard for the President to convince the people of the Mountain that he did not have a hand.

It is worth noting my friend spoke with me on a day that President Ruto was attending the homecoming and thanksgiving ceremony for new cabinet secretary for Cooperatives and small business enterprises Wycliffe Oparanya in Kakamega.

In his speech, Dr Ruto hinted at the possibility of a merger of UDA and ODM parties to form a formidable political vehicle for 2027 general election.

Tellingly, DP Gachagua was conspicuously absent.

A few days earlier I had written an article in this column and these were

my observations. In the run-up to 2022 General Election, the political opinions of the allies and confidantes of President William Ruto then Kenya Kwanza presidential candidate drawn from Mount Kenya region were divided on who should become his running mate.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki were the front-runners.

Initially and in a move that demonstrated he was a true democrat, Dr Ruto did not interfere with this exercise.

He wanted them to freely choose and give him the name of the candidate.

He only intervened after they failed to agree.

President Ruto settled on Gachagua, a move that drew admiration from majority of people in Mount Kenya.

Apart from being courageous and having deep pocket, Gachagua's prowess in communicating in local dialect was immeasurable.

Whenever he hosted Dr Ruto in the Mountain during the campaigns, he always electrified the crowds.

I'm hear with William Ruto. You said this is man that you want to succeed the outgoing President Uhuru Kenyatta. Isn't it?

While referring Uhuru's remarks that he would run the country for 10 years and then pass the baton to Ruto to do his 10 years, he would tell Dr Ruto.

We the people of Mountain what we hate is betrayal. We are truthful people and we are going to keep our word. We will vote for you to the last man and woman.

The argument that the kikuyus had already decided they will vote for Ruto with or without one of their own being a running mate does not hold any water. I highly doubt this could have happened. Majority of Kikuyus wanted to see one of their own being at the top.

Gachagua never feared or shied away from taking on the outgoing President Uhuru Kenyatta head-on.

I'm ready to pay ultimate price while pushing Dr Ruto's agenda.

Going by the latest media reports that President Ruto have fallen out with him, majority of the people in the mountain are asking. How soon and why?

Reports indicated the plot to impeach had been hatched by a section of members of parliament from Rift Valley. The critics of Gachagua from Mount Kenya region were backing them.

In my view, it is hard to impeach DP Gachagua because of changing political dynamics.

DP Gachagua's strategy of mending fences with opposition leaders was already bearing fruits.

ODM leader Raila Odinga have since thrown his full weight behind DP's push for one-man, one-vote, one-shilling.

Reliable reports also indicate he had made tremendous progress in reaching out former President Uhuru Kenyatta.

He had also reached out to Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka.

The duo's remarks and body language during the consecration of Bishop Benson Kamau (Kiengei) would attest to this.

This means the anti-Gachagua motion was bound to receive a strong opposition from members of the three parties-Jubilee, Wiper and ODM.

It is also worth noting that the DP had managed to change the narrative of Mount Kenya region.

One of the reasons is because he has up to date maintained his position that he is a truthful man. As such, his popularity in the Mountain is going up.

Given this scenario, you would expect the MPs from the Mountain to shoot down the motion.

Besides, if it turns out the President supported the motion, many

40-Year-Old Chuka Market Demolished To Pave Way For 300 million Modern Market Construction

By: Mwenda Njeru
@themkenyentimes

Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki has led the county in the demolition of the 40 year old Chuka Market to pave way for the construction of an ultra-modern market worth KSh300 million.

The construction, under the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development is set to occupy a total of 6000 square meters where among the market provisions include 254 open stalls, 113 shops and six food courts.

In addition, the market will also have 2 cold rooms, a crèche, meeting room, ICT hub, and a sacco office.

The 3 storey modern building is set to be equipped with 4 offloading bays, a revenue office, 1 power house, and will provide space for a first aid/health room.

In his tour of the county on 25 July 2024, President William Ruto announced the government's plan to construct 5 new modern markets in Tharaka Nithi with KShs 450 million already allocated.

In his speech, the President announced an allocation of KSh300

million and KSh170 million towards the construction of Chuka and Chogoria markets, respectively.

"I proposed to the President to have an ultra-modern market at Chuka just like other major towns in the country and he gave us three major markets that include Chogoria and Marimanti, where he gave a commitment that they would be constructed within the shortest time possible funded through the housing levy", Njuki said.

During the demolition at Marigiti, Governor Njuki noted that the County Government was in collaboration with the National Government to relocate current occupants and pave way for the construction of the 3 storey modern market by the Ministry of Public Works.

"In about two week's time, ground-breaking is set to commence, and construction is scheduled to take place within a year. We have talked with the contractor and agreed that construction workers will be locally outsourced from within the county where we hope over 200 persons will be employed daily," he said.

The Governor asked leaders opposed to the construction of markets in the county to unite, and agree to pave way for development of the critical infrastructure, where he sin-



Chuka market demolition

gled out Marimanti Market, whose construction has been subject to local politics.

"Leaders who are opposed to the construction of Marimanti Market should agree and speak in one language. Don't waste time playing politics with the market. It has users, and it will be constructed. We must provide a conducive environment

for everyone since the market attracts users from all over the county," he said.

To boost the economic growth of traders in the county, Governor Njuki, through the County Government has given a commitment to enhance working conditions and transform trading experiences.

The President is scheduled to offi-

cially open the markets after their construction.

"I want to thank President William Ruto on behalf of the people of Tharaka Nithi for including us through the Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) in the construction of modern markets in the county", Njuki said.

Kenya, Saudi Arabia Boost Academic Ties In Higher Learning Sector

By: Irene Mwangi

The government has entered into a collaboration with Saudi Arabia to strengthen ties between the two countries in higher learning and research thorough the exchange of expertise and talents.

In a two-day forum, State Department for Higher Education and Research Principal Secretary Beatrice Inyang'ala emphasized that the partnership will help address the challenges in the education sector.

PS Inyang'ala mentioned that the collaboration is a step towards the right direction as the country over the years has benefitted from scholarship from Saudi Arabia.

"As a government, we appreciate

Saudi Arabia for augmenting our efforts to provide quality and relevant education for all," she said.

The event was organized by higher education institutions in Saudi Arabia which include the Islamic University of Madinah, Umm Al-Qura University, and Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University.

It aims to support graduates' efforts and promote collaboration to serve their causes and Islamic issues and preserve the authentic Islamic identity of graduates of higher education institutions.

"The forum will support graduates' efforts and promote collaboration to serve their causes and Islamic issues. It will also discuss the utilisation of modern technology in serving the call to Islam,"the organizers stated.

The meeting also aims to guard targeted individuals against the influ-

ence of questionable ideologies and misguided, deviant beliefs.

It will also address efforts by graduates in clarifying and advocating for the concept of moderation and warning against extremism.

"The forum seeks to expose questionable ideologies and misguided beliefs, safeguard graduates from their influence, and empower them with the tools to counteract these influences effectively," a statement from the organisers read.

In the meeting which Saudi Ambassador to Kenya Khalid Al-Salman led the delegation from Saudi Arabia there will be discussions on the role of graduates in strengthening the relationship between Kenya and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The forum will It will also discuss the utilisation of modern technology in serving the call to Islam.



The meeting will further evaluate the efforts of graduates in teaching and promoting the Arabic language and spreading knowledge and education.

The gathering will further highlight the contributions of Saudi universi-

ty graduates to Kenyan civil society and document the efforts of higher education graduates in advocating for Islam, promoting accurate Islamic beliefs, preserving Islamic identity and avoiding extremism and fanaticism.

Consulting Engineers Urged To Bridge Academia-Industry Gap At 3rd Annual ACEK Conference

By: Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyetimes

The 3rd Annual Association of Consulting Engineers of Kenya (ACEK) Conference brought together over 350 delegates in Nairobi to deliberate on the sustainability of the engineering profession. The conference, which serves as a key platform for discussing emerging issues in the industry, saw consulting engineers challenged to play a more active role in bridging the gap between engineering academia and the industry.

In his opening remarks, Eng. Simon Korir, Director of Water Infrastructure Development at MOWSI, representing the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Eng. Erick Muriithi, emphasized on the future of water and sanitation rests in the hands of engineers.

“It’s engineers who will tackle the challenges of water and irrigation to boost food production. We’re thrilled that ACEK is hosting this conference, and we fully support this cause. The conference theme aligns perfectly



Eng. Simon Korir, Director of Water Infrastructure Development at MOWSI, representing the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Eng. Erick Muriithi.

with the innovation needed in our infrastructure development strategy,” noted Eng. Korir

“The future of engineering lies in our ability to innovate and lead by working together and fostering collaboration, we can ensure a more resilient engineering”.

Consulting engineers make up 584 registered in engineers in the country while Professional are 3107 and Graduate engineers 22,141. We are implementing strategies to increase registration, fast track career progres-

sion guidelines, Building Control Bill to ensure that our infrastructure and expanding the Graduate Engineers Internship Program,” remarked Erastus Mwongera Chairperson Engineers Board of Kenya.

ACEK Chair Eng. Jane Mutilili also challenged engineers to push beyond boundaries to enhance Kenyas global competitiveness through integration of advanced technologies and materials in building projects.

The conference featured a series of discussions and workshops on var-



Engineers at the Third Annual ACEK Conference in Nairobi

ious topics, including sustainable engineering practices, technological advancements, and the future of consulting engineering in Kenya. One of the key highlights was a panel discussion on how to effectively integrate academic research into practical engineering solutions.

The conference also addressed the importance of sustainable engineering, with discussions on how consulting engineers can contribute to the global sustainability agenda. Delegates agreed that adopting sustainable

practices is not only a professional responsibility but also a necessity in the face of climate change and environmental degradation.

As the conference concluded, there was a resounding call for continued dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders in the engineering sector. The delegates committed to working towards a more integrated approach to engineering education and practice, with the ultimate goal of enhancing the sustainability and impact of the profession in Kenya and beyond.

Rugene Is Right, DP Gachagua Never Issued Ultimatums On Elected Leaders From Mountain

Contd from page 11

members were bound to interpret this as a big betrayal.

Why abandon him so soon? This demonstrates no one is safe in Ruto’s government.

I had earlier watched and listened to how President William Ruto responded to the questions posed by top editors of three mainstream media houses during a live interview at State House Nairobi.

One of them touched on his relationship with his deputy Rigathi Gachagua. Joe Ageyo of Nation Media Group (NMG) wanted to know whether they were really reading from same script.

Ageyo referred him to a statement that the Deputy President had released while in Mombasa. Mr President, a few minutes earlier you had addressed a televised press conference at State House Nairobi.

Both of you focussed on the same subject matter of Generation-Z protests.

During the interview President Ruto avoided responding to the question and told Ageyo.

I’m not aware of this story of fallout

between me and my deputy.

He is my deputy. He is not here and he is the one supposed to respond to that question.

I cannot speak for him. You are free to look for him and engage him if there is something else you want to know.

President Ruto’s interview came at a time when Weekly Citizen newspaper had featured a screaming headline: Gachagua was being blocked from accessing State House.

The constitution provides that the motion to impeach a sitting DP can only sail through if it garners two-third majority or above in parliament.

There is also the issue of whether the grounds cited by his accusers meets the requisite threshold of law.

The motion of the impeachment can only be allowed if the mover manages to convince the house that the actions of DP amount to abuse of office and gross violation of the constitution and the international treaties. The DP has never committed or linked to such gross misconduct.

I heard earlier listened to the remarks by Kiambu Senator Karungu Wa Thangwa. He seemed to confirm that President William Ruto and his deputy Rigathi Gachagua were not reading the same script.

We the people of the Mountain are asking President William Ruto to engage DP Gachagua in dialogue the same way he is engaging Generation-Z and millennials.

The senator, who spoke in presence of the Deputy President in Maragwa, stated. We have heard that the President has initiated a process of reaching out to the young people.

This is after they took to the streets to register their strong reservations with the way the country is being governed.

We want the President to use the same template to engage the DP.

You can ignore Riggy-G at your own peril.

He added: DP Gachagua is our kingpin in the Mountain. I’m therefore answerable to him. So this is what I want to tell the President. You cannot reach me without going through him.

The DP was also accompanied by a host of elected leaders from this region.

As we know, the people of Mount Kenya region voted for President Ruto to the last man and woman during 2022 polls. He garnered 87 percent and these are the votes that catapulted him to the seat of president.

Kiambu senator’s point was therefore clear. The DP was a force to reckon with. He helped the President to get



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

those votes.

So, If the President opts to ignore him he was bound to lose this critical support base.

We recall that President Ruto made a raft of promises to the voters in this region during campaign.

The position of the DP is that most of these promises have not been fulfilled.

As a community, what we hate is betrayal, he was once quoted as saying.

I’m therefore sure the issue of unfulfilled promises would feature prominently if President agree to engage him in a formal and structured manner.

Besides the DP would demand to be respected and recognized as the senior most leader in the Mountain.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a writer and political analyst based in Nairobi

Mother I Will Put Umbrella On Your Paths



By: Mardonova Bahora

Mother, I miss you so much
I thought it was difficult
Did he suffer so much?

I am not worthy of you, mother

I made countless mistakes
I hurt you a lot
What is the answer in the end?
I did not made your value , mother

May he pass through the worlds
Don't give up hope
I didn't even say sorry to you
I did not appreciate you, mother

I will put umbrella on your paths
On my shoulder, you send corn
I will put a crown on the head on the
last day
I appreciate you, mother

We will walk together in heaven
Let's hang out together
Your daughter who loves you
You deserve it, mother

Living Life With A Mother Is Different



By: Mamarajabova Malika Abror

Mother, the whole world is embodied
in this one word. Mother's embrace,
mother's love, mother's heart is the only
place free from the lies and sufferings of
this world, which is so cruel to you.
In fact, a mother's warm embrace can
melt frozen hearts. A mother's bosom is
so wide that the whole universe can fit in
it. A mother's love is so great that even a
dead tree can breathe life into it. Mother
is a loving, chaste, patient person. Maybe
she looks weak, but she is not weak. She
is so strong, so brave that her courage
would make some men wear shirts.
If you want to see her strength, look at a
woman who goes to work with her body
shaking from pain, if you want to see her
courage, look into the eyes of a woman
whose child was harmed by bullies, then

you will admire her courage.
It is obvious to admire their courage, but
to add, their joy, their smile. When they
rejoice, the whole world is filled with joy,
when they smile, the sun shines brighter in
the sky than before, and the moon shines
brighter. When do mothers rejoice and
smile?
There is no doubt that they do not think
about themselves, they are only happy
when their children are happy when their
children achieve their dream goals. They
sacrifice their youth and beauty for their
children, and are ready to give their lives
for them.
They can tolerate walking on the grass
for the sake of their child, but they
cannot tolerate it if their child touches
their hand. For him, Fazand carries a
person who is ready to walk on grass to
Makkah on his shoulders.
But when this so-called mother receives
a bouquet of flowers from her child, she
will be happy. However, every child should
carry this simple white-hearted mother
in her arms. After all, until she learned to
walk, how much her mother decorated her
without letting go of her hands...!

The Pages We Walk



By Tursunboyeva Nigora Abdumannob

Beneath the lamp's soft, golden glow,
Where thoughts wander and shadows
grow,
We turn the pages, slow and deep,
Awakening words that never sleep.

Stories breathe in ancient dust,
Binding time with fragile trust,
From distant lands and voices old,
Their whispers warm, their secrets told.

A poet's sigh, a scholar's quest,
In every tale, we find our rest,
The worlds we tread with careful pace,
Leave marks unseen, a gentle trace.

Through paper doors, we step inside,
Where truth and fiction often hide,
In every line, a piece of life,
In every book, the end of strife.

Literature, our guiding star,
Shows who we are, and who we are far,
It teaches us to dream and see,
The beauty in humanity.

So as we read, our spirits rise,
Finding love in a thousand eyes,
Each chapter close, yet never done,
For in these words, we're all as one.

Angel Mother On Earth!



By: Nurullayeva Rano

Gving my life you
Praying every morning.
It is true that there is an angel in heaven
Angel mother on earth!

Working day and night.
Burning for his child
He who supplicates to god
As an angel mother on earth!

If they are near you, when you are paying
attention.
You wilebe lucky because of his prayers.
Praying and asking for happiness.
As an angel mother on earth!

If you are sick, you have a headache,
Thinking of you, my heart breaks every
moment.
Paradise is the only example
As an angel mother on earth!

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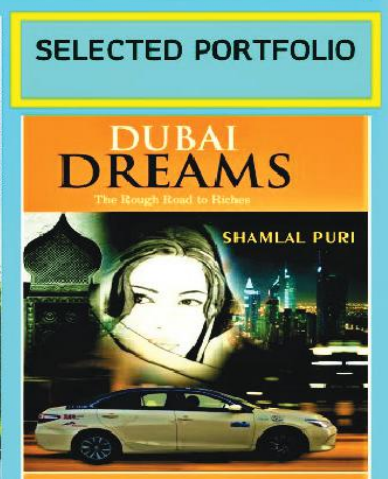
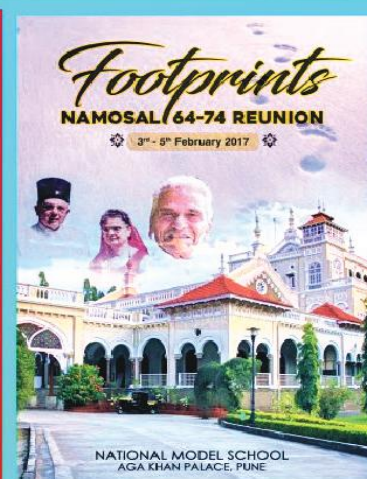
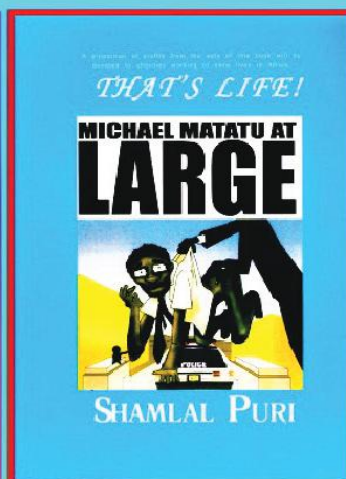
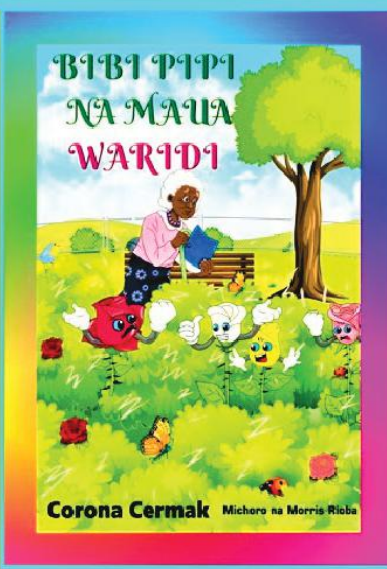
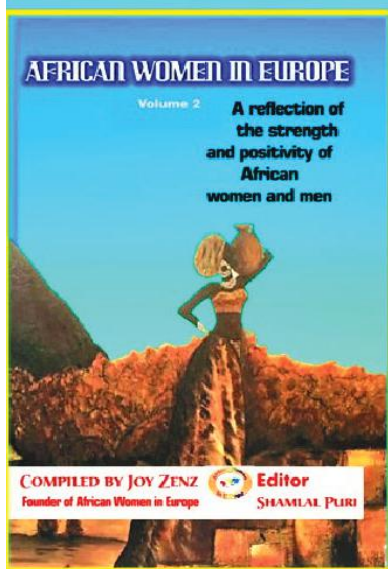
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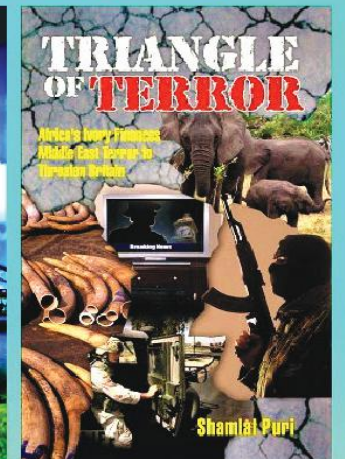
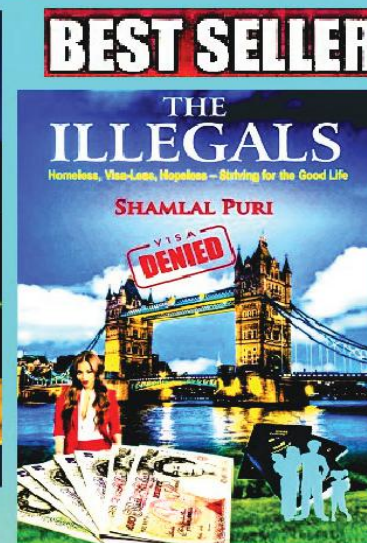
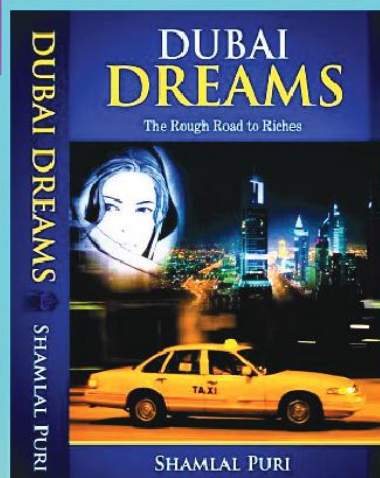
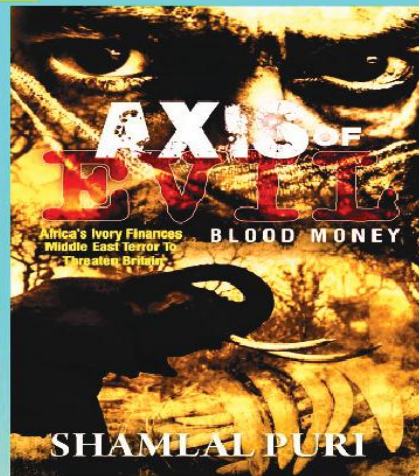
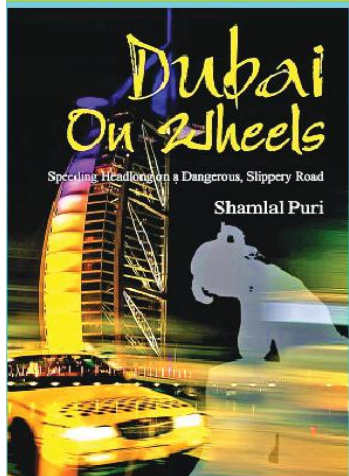
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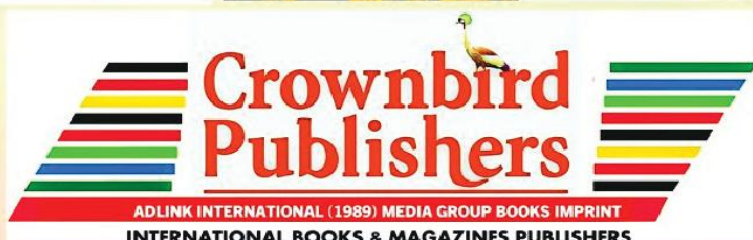
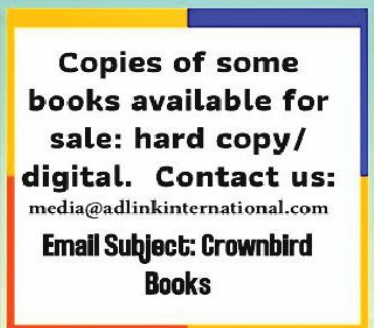
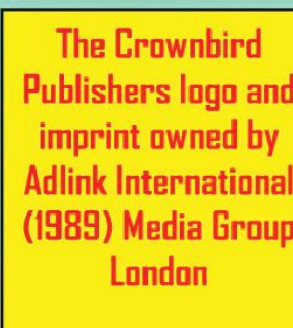
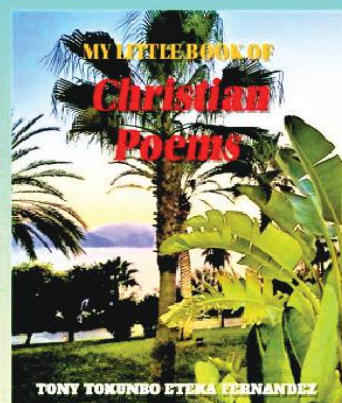
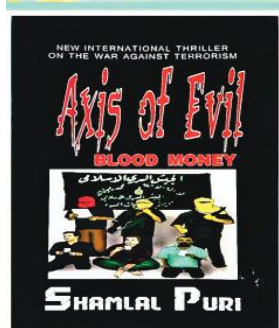
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Kenyan Film Makers Devolving Film Cinema Across Rural Counties

By: Sefu Sabila
@themkenyentimes

The film industry in Kenya is taking a new turn with cinemas now showcasing not only at the Kenya National Theatre.

Film makers in the rural counties are taking up the space by doing production in their counties, producing authentic Kenyan stories.

A Kenyan-Germany co-production *Nawi* is the first film from the Turkana that was aired in Nairobi, capturing not only the beauty of Turkana, but also the hidden culture of Turkana.

“Seven years ago, Toby and I were approached by an educational non-profit, the Learning Lions to direct a movie in Turkana. Since then we have become familiar with the culture while looking for the most compelling stories from the region,” Kevin Schmutzler a German director told Mt. Kenya Times.

He said the opportunity gave him

a chance of exploring the reasons behind the continued practice of the old norms and culture of the Turkana people, and the beauty of their untold rich culture.

Producing film since childhood, Kevin and his brother Toby have been producing film in various parts of Africa and Germany, Inspiring film directors like Mourine Apuu a native of Turkana, to produce film in their region to bring about transformative social change.

Their film *Nawi*, which was their first production and first in Kenya has been aired in Nairobi at Anga Cinemas, which was a dream come true for Prince Ludwig, who dreamt of shooting a film far way from Nairobi.

While many filming opportunities and mechanized film producing equipment are believed to be in Nairobi, Apuu believes there are so much of untold award winning films back in the rural counties of Kenya.

“Working with seasoned and professional team who understood the significance of this story for Turka-



Nairobi Film Center (NFC). Photo by Kenya Film and Classification Board (KFCB).

na and beyond was both humbling and empowering. I gained so much knowledge and skills in cinema, and at the same time, we are able to

share so much of our culture and traditions,” she said.

Apuu further said she is hopeful of a bright future for film in Turkana, which would impact the society like

Nawi, bring more purposeful difference in the coming days.

Duale Orders Removal Of Asbestos Roofs Within Three Months

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyentimes

The Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Aden Duale yesterday directed NEMA to map out facilities with asbestos roofing countrywide to ensure they are removed.

The facilities including schools and other private establishments will have the next 3 months to remove asbestos. Citing public health safety concerns, he stated that he has already written to public institutions with such roofing to remove them and dispose them off in line with NEMA guidelines.

The CS was speaking as he made his inaugural visit to NEMA headquarters. He was accompanied by the Permanent Secretary, State Department of Environment and Climate Change, Dr. Eng. Festus Ngeno.

The CS held a meeting with the Board of Directors, Management and staff where critical issues affecting the Authority were discussed.

In order to enhance operations of

the Authority, the CS stated that he will fastrack gazettment of 13 Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) regulations currently pending.

He further outlined the pivotal role the Authority plays in management of the environment. He added that an error of omission or commission could have a far reaching effect to the health of the public. As such, staff must abide by high standards to safeguard the environment.

The CS was informed that 12,300 wetlands have been mapped countrywide. He urged the Authority to keep the updating the list of wetlands countrywide so that appropriate action can be undertaken.

He directed the Authority to enhance its revenue collection to be able to cater for its operations and discharge optimal services to the public.

As the Designated National Authority (DNA) for Carbon markets, the CS urged the Board and the Management to critically register and diligently undertake the task as part of efforts to cope with climate change and meet the country obligations as



The Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Aden Duale (Centre) at NEMA

outlined in the Paris Agreement.

“Nema must enforce the law to ensure the environment is protected and safeguarded. All facilities in the 47 Counties must be brought under compliance,” he said. On the same, he urged the County Directors of Environment to remove bottlenecks in the licensing process.

He also warned those discharging

raw sewerage into Nairobi rivers. He stated that NEMA must engage Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company to ensure that raw sewer doesn’t get into Rivers from burst sewer lines.

On his part, NEMA Chairman, Emilio Mugo who was represented by his Vice Chair, Sophia Matura expressed the Authority’s commitment

to address various environmental related challenges through implementation of various environmental laws and partnerships.

The Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS echoed the same sentiments noting that the Authority has made progress in enhancing environmental compliance through regular enforcement actions.



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Unleashing Academic Titans: A Radical Blueprint For Financial Autonomy In Kenyan Universities



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themtkenyentimes



University of Nairobi.

Worth Noting:

- At the heart of this transformation lies the concept of the “Academic-Industrial Complex,” a novel framework that reimagines universities as dynamic ecosystems where education, research, and entrepreneurship converge.
- This model draws inspiration from successful initiatives like Stanford University’s Silicon Valley synergy but adapts it to the Kenyan context. Imagine a scenario where every major university in Kenya establishes a sprawling innovation district on its campus, combining cutting-edge research facilities with startup incubators, corporate R&D centers, and advanced manufacturing hubs.
- These districts would serve as magnets for private investment, creating a self-sustaining cycle of innovation, commercialization, and reinvestment in academic programs.

Revolution in higher education financing is long overdue. Kenyan universities, traditionally tethered to government purse strings, stand at a crossroads where the path to true academic excellence and innovation intersects with the pressing need for financial self-sufficiency. This article proposes an audacious yet pragmatic roadmap for Kenyan institutions of higher learning to break free from the shackles of government dependency, charting a course towards a future where universities are not just centers of learning, but also engines of economic growth and bastions of financial independence. Drawing inspiration from global success stories and tailoring solutions to the unique Kenyan context, we explore a multifaceted approach that challenges conventional wisdom and proposes novel strategies for achieving sustainable autonomy in the academic sphere.

The current model of university funding in Kenya, heavily reliant on government allocations, is not just unsustainable; it’s a bottleneck to innovation and excellence. According to recent data from the Commission for University Education, over 70% of public university budgets in Kenya are derived from government sources, a figure that starkly contrasts with global trends towards diversified funding models. This overreliance has led to chronic underfunding, with the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics reporting a 6% decrease in real terms of government spending on higher education over the past five years. The consequences are dire: overcrowded classrooms, outdated facilities, and a brain drain of top talent seeking greener pastures abroad. It’s clear that a paradigm shift is not

just desirable; it’s imperative for the very survival and relevance of Kenyan universities in the 21st century global knowledge economy.

At the heart of this transformation lies the concept of the “Academic-Industrial Complex,” a novel framework that reimagines universities as dynamic ecosystems where education, research, and entrepreneurship converge. This model draws inspiration from successful initiatives like Stanford University’s Silicon Valley synergy but adapts it to the Kenyan context. Imagine a scenario where every major university in Kenya establishes a sprawling innovation district on its campus, combining cutting-edge research facilities with startup incubators, corporate R&D centers, and advanced manufacturing hubs. These districts would serve as magnets for private investment, creating a self-sustaining cycle of innovation, commercialization, and reinvestment in academic programs. The University of Nairobi, for instance, could leverage its prime urban location to develop a biotech corridor, while Moi University could capitalize on its proximity to agricultural heartlands to pioneer agritech innovations.

Central to this vision is the radical reconceptualization of university real estate as a strategic asset rather than a passive backdrop for academic activities. Kenyan universities collectively own vast tracts of underdeveloped land, a goldmine of potential if leveraged creatively. Taking a leaf from the book of institutions like the University of British Columbia, which generates over \$100 million annually from its properties, Kenyan universities could embark on ambitious mixed-use development projects. En-

vision state-of-the-art research parks seamlessly integrated with commercial spaces, luxury hotels, and high-end residential complexes. These developments would not only generate substantial rental income but also create vibrant, self-contained communities that attract top talent and foster innovation. The key lies in striking a delicate balance between academic integrity and commercial viability, ensuring that revenue-generating activities complement rather than compromise the core educational mission.

The digital realm offers another frontier for financial independence, one that Kenyan universities have barely scratched the surface of. The global e-learning market is projected to reach \$325 billion by 2025, yet Kenyan institutions have been slow to capitalize on this opportunity. A bold move would be to establish a pan-African digital university consortium, pooling resources to create a world-class online learning platform. This platform could offer everything from microcredentials to full degree programs, targeting not just traditional students but also working professionals across the continent. By leveraging Kenya’s reputation as a tech hub and partnering with telecom giants to ensure widespread access, this initiative could tap into a vast market of lifelong learners. The potential is staggering: even capturing just 1% of the projected global e-learning market would generate revenues exceeding the current government funding for all Kenyan public universities combined.

Revolutionizing alumni engagement presents another untapped reservoir of financial support. While the culture of alumni giving is deeply ingrained in Western universities, it remains embryonic in Kenya. A paradigm shift is needed, moving beyond sporadic fundraising campaigns to creating a lifelong value proposition for alumni. Imagine a system where alumni receive ongoing benefits such as access to university facilities, continuous learning opportunities, and exclusive networking events. In return, universities could implement innovative giving models like income-share agreements, where alumni contribute a small percentage of their income over time. This approach has shown promise in institutions like Purdue University, generating millions in flexible funding. Adapted to the Kenyan context, with proper legal frameworks and transparent governance, such a model could create a sustainable funding stream while fostering a stronger sense of community and life-

long connection to one’s alma mater.

The concept of “Academic Social Enterprises” offers another avenue for financial sustainability while addressing pressing societal needs. Universities could establish subsidiary organizations that operate on business principles but channel profits back into academic programs. For instance, a university could create a chain of high-quality, affordable primary health clinics staffed by medical students and faculty, generating income while providing essential services and practical training. Another could develop a network of literacy centers, leveraging education students to improve community outcomes while creating a revenue stream. These enterprises would serve the dual purpose of generating income and enhancing the university’s societal impact, a model that has seen success in countries like Bangladesh with the BRAC University’s associated development programs.

Harnessing the power of intellectual property (IP) represents a largely untapped goldmine for Kenyan universities. While institutions like the Massachusetts Institute of Technology generate hundreds of millions annually from patent licensing, Kenyan universities have barely scratched the surface of IP commercialization. A radical approach would be to establish a national university patent pool, where institutions collectively manage and license their innovations. This collaborative approach could dramatically increase bargaining power with industry partners and create economies of scale in IP management. Coupled with aggressive investment in applied research and industry partnerships, this strategy could transform Kenyan universities into innovation powerhouses, generating substantial royalties while driving national economic growth.

The concept of “Education Export” presents another frontier for financial independence. Kenyan universities could position themselves as hubs for specialized knowledge and skills that are in high demand across Africa and beyond. For instance, leveraging Kenya’s global leadership in mobile money technology, universities could offer executive education programs in fintech innovation, attracting professionals from across the continent and beyond. Similarly, capitalizing on Kenya’s rich biodiversity, institutions could develop world-class pro-



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kalonzo Musyoka: Navigating The Future Of Kenya's Opposition

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
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Worth Noting:

- There are ongoing efforts within Azimio to position Musyoka and Siaya Governor James Orengo as the coalition's new leaders. The strategy involves having Musyoka run against President Ruto in the upcoming elections, while Orengo takes over as the acting leader of the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM).
- This dual leadership approach aims to consolidate power within the opposition and present a united front against the ruling party. Musyoka's history of running for president three times adds weight to his candidacy, and he is under significant pressure from his Ukambani constituency to make another bid for the presidency.
- The chemistry between Musyoka and his DAP-Kenya counterpart Eugene Wamalwa has been evident as they travel together, criticizing Ruto's administration and threatening mass protests in response to controversial government actions.



Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka

Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka's ascension as the official opposition leader of the Azimio coalition represents a pivotal moment in Kenya's political landscape. With Raila Odinga stepping back to pursue the African Union Commission chairmanship, Musyoka is not only stepping into a leadership role but also taking on the mantle of responsibility to unify the opposition and advocate for the rights of Kenyans. This transition comes at a critical juncture, as Musyoka prepares to challenge President William Ruto in the 2027 elections. The expectations are high, and the pressure is mounting for Musyoka to leverage his extensive political experience and networks to solidify his leadership and rally support across the nation. However, the path ahead is fraught with challenges. Maintaining cohesion within the Azimio coalition will require deft navigation of internal dynamics and the potential for defections to the ruling party. Musyoka must articulate a clear vision for the opposition that resonates with the electorate, ensuring that Azimio remains a formidable force in Kenyan politics. His leadership will be crucial in shaping the future of the opposition, particularly in addressing pressing issues such as governance, social equity, and the economic challenges facing the country. There are ongoing efforts within Azimio to position Musyoka and Siaya Governor James Orengo as the co-

alition's new leaders. The strategy involves having Musyoka run against President Ruto in the upcoming elections, while Orengo takes over as the acting leader of the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM). This dual leadership approach aims to consolidate power within the opposition and present a united front against the ruling party. Musyoka's history of running for president three times adds weight to his candidacy, and he is under significant pressure from his Ukambani constituency to make another bid for the presidency. The chemistry between Musyoka and his DAP-Kenya counterpart Eugene Wamalwa has been evident as they travel together, criticizing Ruto's administration and threatening mass protests in response to controversial government actions. Musyoka's political base in Ukambani, which comprises about 1.5 million voters, positions him as a strong contender to succeed Odinga as the opposition's leader. His declaration to challenge Ruto in 2027 is a clear indication of his ambitions and the support he has garnered from his allies. Calls for Raila Odinga to endorse Musyoka as Azimio's 2027 presidential candidate have been growing. Former Kitui Governor Charity Ngilu has been vocal in her support, arguing that it is time for Odinga to reciprocate Musyoka's loyalty over the years. However, Odinga's decision to focus on regional politics raises ques-

tions about his involvement in local elections and the future of the coalition. As President Ruto prepares to unveil Odinga as Kenya's candidate for the AUC chairmanship, the dynamics within Azimio will continue to evolve. Musyoka has assured supporters that there will be no leadership vacuum in Odinga's absence. He emphasized Azimio's unity and commitment to defending the rights of Kenyans, even as he prepares to take on a more prominent role. His recent public appearances, including a visit to Kenyatta Market in Nairobi, have been aimed at reassuring constituents of his leadership capabilities and the coalition's resilience. In addition to political maneuvering, Musyoka is focused on strengthening the Wiper party by recruiting new members and expanding its presence nationwide. He has signaled his intention to oppose the Housing Levy Bill and other controversial issues that arise in Parliament, demonstrating his commitment to holding the government accountable. Musyoka's insistence on addressing electoral reforms, such as increasing the number of commissioners in the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), reflects his dedication to ensuring fair and transparent elections in the future. The rejection of Raila Odinga's proposed plan to join President Ruto's government has further solidified

Musyoka's position as a staunch opposition leader. He has characterized the move as a betrayal of the protesters who demanded good governance and accountability. By refusing to support the proposed broad-based government, Musyoka has positioned himself as a defender of the people's interests, particularly the youth who have been vocal in their opposition to the current administration. Despite the mixed signals from ODM regarding their commitment to the opposition, Musyoka's efforts to keep Azimio intact are commendable. His recent visit to Narok Kenya leader Martha Karua's home was a strategic move to consolidate the opposition and mend fences with key allies. Maintaining unity within the coalition is essential, especially as factions begin to emerge in response to Odinga's potential departure from local politics. Behind the scenes, Musyoka is quietly preparing for the 2027 elections by assembling a campaign team and establishing a command center at the SKM Centre. His recruitment of technocrats from previous Azimio campaigns indicates a strategic approach to rebranding himself and positioning for leadership. This groundwork is crucial as he seeks to solidify his support base and present a compelling alternative to the ruling party. As Musyoka navigates the complexities of opposition leadership, he must remain vigilant against the potential fragmentation of Azimio. The emergence of various factions within the coalition poses a significant threat to its unity and effectiveness. Political analysts have suggested that without Odinga, Azimio may struggle to maintain its relevance and cohesion, underscoring the importance of strong leadership during this transitional period. In conclusion, Kalonzo Musyoka's rise as Azimio's new opposition leader comes with immense responsibility and opportunity. His ability to unify the coalition, articulate a clear vision, and effectively challenge the ruling party will determine not only his political future but also the direction of Kenya's opposition. As the 2027 elections approach, the stakes are high, and Musyoka's leadership will be pivotal in shaping the political landscape of the nation. The coming months will be crucial as he seeks to solidify his position and rally support for his presidential bid, all while navigating the complexities of a rapidly evolving political environment.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and Communication Practitioner.

The Illusion Of Power: A Politician's Gamble

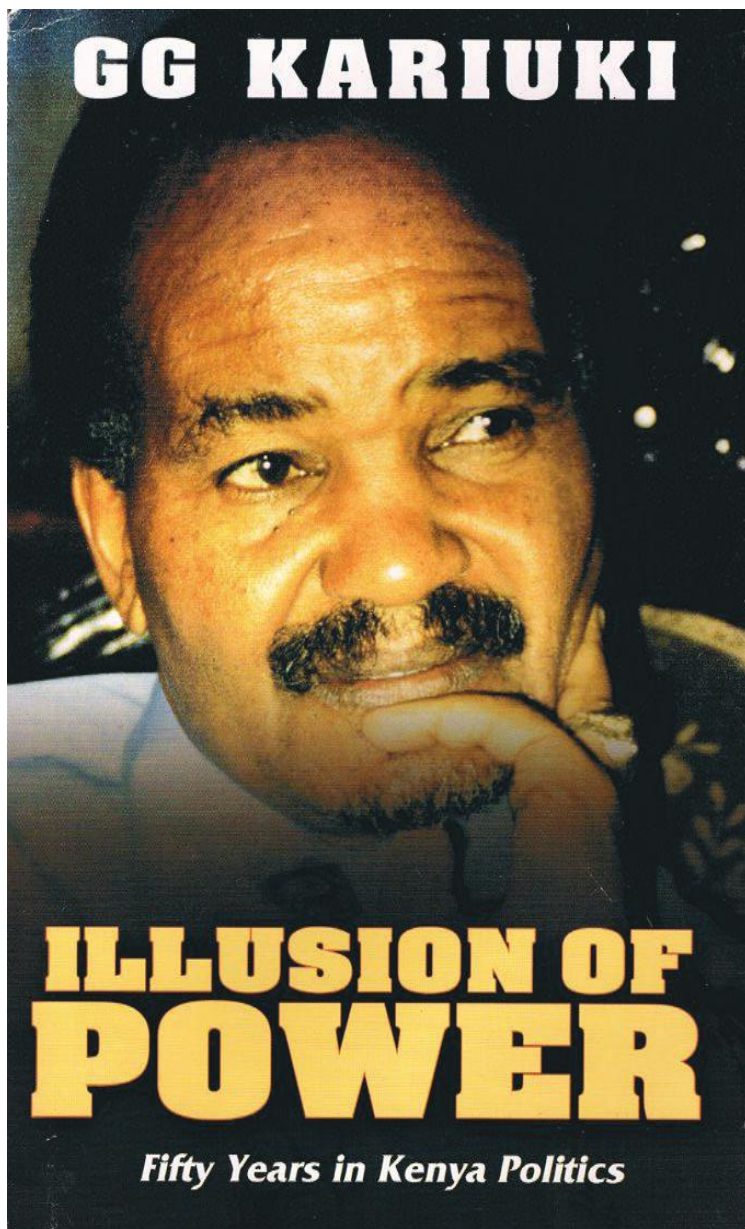


By: Midmark Onsongo
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Worth Noting:

- In the grand theater of politics, promises are the currency of power. But as another wise saying goes, "Promises are like babies: easy to make, hard to deliver." The public is fed a steady diet of promises, but these often turn into dust in the wind once the ballots are counted. The people, however, are not so easily placated. They demand results, not just rhetoric. "Actions speak louder than words," and a politician who fails to deliver soon finds themselves on the wrong side of public opinion.
- But what happens when a politician does manage to deliver on their promises? Does this guarantee their success? Not always.



In life, we often find ourselves at the mercy of forces beyond our control, the wind of power being one of them. Power, much like a mirage in the desert, can seem so tantalizingly close, yet remain elusive. Many people, particularly politicians, chase after it relentlessly, believing it to be the ultimate prize. They forget that while they may hold the reins, they are merely stewards of a borrowed throne. A wise man once said, "Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely." But what is often forgotten is the other side of that coin—"Power reveals." It lays bare the true nature of those who wield it, showing them for who they truly are, stripped of the facades they once hid behind.

Politicians are, by design, a peculiar breed. They are entrusted with the welfare of the people, yet often they become enmeshed in their own ambitions. It is said, "A politician thinks of the next election, a statesman of the next generation." Unfortunately, the world today seems to have more politicians than statesmen. They make grand promises,

pledging the sun and the moon, but once in power, they find themselves entangled in the webs of compromise, deceit, and manipulation. As the saying goes, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions." What started as noble goals becomes a relentless quest for survival, where the ends justify the means.

The people are not blind to this reality. They see through the charades, the false smiles, and the empty rhetoric. They recognize that they are often being played, but feel powerless to change the game. "You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time," Abraham Lincoln once remarked. Yet, many politicians persist in their belief that they can outsmart the masses. They forget that "Truth, like oil, will rise to the surface," and eventually, their deceptions will be exposed.

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is fed a steady diet of promises, but these often turn into dust in the wind once the ballots are counted. The people, however, are not so easily placated. They demand results, not just rhetoric. "Actions speak louder than words," and a politician who fails to deliver soon finds themselves on the wrong side of public opinion.

But what happens when a politician does manage to deliver on their promises? Does this guarantee their success? Not always. The people are fickle, their loyalty transient. They may applaud today, but tomorrow they may turn against the very person they once supported. "A leader without followers is just someone taking a walk," and in the volatile world of politics, followers can be as unreliable as shifting sands. One moment they are with you, the next they have abandoned you for a new, more promising leader. "In politics, nothing is permanent except change," and those who do not adapt quickly find themselves left behind.

For a politician, the challenge is not just winning power but maintaining it. They must navigate a landscape filled with competing interests, hidden agendas, and constant scrutiny. "Heavy is the head that wears the crown," and indeed, the burdens of leadership can be overwhelming. Every decision is weighed, every action analyzed, and every misstep magnified. The pressure can be immense, and many leaders find themselves crushed under its weight. "Power is like a sea; the deeper you go, the darker it gets." For some, this darkness becomes too much to bear, leading them down paths of corruption, betrayal, and ultimately, their own downfall.

But as a politician, one must never forget that the people they serve are not mere pawns in a game of power. "The people are the true rulers," and any leader who forgets this does so at their own peril. "He who does not serve the people, loses the people." This is a lesson that many politicians learn too late. They become so focused on their own ambitions that they lose sight of the very people who put them in power. "A good leader leads the people from above them. A great leader leads the people from within them." The best leaders understand that their power is not their own, but a trust bestowed upon them by the people. "Leadership is not about being in charge. It's about taking care of those in your charge."

At the end of the day, politics is a gamble. It is a high-stakes game

where the players must constantly strategize, adapt, and maneuver to stay ahead. "In politics, there are no permanent enemies or friends, only permanent interests." A politician who forgets this is doomed to fail. They must always be aware of the shifting dynamics, the changing loyalties, and the ever-present threat of betrayal. "Trust is the currency of leadership," and without it, a politician is nothing.

But what of the people? How do they fit into this intricate dance of power? They are the spectators, the judges, and the ultimate arbiters of a politician's fate. "The voice of the people is the voice of God," and any leader who disregards this voice does so at their own risk. "The pen is mightier than the sword," and in the age of social media, where information spreads like wildfire, the people's voice has never been stronger. A politician who fails to listen, who dismisses the concerns of the people, will soon find themselves out of power, replaced by someone who better understands the needs and desires of the masses.

Politics is a double-edged sword. It offers the allure of power, the promise of change, and the opportunity to make a difference. But it also comes with immense responsibility, constant pressure, and the ever-present risk of failure. "Power is a privilege, not a right," and those who wield it must do so with care, humility, and an unwavering commitment to the people they serve. "Leadership is not about being the best. It's about making everyone else better." A politician who remembers this, who stays true to their principles, and who never loses sight of the people, is the one who will truly succeed. For in the end, "The best way to predict the future is to create it," and it is the politician who creates a better future for all who will be remembered, not just as a leader, but as a true statesman.

A true partner is not someone who completes you, but someone who inspires you to complete yourself. I owe much of who I am today to Consolata O. Wangechi Mwangi, whose unwavering support and wisdom have shaped me into the man I aspire to be. Her love, strength, and guidance are the foundation upon which I build my dreams.

This article was scripted by:
MIDMARK ONSONGO
(Sustainable economist, Geopolitics strategist)

Unleashing Academic Titans: A Radical Blueprint For Financial Autonomy In Kenyan Universities

Contd from page 18

grams in conservation biology and sustainable tourism, drawing international students and researchers. By identifying niche areas of excellence and aggressively marketing them globally, Kenyan universities could create unique value propositions that command premium fees and attract international funding.

A radical reimagining of university governance and operational models is crucial to achieving financial autonomy. The current bureaucratic structures, designed for a different era, are ill-suited to the nimble, entrepreneurial approach required for financial independence. Universities should consider adopting a holding company model, with the academic institution at the core surrounded by independently operated commercial entities. This structure, successfully implemented by institutions like the University of Melbourne, allows for more agile decision-making and clearer separation between academ-

ic and commercial activities. It also provides a framework for partnerships with private sector entities, potentially including the sale of minority stakes in university-owned enterprises to generate capital for expansion and innovation.

The journey towards financial independence for Kenyan universities will undoubtedly face challenges, from regulatory hurdles to resistance from vested interests. However, the alternative – continued reliance on dwindling government resources – is a path to irrelevance in an increasingly competitive global knowledge economy. Success will require not just bold leadership from university administrators but also a supportive policy environment that grants institutions greater autonomy in financial and operational matters. The government's role should evolve from primary funder to enabler, creating frameworks that incentivize innovation and private sector partnerships while ensuring accountability and maintaining focus on core educational missions.

In conclusion, the path to financial autonomy for Kenyan universities is



Mount Kenya University.

neither straightforward nor without risks, but it is a journey that must be undertaken with urgency and vision. The strategies outlined here – from reimagining campuses as innovation ecosystems to revolutionizing alumni engagement and exporting specialized knowledge – represent a radical departure from the status quo. Yet, they offer a compelling vision of

a future where Kenyan universities are not just self-sufficient but are dynamic drivers of economic growth and innovation. As Kenya aspires to become a knowledge-based economy, the transformation of its universities into financially independent, globally competitive institutions is not just an academic exercise – it's a national imperative. The time for

bold action is now, for in the rapidly evolving landscape of global higher education, those who dare to innovate will lead, while those who cling to outdated models risk being left behind.

The writer is a legal scrivener and researcher

Ex-Samburu Governor Found Guilty In Ksh 84M Graft Case

By: Ruth Wamboi

An Anti-Corruption Court has found immediate former Samburu County Governor Moses Lenolkul guilty of multiple charges in the Ksh 84 million graft case involving the supply of petroleum products at the County government during his tenure.

While delivering the judgment, Chief Magistrate Thomas Nzioki said the prosecution had proved Lenolkul and Hesbon Ndathi as the ultimate beneficiaries of the public funds through Oryx Service Station.

The trial Magistrate Thomas Nzioki in his four hours decision noted the evidence produced in court including the 231 payment vouchers and invoices, showed that Lenolkul and his proxy, Hesbon Ndathi, were the principal beneficiaries of the funds.

The trial Magistrate also found Lenolkul 9 co-accused guilty of abuse of their offices by allowing the governor to trade with the County.

The accounting office was also on the spot for misleading the court on the ownership of Oryx Service Station.

Lenolkul was charged in 2019 with abuse of office and conflict of interest leading to the alleged loss of Ksh 84 million.

Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission Spokesperson Eric Ngumbi hailed the decision as a significant milestone in the fight against graft.

Lenolkul is the first former Governor to be convicted in an Anti-Corruption case. Mitigation and sentencing is set for today.



Former Samburu County Governor Moses Lenolkul

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Sports >> *Arsenal have completed the signing of Spain midfielder Mikel Merino from Real Sociedad for a fee that could reach £31.6m.

Arsenal Complete Signing Of Midfielder Merino From Real Sociedad



Merino played for Borussia Dortmund and Newcastle before returning to Spain with Real Sociedad.

Arsenal have completed the signing of Spain midfielder Mikel Merino from Real Sociedad for a fee that could reach £31.6m.

The 28-year-old moves to north London on a four-year contract with the option of a further 12 months after the Gunners agreed to pay an initial £27.4m plus £4.2m in add-ons.

"Mikel is a player who will bring us huge quality with his experience and versatility," said manager Mikel Arteta.

Merino was part of the Spain squad who won Euro 2024, featuring in all seven matches in the

tournament and scoring a late winner in extra time against Germany in the quarter-final.

He becomes Arsenal's third signing of the transfer window, after the arrival of Italy defender Riccardo Calafiori and Spain goalkeeper David Raya, with the club activating an option to buy him from Brentford following his loan move a year ago.

"Mikel will make our squad significantly stronger, with his technical ability, together with his strong and positive character and personality," added Arteta.

"As we all saw in the summer, Mikel is also a winner, with his

strong performances throughout the Euros helping Spain win the tournament."

Merino can operate as a deeper-lying midfielder and it is thought he will complement Declan Rice, who played a 'box-to-box' role at times last season.

He also provides Arsenal boss Arteta with another option to compete with Rice, Jorginho, Thomas Partey and Martin Odegaard in midfield.

Merino has previous experience of the Premier League, having spent a year at Newcastle before moving to Real Sociedad in 2018, where he played alongside

Odegaard in 2019-20 when the Norwegian was on loan from Real Madrid.

The new signing, who has 28 international caps, made 45 club appearances in all competitions last season, scoring eight goals.

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Sports >> *Wolverhampton Wanderers’ move for Arsenal goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale is off.

Wolves’ Move For Arsenal Goalkeeper Ramsdale Off



Aaron Ramsdale

Wolverhampton Wanderers’ move for Arsenal goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale is off. The deal for the 26-year-old has proved too expensive for the West Midlands club and is considered over, BBC Sport understands. Ramsdale is seeking first-team football after losing his place to David Raya and might still leave Emirates Stadium before Friday’s transfer deadline, but it is unlikely a move to Molineux will be resurrected. Last week Wolves made a loan

offer with an option to buy for about £20m, and remained in talks with Arsenal over the weekend. Ramsdale, who has five England caps, joined the Gunners from Sheffield United in 2021 in a deal worth £24m, and has two years left on his contract. Wolves’ finances are tight, despite bringing in almost £100m with the sales of Pedro Neto and Max Kilman this summer. Boss Gary O’Neil warned, after Sunday’s 6-2 home defeat by Chelsea, the club needed to be

comfortable with their transfer business when the window closed. “When it shuts we need to be comfortable with where we are,” he said. “There’s a lot of work for myself and I need to get more out of the group we have. Then there’s an understanding the Premier League is tough and if you sell good players it makes you weaker.” Their £20m offer for Burnley winger Luca Koleosho was rejected last week, and that deal is also unlikely to progress.

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Eliud Owalo: Driving Performance And Accountability In President Ruto's Administration

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
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Worth Noting:

- President Ruto's commitment to this initiative is unwavering, as evidenced by his administration's dedication to implementing Performance Management and Contracting at all levels of government. This strategic move aims to enhance accountability and ensure that government officials are held responsible for their performance and the results they deliver. By fostering a culture of excellence and efficiency within the public service, we can ultimately benefit the citizens we serve, who deserve nothing less than the best from their government.
- Accountability for results is a fundamental pillar of effective governance, and the Ruto administration recognizes this fact. By implementing a comprehensive performance management system, we can ensure that public servants are not only aware of their responsibilities but are also motivated to achieve their targets.

In a significant move to enhance accountability and drive results-oriented governance, President William Ruto's administration has placed a strong emphasis on strengthening performance management within the Kenyan government. As the newly appointed Deputy Chief of Staff responsible for Performance and Delivery Management, Eliud Owalo met with the Public Service Performance Management Unit, led by the Secretary for Performance Contracting, Mr. Joshua Mwiranga. This meeting marks a crucial step in institutionalizing a robust performance management system that extends from the highest levels of government to individual scorecards.

Owalo's appointment comes with high expectations, as he brings a wealth of experience to the role. With a background as the former Cabinet Secretary for ICT, he has demonstrated his ability to drive digital transformation and strategic achievements within the ministry. During his tenure, Owalo highlighted several major accomplishments, including the digitalization of over 17,668 government services against a target of 5,000 in five years, the establishment of 1,360 WiFi hotspots across all 47 counties, and the creation of 152,711 digital jobs.

President Ruto's commitment to this initiative is unwavering, as evidenced by his administration's dedication to implementing Performance Management and Contracting at all levels of government. This strategic move aims to enhance accountability and ensure that government officials are held responsible for their performance and the results they deliver. By fostering a culture of excellence and efficiency within the public service, we can ultimately benefit the citizens we serve, who deserve nothing less than the best from their government.

Accountability for results is a fundamental pillar of effective governance, and the Ruto administration recognizes this fact. By implementing a comprehensive performance management system, we can ensure that public servants are not only aware of their responsibilities but are also motivated to achieve their targets. This shift in mindset will be

crucial in transforming the public service into a well-oiled machine, capable of delivering on the government's promises and meeting the needs of the Kenyan people.

During the meeting with the Public Service Performance Management Unit, strategies were discussed to enhance the implementation of performance contracts across ministries, state departments, and agencies. It is essential that all government entities align their objectives with the national development agenda and the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) championed by President Ruto. By ensuring that every arm of the government is working towards a common goal, we can maximize our impact and deliver tangible results for the people of Kenya.

As we move forward with this initiative, it is crucial to establish clear metrics for evaluating performance. These metrics will serve as benchmarks against which progress can be measured, ensuring transparency and accountability at all levels. By fostering a results-oriented culture, we can improve service delivery and enhance public trust in government institutions. This will be particularly important in restoring faith in the government's ability to deliver on its promises and meet the expectations of the Kenyan people.

Collaboration among various stakeholders is key to the success of this

initiative. Engaging with civil society, the private sector, and other partners will provide valuable insights and support in implementing performance management strategies effectively. This collaborative approach will also help in identifying best practices and lessons learned from previous initiatives, ensuring that we learn from our successes and failures and continuously improve our methods.

In addition to enhancing accountability, the performance management framework will also focus on capacity building for public servants. Training programs and workshops will be essential in equipping government employees with the necessary skills and knowledge to meet performance expectations. Investing in human capital is crucial for sustainable development and effective service delivery, and the Ruto administration recognizes the importance of this investment.

As we embark on this journey, it is important to communicate the objectives and benefits of performance management to all stakeholders. Clear communication will help in managing expectations and garnering support for the initiative. It is essential that everyone understands their role in achieving the desired outcomes and that they are empowered to take ownership of their responsibilities.

The road ahead may be challeng-

ing, but with collaboration, commitment, and a focus on results, we can achieve our goals and build a better future for all Kenyans. President Ruto's administration has set a bold vision for the country, and performance management is a key pillar in realizing this vision. By fostering a culture of accountability and results-driven governance, we can enhance service delivery, promote sustainable development, and ultimately improve the lives of all Kenyans.

In conclusion, the meeting with the Public Service Performance Management Unit is a significant step towards strengthening performance management within the government. Congratulations to Eliud Owalo on his new role as Deputy Chief of Staff. Under the leadership of President Ruto, the 5th Administration is committed to fostering a culture of accountability and results-driven governance. By implementing effective performance management strategies, we can enhance service delivery and contribute to the overall development of our nation. The road ahead may be challenging, but with collaboration, commitment, and a focus on results, we can achieve our goals and build a better future for all Kenyans.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and Communication Practitioner.