



Workplace Romance, Dismissals, And The Scope Of Sexual Harassment: A Legal Analysis Of The Mark Ngugi Mwaura V. G4S Kenya Ltd
The case of Mark Ngugi Mwaura v. G4S Kenya Ltd provides a comprehensive examination of the complex intersection between workplace relationships, sexual harassment, and employment law in Kenya.

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News>> Why Kenyans Should Scrutinize Leaders Blueprints Before Election - Former NHIF CEO

P. 8. Kenyans have been urged to be vigilant on the calibre of leaders they put in public offices to avoid regrets after elections are over.



News>> India's Investment In Kenya's JKIA - A Step Towards Economic Progress

P. 12. Kenya's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) is poised for a significant transformation, with the Adani Group, one of India's largest conglomerates, taking over operations.

MPs Suspends KAA Engagement With Adani

 The Public Investments Committee on Commercial Affairs and Energy yesterday directed the Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) to suspend all further engagements with Adani Group until a special audit of the tender award process is conducted. The committee which is chaired by Pokot West MP David Pkosing expressed disappointment with KAA, highlighting a significant erosion of public trust regarding the single-source award to Adani.



The national Assembly

STORY ON PAGE 15



Seven Alfa Romeo Cars For The 2024 Africa Concours d'Elegance

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyatomes

Worth Noting:

- Seasoned Concours participant Rishi Chandaria's 1983 Alfa Romeo Giulietta will battle it out with newcomer Leo Otieno in the 1971 Alfa Romeo 1750 GTV he has been restoring for the last six years.
- Rally machines are great spectator attractions at the classiest event in the Motor sport calendar. The 1967 Alfa Romeo GTA of Fergus Robley will compete in the rally car class dominated by the Khan brothers. Staunch Concours supporter Aslam Khan will drive his 1968 Porsche 911 along the judging line together with Farhaaz Khan and Shakeel Khan both driving Ford Escorts made in 1975 and 1968 respectively.



Spectators cheer the Alfa Romeo cars during the grand parade at the last Concours d'Elegance. Seven rare Alfa Romeos will be on show during this year's event to be held on Sunday at the Nairobi Racecourse..

Spectators at the Africa Concours d'Elegance will see seven rare Alfa Romeo cars contesting the event at the Nairobi Racecourse on Sunday, September 29th.

This year's Concours will be the 52nd in the annual series and will feature a variety of makes and types of cars and motorcycles, with the Alfas leading the grand parade.

Alfa Romeo is an Italian luxury model that has been in production for over 100 years but only a handful of the cars are seen on Kenya roads. The seven Alfas in the Concours will be spread across the touring car classes, the rally and the open sports car categories.

Avraj Singh's 1980 Alfasud Sprint will be a strong contender in the 1401cc-1600cc touring car class having won the class last year.

Seasoned Concours participant Rishi

Chandaria's 1983 Alfa Romeo Giulietta will battle it out with newcomer Leo Otieno in the 1971 Alfa Romeo 1750 GTV he has been restoring for the last six years.

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In the very popular sports car class with open roofs, the bright red 1972 Alfa Romeo Spider of Kamene Wanday will be among the star attractions. Other sports cars in this category include the gleaming

1966 MGB entered by Vitafoam Products Limited and Ivo Saio's 1974 Peugeot 304 Cabriolet.

The motorcycle judging ring will be alive with a variety of motorcycles, the roar of big bikes taking centre stage. The class for street motorcycles over 1300cc will feature the Harley Davidson Tr-Glide entered by Magnate Ventures, Tumaini Muthiga's 1999 Harley Davidson and the Honda Goldwing made in 2002 entered by Uganda based Pearl Bikers Africa rider Enzo Amato.

Spectators will be treated to a fashion show by models from Ascili Fashion House who will also award surprise prizes to the best dressed lady and best dressed gentleman from among the spectators.

There is also a Classic Sale for cars and bikes made 25, or more years ago intend-

ed for owners of unwanted machines to offer them for sale to the significant number of spectators who are interested in buying a car, or motorcycle for fun use during weekends, or for preparing for future Concours events. Among the cars on sale is a 1970 Mazda 1800 Deluxe, a 1978 Land Rover Short Wheel Base and a 1970 Volkswagen Beetle.

Other attractions at the event include the motor trade stands in Auto Expo where the motor industry showcases their new line of vehicles and products to the motorists. The Heritage Collection area which offers a display of old equipment and machinery not seen around anymore draws a lot of attention from the spectators.



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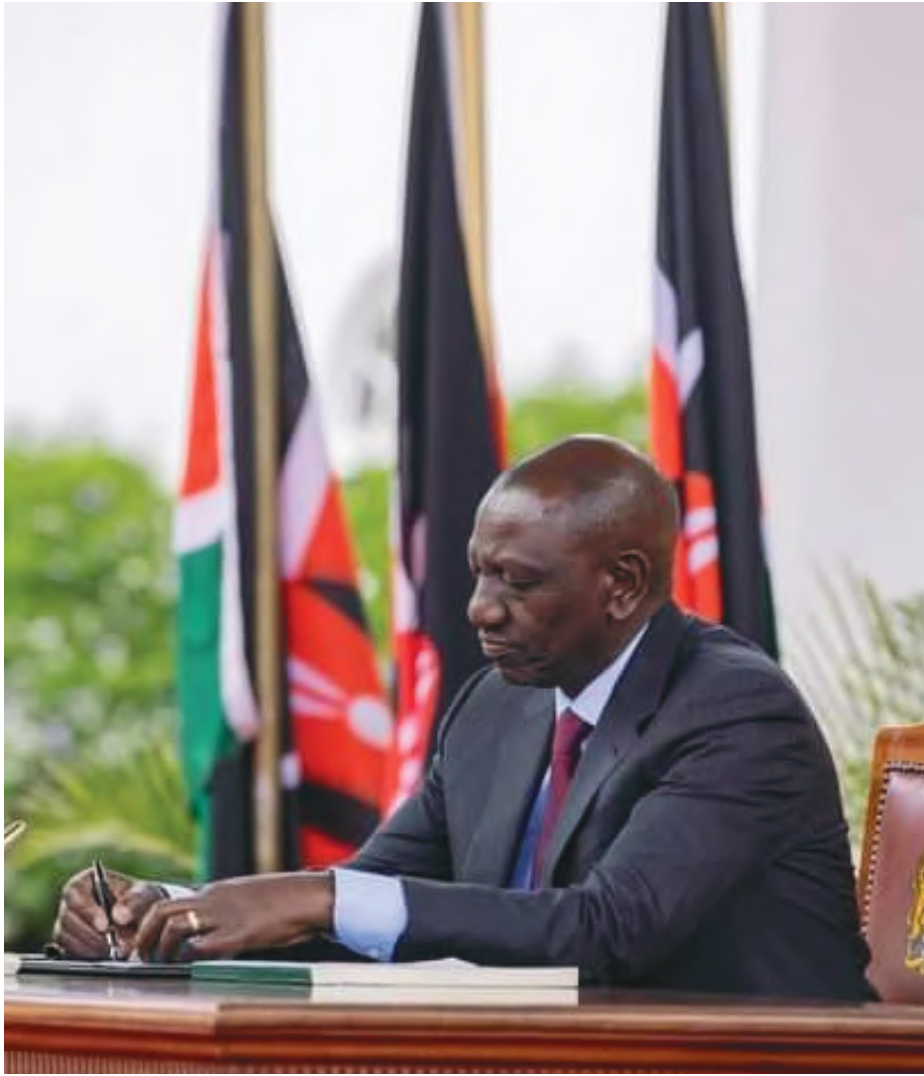
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NEWS IN BRIEF



High Court has declared Privatisation Act 2023 unconstitutional, halting the proposed sale of KICC, KPC, New KCC, Kenya Seed Company, Kenya Literature Bureau (KLB) and National Oil Corporation of Kenya, among other State firms. The Court ruled that the Privatisation Act did not undergo sufficient public consultation hence making it invalid. The court noted that KICC was specifically identified as a national monument and its proposed sale was deemed a violation of cultural and constitutional rights.



Nakuru County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Mr Leonard Bor stresses a point when he met officials of Cereal Growers Association (CGA) and Farm to Market Association (FTMA). According to Mr Bor Kenya needs an urgent and comprehensive shift to agroecology across the entire food system with particular emphasis on the integration of agroecology in the policies, strategies and action plans.



A funeral service for the Endarasha Hillside Academy fire victims that was scheduled for Wednesday this week will take place tomorrow and not today. Acting Central Regional Commissioner, Pius Murugu told journalists that the changes have been arrived at after consultation with the bereaved families who found it necessary to shift the dates due to logistical issues. Murugu has however said the time and other programs for the service remain unchanged. "We have decided to move the date for the funeral service from Wednesday to Thursday due to some logistical issues which we have discussed and agreed upon with the parents of the deceased. Our Thursday program will nevertheless run as planned from 8.30 am to 11 am to allow families time to go and proceed with other funeral rites in their respective homes," he has confirmed.



Nyeri County governor Mutahi Kahiga yesterday led mourners in a sending off ceremony Sheikh Uledi Majid. Until his death on Monday evening, Majid, 80 was serving as the SUPKEM Nyeri Branch chairman. He was also a former councillor and a respected Community leader who was actively involved in community projects. He was laid to rest at Muslim Cemetery, Kiawara, Nyeri Town after the final brief service at Majengo Mosque. The governor was accompanied by among others, his deputy David Kinaniri, Transport CECM Eng. Abdi Hanif, Health Chief Officer Ibrahim Edin and Trade Chief Officer George Mwangi.

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Farmers Urged To Improve Livestock Feed And Breeding Practices For Market Competitiveness

By: Suleiman Mbatiah

@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

In a speech delivered on his behalf by Professor Abdi Gulliye, an animal production expert, during the Kenya National Feeds Emergency Response Planning workshop in Naivasha, he emphasized that these investments are important for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the livestock industry.

The inaugural forum, facilitated by the African Union – Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) through the Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems, brings together livestock feeds and fodder experts and other stakeholders.

Livestock farmers have been urged to invest in both feed production and improved breeding practices to meet the rapidly growing demand for animal products, both locally and in international markets.

According to Dr. Andrew Mwihi, the Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Kenya is experiencing significant deficits in animal-source foods, a situation projected to worsen by 2030 if no action is taken.

A study conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development in 2018 revealed that the country faces a 60 percent deficit in animal feed, with the greatest shortfalls occurring in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs).

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AU-IBAR is a specialized technical office of the African Union Commission (AUC), led by a director, that provides strategic leadership in the development and management of animal resources across Africa.

Dr Huyam Salih, the AU-IBAR director, highlighted that Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda have conducted feed inventories and developed feed balances



Participants at the inaugural the Kenya National Feeds Emergency Response Planning workshop in Naivasha. Photo/Courtesy

in the last five years, offering valuable experience for a unified regional response and managing transboundary actions.

According to official government statistics, the livestock sector plays a key role in Kenya's economy, contributing approximately 12 percent to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 42 percent of the agricultural GDP.

"The Government regards livestock as a key driver for the development of the country, contributing to food security, job creation, and income generation for our people," he noted.

Approximately 70 percent of the ruminant livestock population is located in arid and semi-arid lands, which constitute about 80 percent of the country's land mass. These animals are primarily raised under a pastoral production system.

Data presented by Dr. Mwihi suggests that the country is overstocked by about 100 percent of its carrying capacity, leading to low animal production and increased land degradation.

He further noted that the country has been experiencing rising incidences of drought due to the escalating effects of climate change and variability resulting from global warming, worsening the animal feed deficit.

"The prolonged drought of 2020-2022 was the most severe in the last 40 years, resulting in livestock deaths estimated at Kshs 70 million. This figure does not account for losses in livestock body condition or ecological balance," he said.

To address these challenges, the Cabinet Secretary announced that the government has prioritized the promotion of key value chains, including beef, sheep, goats, indigenous poultry, honey, dairy, and leather, to enhance productivity and sustainability within the livestock sector.

The livestock populations are estimated at 4 million heads of exotic dairy cattle, 16 million heads of indigenous cattle, 24 million heads of hair sheep, 34 million heads of indigenous goats, 4 million heads of camels, and 48 million indigenous poultry.

"The Government has secured ac-

cess to various international markets for livestock through the efforts of the Head of State, President William Ruto," he revealed, but lamented that Kenya has struggled to meet market specifications due to low live body weights.

He stated that the promotion of feedlots across the country and the commercialization of livestock keeping are expected to improve livestock off-take for the market. During the last financial year, the Government distributed 500 tonnes of sunflower seeds to producers nationwide.

"I urge research institutions to develop and provide the necessary technologies to value chain actors, while seed dealers and merchants should supply suitable seeds to producers to ensure a seamless and efficient value chain," he added.

The government is in the final stages of developing a policy for land commercialization, aimed at making idle government land available to investors for production, thereby significantly reducing the feed deficit and enhancing the country's animal feed security.

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Why The National Assembly Rejected The Mung Beans Bill

By: PSCU

The National Assembly rejected the Mung Beans Bill at the second reading stage.

The Mung Beans Bill, 2022, co-sponsored by Paul Nzengu in the National Assembly and originally sponsored by Enoch Wambua in the Senate was published on 30th December 2022 and was read for the first time in the Senate on 15th February 2023.

The Bill was passed in the Senate and referred to the National Assembly on 21st February 2024.

It seeks to facilitate and develop a framework that will regulate and promote the mung bean industry in Kenya, ensuring that it thrives both locally and internationally.

The Bill also seeks to promote the use of the Mung Beans by the National and County Governments in the implementation of feeding programmes and facilitate the introduction of modern Mung beans farming techniques and general modernization of the Mung bean industry for cost control and productivity improvement.

Following rejection, the Bill will be committed to a mediation committee. The Speakers of National Assembly and the Senate will appoint an equal number of members to a mediation committee to consider an agreed version of the Bill and communicate the decision to the other House in line with Article 113 of the Constitution.

The mediation committee has 30 days to develop the mediated version of the Bill.

Upon development of an mediated version of the Bill, the Mediation



The National Assembly

Committee will table in both Houses a Report on its consideration of the Bill and the mediated version of the Bill thereof for consideration by both Houses. If both Houses approve the Report of the mediation committee and the mediated version of the Bill, the Bill is deemed to have been passed.

Women Leaders’ Forum To Review Implementation Of Beijing Platform For Action

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyetimes

Women legislators yesterday held a stakeholders’ forum to reflect on the progress of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and to commemorate its 30-year milestone.

In recognition of the progress made in advancing gender equality, Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) chairperson and Kajiado County MP, Leah Sankaire emphasized the need for a critical approach to addressing the incomplete implementation of the Two-Thirds Gender Rule.

“In Kenya, while strides have been made, a major challenge remains in the full implementation of the Two-Thirds Gender Rule. This constitutional requirement, designed to ensure women’s representation in decision-making, has yet to be fully realized. Achieving this goal is crucial to advancing gender parity in our nation, and it is our collective responsibility to continue working toward its fulfillment,” stated Sankaire.

Some of the challenges highlighted



Some of the women legislators during the forum

in the report include deep-seated cultural and societal norms that hinder women’s access to leadership positions, limited budgetary allocations that constrain the reach and impact of some gender equality programs, and the uneven enforcement of regulations regarding awarding government tenders to women-owned businesses.

Limits and limited data on the impact of interventions for marginalized groups like women with disabilities making it difficult to assess their effectiveness and target support appropriately, were also identified.

The report also pointed out priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls which include: equality and non-discrimination under the law and

access to Justice, Political Participation and representation, Gender-Responsive Budgeting and changing discriminatory social norms and gender stereotypes.

While reacting to the report, women leaders highlighted the urgent need for the passage of the Gender Bill, stating that further amendments should not be prioritized until the Bill is enacted.

They also called for the prompt appointment of a Cabinet Secretary for Gender and the Gender Commission recognizing the importance of these entities.

Another concern raised by the Women leaders was in relation to the status of Women Enterprise Fund (WEF)



Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) chairperson and Kajiado County MP, Leah Sankaire addressing her members.

which falls under the Ministry of Cooperatives. It was noted that the Fund is vital for women financing.

Women MPs also highlighted the predicaments faced by women leaders in the country. For instance, some being asked to step down for male opponents despite their potential in clinching elective seats.

To enhance political engagement, it was proposed that KEWOPA champions “Mashinani” sessions at the ward level to discuss leadership and electoral participation.

The KEWOPA CEO, Ms. Mercy Mwangi added her voice on the report, stating that it should have specifics on Laws and Policies for instance, Victims Protection Act and the need for a Sexual Harassment Policy. She also questioned the absence of the Linda Mama program in the report, despite its crucial role in improving maternal health.

The Ministry of Gender, Culture, the Arts and Heritage was urged to maintain regular communication with women and incorporate their views into future reports, ensuring that gender equality remains a priority on the national agenda.

Why Kenyans Should Scrutinize Leaders Blueprints Before Election - Former NHIF CEO

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes

Kenyans have been urged to be vigilant on the calibre of leaders they put in public offices to avoid regrets after elections are over.

Former Chief Executive Officer, National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) CPA Geoffrey Gitau Mwangi avers that Kenyans are of the habits of taking politicians theatrics instead of their manifestos.

By failing to scrutinise and thoroughly interrogate their Blueprints, they have always regretted a few months after putting such leaders in the influential positions.

Speaking during a Mamlaka TV Breakfast Show on Monday under the theme, "Governance At Crossroads", Mwangi observed that many things have been going astray due to poor leadership which electorate impose upon themselves.

He said it is time the electorate changed the way things are normally done and that people should be



CPA Geoffrey Gitau Mwangi (left) explaining a point at the Nakuru town based Mamlaka TV on Monday.

able to interrogate and question those coming out to lead them.

He noted that with the recent emergence of Gen-Z, the election of leaders in political offices was destined to change as the young generation was averse with current world trends, was demanding open accountability and wanted untainted leaders.

"Gen-Z changed everything. They want things done differently and thus those seeking offices must be ready to accommodate their demands," Mwangi noted.

He added, "with their momentum, leaders will be forced to approach

various issues on governance and accountability differently,".

Further, he noted that elections would bring forth new ruling order where those in leadership positions are forced to go by the peoples will.

To comfortably handle such issues, Mwangi noted that the best leaders would do is to have a pre-election Blueprints.

During the Show, the former NHIF boss who is said to be eyeing the Nakuru gubernatorial seat, come 2027 General Election outlined some of his achievements at the helm of the Health Insurance organisation,



CPA Geoffrey Gitau Mwangi during the Show.

among them increasing fund contributions from KSh14 billion to about KSh60 billion and introduction of Linda Mama and Edu Afya programmes.

At the same time, Mwangi supported a call for consolidation of various bursary issuance avenues saying the current phenomenon created a situation where leaders, from MCAs to Governors popularised themselves using the public funds.

"The country needs a well organised and funded education system for all," he said, adding that Health sector was

another area that required holistic funding also.

"Education and Health are two critical sectors that are core to any society's progression. The two require well coordinated funding," he said.

Apart from the two, he disclosed that if given a chance to lead the cosmopolitan county, he would give emphasis to agriculture as they were the areas with adverse effect to the residents.

The Future Of Education In Kenya In E-Learning

By: Gitaũ wa Kũng'ũ
@themkenyatimes

With all the atrocities of the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the best lessons the world learnt is that the process of teaching and learning can also be conducted online.

Many institutions of higher learning especially, continued with teaching and learning activities through the institutions' e-learning portals. Examinations were also conducted online and the schools academic almanac were barely affected for the institutions that integrated e-learning.

The media also integrated programmes during daytime that facilitated teaching and learning to primary school pupils. In the programs, a teacher would take pupils through particular lessons at particular times of the day.

The telecommunications service providers, for example Safaricom also gifted daily internet bundles specifically to be used for browsing

education service provider networks. In fact, they were branded 'Education Bundles'. Many students used these bundles to advance their academic progress.

At the time, there was no physical attendance to schools due to government restrictions, as a measure of combating the prevalence of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Coming back to the topic of interest, the COVID-19 pandemic laid a strong foundation for the development of e-learning.

This set the pace for investors and policy developers to integrate designs that complement the advancing science, digital technology, especially Information Technology (IT) to improve public sectors such as education.

Such developments has seen the rise of several online learning service providers such as Elimu Library, eLIMU, Elimu World, Elimu TV and others.

However, one distinctive e-learning service provider really caught my attention on the course of the research for this article. The platform offers

online courses for the CBC program.

The CBC Elimu Portal offers even free courses on the various new Competence Based Curriculum (CBC) courses, including the Technology Education and others.

With the advantage of many parents now owning smartphones, some parents are creating accounts for their children in the CBC Elimu Portal and using the e-learning materials provided by the website to improve their children's academic well-being.

The course materials offered have integrated audiovisual contents that are appealing to the young learners. The e-learning service provider has also enhanced the course development with very prolific assessment tests at the end of every topic.

Going through the website, I was inspired that the future of education in Kenya can go digital.

Teachers can use the CBC Elimu Portal's course materials to complement the existing CBC syllabus materials offered by the government in teaching their students.

The future of the Kenyan education system would go digital if the Min-



istry of Education can also create a Department of E-learning so that the CBC system can have greater impacts on the new generation that is becoming tech-savvy at a very tender age.

In fact, Computer Studies is one of the CBC syllabus.

Schools with computer labs can also integrate the use of IT in their teaching and learning methodology for all subjects, not just for the Computer Studies syllabus. The government must ensure that all schools have working computer labs to develop e-learning.

Waiguru Set To Host G7 Kirinyaga Chapter Activation Summit

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyetimes

Kirinyaga County Governor, Anne Waiguru tomorrow host a landmark event to activate the Kirinyaga Chapter of the G7 Strategy.

Preparations for the event that will be held at Kianyaga Stadium are in high gear with invites having been sent out to hundreds of leaders and aspiring leaders and a general public of about 5,000, drawn from Kirinyaga and other counties.

The G7 Strategy whose vision is a transformed society embracing women leadership in delivering the devolution promise was developed by the caucus of women governors with the mission of modeling women governors as transformative leaders and champions of inclusive political representation and participation.

While extending her invitation to the public, Governor Waiguru noted that the G7 Strategy seeks to enhance leadership at the county and national levels to reveal the potential of women as leaders to transform society, their gender notwithstanding.

“The G7 strategy is our beacon of hope to change the world and embrace women leadership and foster inclusive and equitable leadership,” she said.

She added that the strategy also creates a framework for the planning and delivery of the devolution promise in Kenya as well as enhancing the participation and representation of women in leadership and decision making, noting that it is aligned to Vision 2030 and the Bottom up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) among other development strategies.

Waiguru who has long been a champion of gender equity and women’s representation in politics said that the delegates will tour selected development projects before proceeding to the stadium where there will be an exhibition of county projects.

She said that she was excited to host the event that will provide a forum for women leaders to support one another, share their success stories, experiences and best practices that can inspire the future generation of female leaders. She added that it will offer networking opportunities for the attendees.



Kirinyaga County governor Ann Waiguru with her colleague, female governors.

G7 Strategy is anchored on four pillars namely; Socio-economic development, Good governance, accountability and access to justice, Political Strategy and Institutional Strengthening. Waiguru noted that the conceptualization of the strategy was first conversed by women gov-

ernors during the 67th Session on the Commission on Status of Women held in 2023 in New York whereby a proposal to create the seven women governors caucus-G7 was made. Given that the event will take place close to the weekend, the business community especially the hospitali-

ty industry is expected get a boost in sales with Waiguru urging the visitors to promote the county buy buying goods and services.

PS Omollo Leads Cybersecurity Charge at CyberWeek Africa Conference 2024

By: Aoma Keziah
@themkenyetimes

The Principal Secretary for Internal Security and National Administration, Dr. Raymond Omollo, has advanced Cybersecurity agenda at the Cyber week Africa conference and Expo 2024. The event, held at the University of Nairobi, brought together key industry stakeholders to advance critical discussions around the future of cybersecurity.

The week-long forum, themed “Cybersecurity Industry Workforce,” aims to enhance collaboration, capacity building, and innovation in the cybersecurity sector. PS Omollo emphasized the importance of aligning cybersecurity with the government’s digital transformation agenda, highlighting the need for robust security frameworks as Kenya and other African nations advance into the digital economy.



CyberWeek Africa Conference and Expo 2024 panel discussion.

In his address, he acknowledged the fast-evolving nature of cyber threats, noting that national security increasingly depends on safeguarding digital infrastructure. He called on stakeholders to work together to build a resilient cybersecurity workforce, capable of mitigating emerging risks while driving innovation.

“This conference is pivotal in addressing the human capital gap within the cybersecurity industry. It is through collaboration and concerted efforts that we can strengthen our de-

fenses and protect the integrity of our digital ecosystem.” Omollo stated.

The CyberWeek Africa Conference and Expo 2024 serves as a platform for government officials, industry experts, academia, and innovators to exchange ideas, share insights, and develop strategies for boosting cybersecurity across Africa. The event supports the Kenyan government’s broader digital transformation goals, promoting the secure integration of technology into key sectors such as finance, health, and governance.



Principal Secretary for Internal Security and National Administration, Dr. Raymond Omollo, addressing participants at the CyberWeek Africa Conference and Expo 2024 at the University of Nairobi

Participants engaged in discussions on topics ranging from emerging threats, digital policy, and the future of cybersecurity education, as the forum seeks to bolster Africa’s standing in global cybersecurity innovation and workforce readiness.

CyberWeek Africa continues through the week, fostering further discussions aimed at addressing the continent’s cybersecurity challenges and opportunities.

FULL RESTORATION



By: Eric Musa
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Recently I have been desiring a continuous state of high discipline, a life led by the Spirit of God, overcoming all carnality and having victory over self. There is the element of restoration, for I have had season when I have practiced and experience this. It is a Godly desire, and I remember the words of Lt. Evangelist Billy Graham who said “ I can NOT live the Christian life for an hour WITHOUT the WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.” Selah! It is so real, and I desire the Lord, God does it for me, as well as you as you read this sermon.

Let us meditate, and consider the Scripture in Psalm 34:

“4 I sought the Lord, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears.

5 They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces were not ashamed,...

7 The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him And delivers them.

8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

9 Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.

10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.

11 Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Who is the man who desires life, And loves many days, that he may see good?

13 Keep your tongue from evil, And your lips from speaking deceit.

14 Depart from evil and do good; Seek peace and pursue it.

15 The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, To cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, And delivers them out of all their troubles.

18 The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the Lord delivers him out of them all.

20 He guards all his bones; Not one of them is broken.

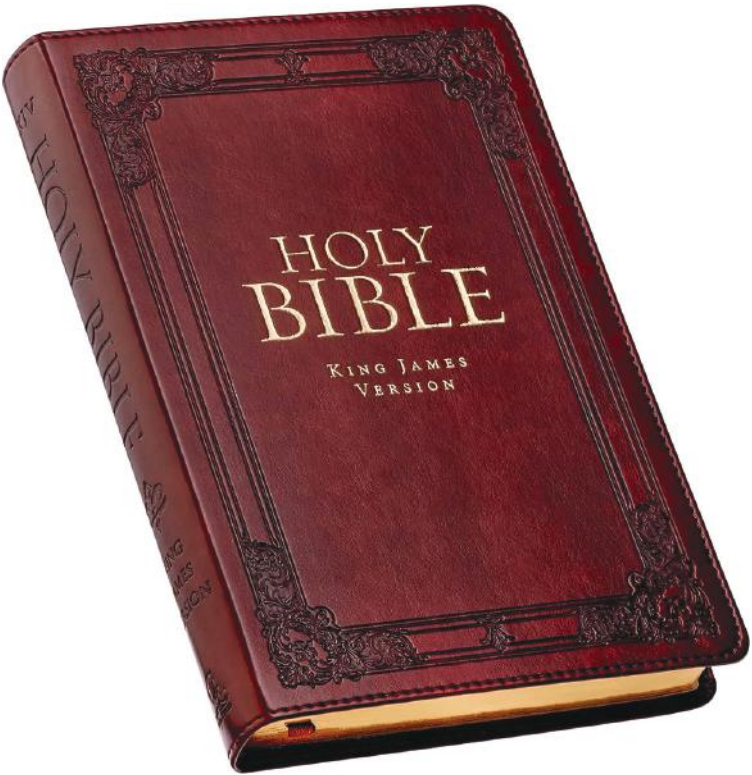
21 Evil shall slay the wicked, And those who hate the righteous shall be condemned.

22 The Lord REDEEMS THE SOUL OF HIS SERVANTS, And none of THOSE WHO TRUST IN HIM SHALL BE CONDEMNED.”

Speaking of redemption restoration, let the Scripture in Joel 2: 25 be our portion, “ I WILL RESTORE to you the years the locust have eaten away.”

RECEIVE FULL RESTORATION IN JESUS CHRIST MIGHTY NAME: AMEN.

Evangelist Eric Musa:
(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled



with the Holy Spirit, as it is written; “NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2”. For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact Evangelist on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember, God LOVES ❤️❤️❤️ you unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM



The Voice Of Women Leaders Have Not Been Left Behind In Push To Impeach DP Or Save Him



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Worth Noting:

- President Ruto and I formed this government. I cannot therefore leave the house that I have had contributed my energy and resources to build in a big way.
- Betty's statement comes at a time when ODM members of parliament largely drawn from Luo Nyanza have called on the President and his deputy to reconcile their political differences.
- The ongoing political war which was triggered by the DP is not auguring well.
- The two leaders made a raft of promises during the campaigns. Kenyans want them to focus on fulfilling the promises.
- President William Ruto has so far remained quiet and we have been seeing him embrace his deputy whenever they share the same podium.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

Murang'a women representative Betty Maina becomes the latest to openly join the anti-Gachagua crusade. She spoke one day after National Assembly Deputy Gladys Shollei was reported to have thrown her weight behind the motion to impeach DP.

There are two women MPs-Gathoni Wamuchomba and Mary Wamaua- who have come out strongly to defend Gachagua.

Ms Betty is calling on Gachagua to resign from his position of the Deputy President.

Going by Gachagua's remarks and statements in the recent past, this is the last thing that you would expect him to do.

The DP has repeatedly insisted that he is in the ruling party UDA to stay.

President Ruto and I formed this government. I cannot therefore leave the house that I have had contributed my energy and resources to build in a big way.

Betty's statement comes at a time when ODM members of parliament largely drawn from Luo Nyanza have called on the President and his deputy to reconcile their political differences.

The ongoing political war which was

triggered by the DP is not auguring well.

The two leaders made a raft of promises during the campaigns. Kenyans want them to focus on fulfilling the promises.

President William Ruto has so far remained quiet and we have been seeing him embrace his deputy whenever they share the same podium.

The DP would take this opportunity to shower the President with praises.

As DP, my role as Principal Assistance is to help the President to realize his vision and agenda for Kenyans. He means well for Kenya. He has so far registered big achievements.

In light of this, was the DP sending a message that their differences were not that serious?

The DP has raised two major bone of contention. One, the President has not been reprimanding his allies who were attacking and disrespecting him as DP.

Two, the President was just watching and taking no action against the MPs who were plotting to impeach him. Does the President have a say when it comes to this matter?

History have shown us that when the President picks a running mate he want him to be a person of unquestionable loyalty.

The question now is. Is Gachagua still toeing the line? As DP, he believes he is a heartbeat way from becoming the President of Kenya in 2032.

He was not therefore ready to compromise his ambitions by giving the issue of loyalty too much of his attention.

Many believe this is why the position of DP is historically being seen as a curse.

DP Gachagua talked about this during his recent interview.

He said he thought that President Ruto would handle this matter differently.

At no time he would let his deputy to suffer similar tribulations he went through when he served as DP during the era of President Uhuru Kenyatta. During the Uhuru era, President Ruto possessed similar ambitions.

No President would allow his deputy to outshine him.

Last Sunday one of the mainstream newspapers published a head line story that stated the plan to impeach Gachagua is a matter of when, not if.

One day later, Tana River Senator Danson Mungatana became the first legislator to file a censor motion against the DP.

One of the grounds he has cited is that

the DP has continued to allegedly violate provisions of the constitution pertaining to his oath of office.

Mungatana argues that he supposed to help the President build a strong and united nation of Kenya but he is doing the opposite of this.

The DP has in the recent past earned the name of a villager. This is because of giving priority to his push for the unity of Mount Kenya region.

But the history of Kenya and I'm sure Mungatana knows this is replete with the politics of ethnic mobilization.

Kenyans will only take you seriously if you manage to unite your community behind you.

For now, It seems the fate of Gachagua now lies with the MPs.

But the motion of impeachment can only sail through if the Mover manage to convince the two houses of bicameral parliament that the grounds he had listed meet the threshold of impeaching a sitting DP.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga Is A Writer And Social Commentator Based In Nairobi

India's Investment In Kenya's JKIA - A Step Towards Economic Progress



By: Vaishali Basu Sharma
@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- For decades, Indian investments have contributed to Africa's economic growth, from the retail and hospitality industries to infrastructure and telecommunications. Indian businesses have maintained a reputation for providing sustainable and socially conscious growth. Companies like Tata, Bharti Airtel, and Mahindra have all made strides in building stronger ties with Africa, offering services and products that foster economic development, employment, and skill development.
- In Kenya specifically, Indian businesses have played a crucial role in sectors such as healthcare and agriculture. For example, Apollo Hospitals, one of India's largest healthcare providers, has set up joint ventures to improve access to healthcare services in the country.

Kenya's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) is poised for a significant transformation, with the Adani Group, one of India's largest conglomerates, taking over operations. The airport has been facing a number of structural issues for the past few years from water leakages to frequent power outages. In March this year, Adani Group submitted a privately initiated proposal (PIP) for a 30-year concession to expand and operate JKIA under a "build, operate and transfer" model. The proposal has sparked unrest among Kenya Airport Authority (KAA) employees, who recently staged a strike over concerns about job security and the implications of Adani's involvement. However, the Adani group has signalled flexibility and softened its position after the workers' standoff, announcing that all KAA employees will continue working under their current terms.

Rather than resisting this change or throwing the baby out with the bathwater, it needs to be only tweaked or negotiated better to be embraced as a catalyst for development and economic growth. Adani's investment in JKIA not only holds the potential to modernize critical infrastructure but also reflects a broader pattern of positive Indian investments across Africa, including Kenya.

A Legacy of Indian Investments in Africa

For decades, Indian investments have contributed to Africa's economic growth, from the retail and hospitality industries to infrastructure and telecommunications. Indian businesses have maintained a reputation for providing sustainable and socially conscious growth. Companies like Tata, Bharti Airtel, and Mahindra have all made strides in building stronger ties with Africa, offering services and products that foster economic development, employment, and skill development.

In Kenya specifically, Indian businesses have played a crucial role in sectors such as healthcare and agriculture. For example, Apollo Hospitals, one of India's largest healthcare providers, has set up joint ventures to improve access to healthcare services in the country. Indian-owned tea plantations have long employed thousands of Kenyan workers, contributing to the rural economy. This relationship has been symbiotic, where Indian companies bring expertise, capital, and employment opportunities to Kenyan communities.

Adani's Role in Kenya's Infra-



Adani Group.

structure Modernization

The Adani Group, a global powerhouse with vast experience in infrastructure, port management, and energy, offers Kenya a tremendous opportunity for modernization. As part of its mandate, Adani has transformed multiple airports and ports in India into world-class facilities. In places like Mumbai, Mundra, and Lucknow, Adani's investment has created state-of-the-art infrastructure, enhanced efficiency, and boosted tourism and trade.

At JKIA, Adani's involvement will likely bring an infusion of capital for long-needed upgrades, including the enhancement of runways, terminals, and cargo facilities.

A world-class airport is crucial for Kenya, which aims to position itself as the business and tourism hub of East Africa. The improvements will boost the country's capacity to handle increased passenger traffic, strengthen trade links, and attract foreign investments.

This will result in long-term job creation through tourism, hospitality, and ancillary services.

Addressing Job Concerns: Adani's Proven Commitment to Local Employment

One of the primary concerns of protesters in Kenya has been the fear of job losses. However, if we look at Adani's track record, the company has consistently been committed to creating jobs, not eliminating them. In its port operations in India, Adani has not only employed local workers

but has invested in skill development and training to ensure that employees are prepared for the modernization brought by new technologies.

In Kenya, Adani can adopt a similar approach. By upgrading the airport's operations, it will create new roles in administration, logistics, and customer service. Furthermore, Adani's interest in sustainability and green infrastructure could create opportunities in the renewable energy sector, which has significant potential for Kenya. With the right policies in place, a partnership between Adani and the Kenyan government could ensure that jobs are not just preserved but expanded in line with the country's growing economic ambitions.

Africa-India Relations: A Future of Shared Growth

India and Africa share a long history of cultural and economic ties, with India emerging as a key partner in Africa's development trajectory.

Indian businesses have been valued for their collaborative approach, focusing on long-term, mutually beneficial relationships. India's investments in Africa are not driven by short-term gains but by a vision of shared prosperity. In fact, according to the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Indian businesses have created more than 600,000 jobs across Africa.

India has also emerged as a crucial partner in Africa's healthcare and technology sectors. The Pan-African E-Network Project, initiated by India, is one such example, providing

telemedicine and tele-education services to remote parts of Africa. India's presence in Africa goes beyond economic interests, extending into education, healthcare, and capacity building, which has positively impacted the continent's human capital development.

Adani's takeover of JKIA should be viewed not as a threat but as an opportunity for Kenya to leapfrog into a new era of economic development. Past Indian investments in Kenya and across Africa have been instrumental in driving growth and fostering innovation, and Adani's presence will likely have similar positive outcomes. Instead of focusing on fears of job loss, Kenyans should focus on the long-term benefits—better infrastructure, increased trade, enhanced tourism, and the creation of new jobs.

Kenya stands to gain tremendously from embracing this partnership with Adani. The potential for modernization and economic progress is enormous, and with a focus on collaboration, Adani's investment will bring transformative benefits to Kenya and its people.

Ms Vaishali Basu Sharma is an analyst on geopolitical and macroeconomic issues. Email: postvaishali@gmail.com

Government Mobilises Ksh60 Billion To Support MSMEs

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes

The Ministry of Co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development has mobilised Sh 60 billion from donor funds to support MSMEs.

Co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development Cabinet Secretary Wycliffe Oparanya announced that the Ministry has refurbished 21 Constituency Industrial Development Centres which has consequently led to the creation of about 5,600 groups.

Oparanya who was speaking at a press briefing held at the NSSF building, noted that through the financial inclusion fund (Hustler Fund), the ministry has managed to lend out Sh57 billion to 22 million Kenyans.

“So far, 2 million people have graduated from the Hustler Fund. These are people who have consistently borrowed money from the time the fund was initiated and now they are moving to the Small and Medium Enterprise category,” said the CS.

He announced that within the hustler fund mandatory savings of 5percent, the ministry has generated Sh 3.5 billion as of June 30, 2024.

Regarding coffee, Oparanya stated that under the coffee sector, the ministry has advanced farmers Sh4.5 billion through reforms undertaken by the Deputy President.

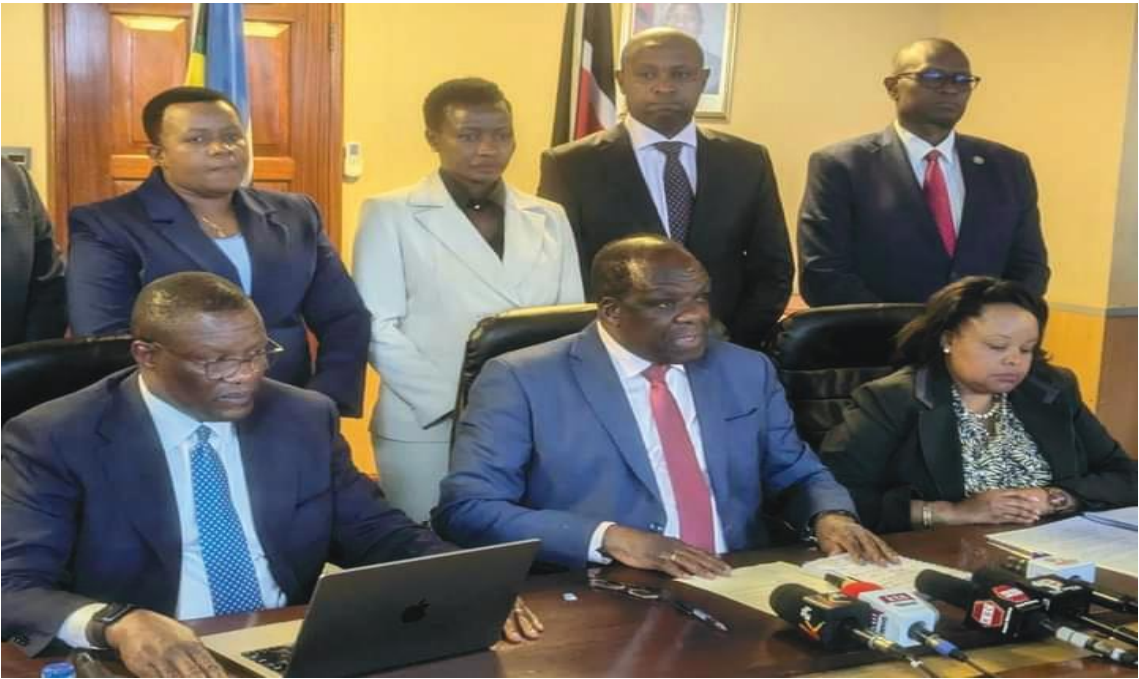
The CS further noted that in the dairy sector under the new Kenya Cooperative Creameries, the ministry has guaranteed farmers a payment of Sh50 per litre of milk from the initial Sh 37.

“We have agreed that a farmer will be paid half the money immediately he or she delivers the milk either through cooperatives or directly and the rest of the money will be paid as soon as the milk is processed,” he said.

In his remarks, the Deputy Chief of Staff, Performance and Delivery Management Eliud Owalo stated that his office and the office of the Ministry of Cooperatives have agreed on several commitments that need to be achieved within the current financial year.

He singled out the promotion of the Kenyan coffee as one the ministry’s commitment to endorsing coffee varieties in the local and international market through trade fairs.

Owalo noted that coffee is currently facing the challenge of debts and revealed that upon verification of the debts, the ministry will waive the debts to a tune of about Sh 2 billion



Cabinet Secretary Wycliffe Oparanya with Deputy Chief of Staff Eliud Owalo and Secretary to the Cabinet Wanjau.

which has been accommodated within the budget for the financial year of 2024 to 2025.

To address the issue of weak governance, he mentioned that the ministry will strengthen the governance framework through the dissemination of the code of conduct to various cooperative societies.

“The Ministry will undertake the

training of cooperative officials on issues of ethics and governance and we will work with relevant agencies like the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission,” he added.

The Deputy Chief of Staff urged all stakeholders to create an enabling environment for MSMEs through the development of the financial inclusion policy to promote funding of such en-

terprises.

The Deputy Chief of Staff, Performance and Delivery Management in partnership with the Ministry of Co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development is committed to boost the economy of the country in various sectors.

Tourism Ministry Launches ‘One Tourist, One Tree’ Campaign To Boost Sustainable Travel

By: MKT Correspondent
@themkenyatimes

The Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife has unveiled a new tree planting campaign requiring every tourist visiting Kenya to plant at least one tree in an effort to position the country as a sustainable tourism destination while contributing to environmental conservation.

The drive dubbed, ‘One Tourist, One Tree’ targets both domestic and foreign visitors encouraging them to participate in tree-planting activities at various tourist sites across the country.

This effort also supports the government’s ambitious goal of growing 15 billion tree seedlings by 2032, a move geared towards enhancing Kenya’s forest cover and combating climate change.

State Department for Tourism Principal Secretary John Ololtuua while speaking at the campaign launch at

Kajulu Forest in Kisumu County, emphasised the need to conserve natural ecosystems to protect wildlife habitats and address climate change.

“While the tourism sector contributes 10% to Kenya’s GDP, it also accounts for about 8% of greenhouse gas emissions. With global tourist numbers expected to reach 1.8 billion by 2030, it is essential to adopt sustainable practices to protect the natural and cultural resources that attract visitors,” said Ololtuua.

He urged stakeholders in the tourism industry including hotels, tour operators, community based organisations, and travelers to fully support the initiative.

“The Ministry is committed to the government’s reforestation agenda. This campaign calls on every visitor to contribute to Kenya’s sustainability by planting a tree, offsetting their carbon footprint while enjoying the beauty of our country,” Ololtuua added.

The ‘One Tourist, One Tree’ campaign was unveiled as Kisumu



County hosts Kenya Tourism Week, culminating in the 2024 World Tourism Day celebrations on Friday.

Kisumu County Executive Committee Member for Tourism, Trade, and Marketing, Farida Salim, highlighted the county’s commitment to environmental conservation as a key focus of tourism development.

She noted that the campaign being implemented in collaboration with local communities, would help them transition to clean energy solutions,

reducing dependence on charcoal and tree cutting that has degraded areas like Kajulu Hills.

“Kajulu Forest, with its rich biodiversity and indigenous trees, is set to become a key eco-tourism destination in the Western Tourism Circuit,” Salim stated.

Kenya Tourism Board CEO June Chepkemei commended the tree-planting initiative, emphasising its role in promoting sustainable tourism.

“Kenya’s main attraction lies in its natural beauty and diverse wildlife. By integrating sustainability into our tourism strategy, we not only attract conscientious travelers but also preserve our natural heritage for future generations,” she said.

The initiative underscores Kenya’s commitment to sustainable tourism, offering visitors an opportunity to contribute to the country’s reforestation efforts while enjoying its scenic landscapes and diverse wildlife.

My Memory



My room no one enters
 Saved for I alone
 Where it sits a blessed memory on my
 bed
 Where my life belongs

As the sun rises and sets
 And the wind blows
 I pray
 Turn me loose and let me be again
 Young once more and fancy free

If i should force entrance a lot you
 might see
 Wandering where i will
 Down the lane up in a hill

In the slopes of Kenyan highlands
 Barefoot in the dust

But often in my worn life's memory
 Fame has never whispered to me
 Since i was a slave to men
 Offering frankincense and gold
 Not to Jesus i say
 But just as i prisoner i was
 Not free to come and go
 You wonder where i would
 For now i am free at last

Age has stamped me as its own
 Youth to older hearts has flown
 Perfuming my life with fragrance
 All the years that granted me love
 Before their faces i no more bow
 A memory that i bend my knee there

Wanjohi. P. Mugambi
 The Weeping Onion

Unity Through Sports



In fields where children run and play,
 The seeds of unity find their way.
 Through sports, they learn to rise as one,
 In teamwork, battles are fought and won.
 The Whitestar, grateful we are.

A whistle blows, the game begins,
 With every loss, with every win,
 They grow, they learn, they understand,
 The strength of reaching out a hand.
 The Whitestar, grateful we are.

In schools, these lessons take their root,
 Where friendships blossom in pursuit.

Not just of goals, but hearts aligned,
 Breaking barriers of every kind.
 The Whitestar, grateful we are.

In passing balls or sharing space,
 They build a bond no race can trace.
 No wall too high, no dream too small,
 Together they can conquer all.
 The Whitestar, grateful we are.

Through victory's cheer, defeat's despair,
 They learn respect, and how to care.
 Sports teach that difference makes us
 strong,
 In unity, we all belong.
 The Whitestar, grateful we are.

So let the games forever be
 A symbol of diversity.
 In every school, let spirits soar,
 For sports can open every door.
 Unity, unity, unity, the Whitestar's call.

(Teacher Evans Asikoyo, the poet)

My Zomin



By: Inimjonova Dildora Rustam

The majestic mountains are my pride,
 My consciousness flows like clear
 waters.*

Every blade of grass is a remedy for a
 thousand sorrows,
 The abode of the brave is my Zomin.

The pure air carries a thousand melodies,
 In the gardens, the songs of birds echo.
 No matter how much I praise, it never
 seems enough
 You are like a pearl, my Zomin.

You are my own from every land,
 You are my mother, I am your daughter.
 Be an everlasting mark, I will be your
 trace,
 My pride and honor is you, Zomin.

Zomin is a sanctuary, a tale in every
 tongue,
 Among the people, you bloom like a
 garden.

I was born and grew up in this land,
 Forever you live, my Mother Zomin.

Courage Is His Legacy



Bobur's lineage is characteristic of poetry,
 Courage is his legacy.
 The foundation of the Indians
 His heart is also restless, unsatisfied,
 His heart stayed in Andijan.

He became the king of another country
 He died in love of country.
 It was hard to leave,
 Alienation was a punishment in the heart,
 He was faced separation.

Crown on the head throne below,
 Let happiness be found now
 Heart was surrounded foreign,
 He was lonely forever,
 Oh, his love for motherland.

Sitora Otajonova is the Sodirjon's
 daughter. She was born on 20 December
 in 2005. She was studied at school 53. She
 is crazy about writing poems and reading
 books. Her poems and articles are printed
 in international journals.

Parliamentary Committee On Public Investments Suspends KAA Engagements With Adani

By:PSCU

Worth Noting:

- KAA's Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Henry Ogoye, faced heavy questions from the committee about how Adani secured the tender.
- The committee outlined several key areas for the audit that include examination of the procurement process for Adani, Assessment of the estimates and scope of the Adani project, Evaluation of whether the proposed Investment Plan (PIP) is the most effective way to utilize public resources.
- Members also outlined what they called critical areas of clarification including the future of KAA staff following Adani's engagement and also understanding how private management of KAA will collaborate with the national airline and other airport operators.

The Public Investments Committee on Commercial Affairs and Energy yesterday directed the Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) to suspend all further engagements with Adani Group until a special audit of the tender award process is conducted.

The committee which is chaired by Pokot West MP David Pkosing expressed disappointment with KAA, highlighting a significant erosion of public trust regarding the single-source award to Adani.

“This Committee can not avoid a special audit. There is a high level of distrust in this country. As implementers of government policy, you must recognize this reality. If you continue down this path, JKIA will suffer,” the chairman said.

He emphasized the importance of public involvement as stipulated by the constitution of Kenya 2010, saying that Kenyans are clever and privy to any matter that concerns them.

“We must not jeopardize our country with projects that raise concerns over public participation. How can Kenyans trust a report concluded in just one week?” he asked.

The committee chairperson also expressed appreciation for KAA workers for raising alarm over the matter and urged transparency in the ongoing dealings with Adani, noting that some managing directors are hesitant to act for fear of scrutiny.

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Members also outlined what they called critical areas of clarification including the future of KAA staff following Adani's engagement and also understanding how private management of KAA will collaborate with the national airline and other airport operators.

The committee Vice-Chairperson and Rangwe MP Lilian Gogo observed that the management was uncomfortable in dealing with the Adani matter urging them to stand for the truth and secure public resources.

Mr. Ogoye explained that the KAA infrastructure is outdated and referenced two feasibility studies commissioned by the government in 2021.

He said that one focused on the Na-



The committee members during yesterday's session.

tional Aviation Policy and the other on a Medium-Term Investment Plan.

He said that both reports were delivered in December 2022.

He further elaborated that due to the high-level nature of the initial studies, a detailed feasibility study on JKIA was commissioned, which was completed on February 16, 2024.

Adani Airport Holdings of India subsequently submitted a PIP, which was evaluated and approved by the committee, leading to negotiations that began on June 4.

“The entire process has been conducted lawfully, culminating in negotiations,” he said.

Ogoye stated that the entire process has been caught with legal requirements saying that he as KAA ac-

counting officer has not signed any agreements with Adani so far, as there are currently three lawsuits halting the process.

“If there's any contract to be signed, it is to be signed by me and as at now, I have not appended my signature on anything,” assured the MD.

The Aldai MP Marianne Kitany sought clarification on the KSh65 million paid to the National Treasury inquiring how KAA had arrived at the payment which she indicated that it was a sign of securing the tender.

However, the MD said that the amount was an evaluation fee.

On his part, Eldas MP Keynan Adan raised concerns on what he called increased cases of embezzlement of public resources.

“We are losing everything in our country; our stature, our eminence, who's responsibility is this? the reason why we have a constitution is to ensure that there's public participation on any critical decisions concerning public resources. JKIA is Kenya and Kenya is JKIA. Messing up JKIA is Messing up Kenya and we will not allow it”, he warned.

Keynan urged the management of KAA to be fair and rescue the country's resources.

The committee will convene in 14 days to look into the special audit report from the Office of the Auditor General on the matter to ensure accountability and transparency in handling the project.



The committee chairman David Pkosing during yesterday's meeting

BUSINESS

Experts Converge In Nairobi For RPL Policies Forum

By: Kenya News Agency

Kenyan Experts in the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) area and others drawn from Africa will next week converge in Nairobi for a forum to explore ways of scaling up of its uptake in the Continent.

The four-day forum that has attracted 32 participants from 20 African countries and four (4) economic regions, including 20 representatives from higher learning institutions in Kenya will examine RPL in lifelong learning policies, theories underpinning RPL, how to do RPL, Quality assurance of RPL, RPL process, step-by-step and implementation of RPL in Kenya, its policies and practice.

The official opening of the forum that will run from October 1 to 4, will be presided over by Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Migos Ogamba.

Already Kenya is implementing the recognition of prior learning policy across various institutions following its launch in March this year by the government.

In a press statement sent to news rooms, implementation of RPL in Kenya is being actualised through the 'Whole of Government Approach' where all relevant players are working collaboratively to enhance its effectiveness.

Through a National Framework of Engagement, the Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) coordinates implementation of the policy through awareness creation, sensitization and organizing capacity building forums.

The national rollout of RPL is a timely conduit towards realising the Kenya Kwanza Government Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) with a view to increasing the supply of housing units from the current 2 percent to 50 percent, translating to 250,000 for next five years from the current 50,000 units per year.

Additionally, the AHP is also expected to create over 500,000 new employment opportunities for young people graduating from the TVETs in the next five years, directly into the construction sector and indirectly through production of building products.

The initiative will further strengthen the Jua-kali industry's capacity to produce high quality construction products and through RPL, artisans with uncertified skills and competencies will have an opportunity to be assessed and certified, thus, take advantage of employment opportunities such as those that will be available through the AHP. RPL is therefore poised to be a revolutionary approach



KNQA Director General Dr Alice Kande

aimed at dignifying the Jua Kali workforce.

This policy seeks to formalize informal skills, transforming them into recognized qualifications and opening up both local and international employment opportunities for artisans.

This strategic focus will create pathways to employment, empowering millions of Kenyans while enhancing economic development through skills recognition and opportunities.

Further, the RPL policy aims to ensure recognition of knowledge, skills, and competencies that have been acquired through practical work through the award of certificates.

The implementation of the policy is a bridge to facilitate transition from informality to formality as well as facilitating multi entry/exit between the education system and the labour market.

According to KNQA Director General Dr Alice Kande, the policy and guidelines provides standards of assessing and certifying the skills and competencies acquired through experience.

"This enables our skilled, but uncertified youths to be awarded certificates based on individual competencies expanding their opportunities in employment and advanced learning," said the DG adding that so far 900 graduates have been certified and

targets about 10,000 new graduates yearly.

Kenya's education and training sector is regarded as one of the best in Africa as it is evidenced by the fact that Kenya has led in developing and implementing policies, standards and procedures for the management of accreditation of institutions, qualifications and quality assurance on the continent.

This framework brings together Basic Education (BE), Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET), University Education (UE), industrial training and lifelong learning to enable better coordination and harmonization of qualifications across the various sectors.

KNQA prides itself in creating an enabling environment for lifelong learning, fostering quality of qualifications, and creating international recognition and comparability of qualification systems.

In addition, the African Union and the European Training Foundation (ETF) are implementing the African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF-II) project to support the implementation of ACQF as a continental policy instrument.

The project aims to contribute to transparency, comparability and recognition of qualifications, collaboration between National Qualifications Frameworks and promotion of life-

long learning in Africa.

It also supports referencing of National Qualifications Frameworks to African Continental Qualifications Framework; develops and operationalizes innovative tools such as the qualifications and credentials platforms, the RPL campaign, and skills data focus (labour market intelligence tools) through training, dialogue and peer-to-peer sharing forums.

The Kenya National Qualifications Framework (KNQF) on the other hand provides for articulation of the various levels of qualifications, and clear progression pathways for the various forms of certification, including RPL.

KNQF is a comprehensive system that organizes all forms of learning, formal, non-formal, and informal, across educational and training sectors and the distinct KNQF levels are defined by level descriptors covering knowledge, skills, and competencies.

Also, the KNQF encompasses three sub-frameworks: Academic, TVET, and Industry. Qualifications are placed within a level by mapping their learning outcomes against the level descriptors and primarily aims to enhance access, equity, quality, and relevance in education and training throughout Kenya.

Worth Noting:

- Through a National Framework of Engagement, the Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) coordinates implementation of the policy through awareness creation, sensitization and organizing capacity building forums.
- The national rollout of RPL is a timely conduit towards realising the Kenya Kwanza Government Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) with a view to increasing the supply of housing units from the current 2 percent to 50 percent, translating to 250,000 for next five years from the current 50,000 units per year.
- Additionally, the AHP is also expected to create over 500,000 new employment opportunities for young people graduating from the TVETs in the next five years, directly into the construction sector and indirectly through production of building products.

PARENTING

Language In Thoughts And Logic



By: Wanjohi. P. Mugambi

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Must we then conclude, as has been suggested, that since language possesses its own logic, this logic of language constitutes not only an essential or even a unique factor in the learning of logic (inasmuch as the child is subject to the restrictions of the linguistic group and of society in general), but is in fact the source of all logic for the whole of humanity?

- These views derive from the pedagogical commonsense characteristic of the sociological school of Durkheim and also the logical positivism still adhered to in many scientific circles. According to logical positivism, in fact, the logic of the logicians is itself nothing but generalized syntax and semantics (Carnap, Tarski, etc.)



In addition to the problem of the relationship of infantile language to linguistic theory, and to information theory, the great genetic problem raised by the development of infantile language concerns its relationship to thought, and in particular to the logical operations. Language may increase the powers of thought in range and rapidity, but it is controversial whether logicomathematical structures are themselves essentially linguistic or nonlinguistic in nature.

As to the increasing range and rapidity of thought, thanks to language we observe in fact three differences between verbal and sensorimotor behavior. Whereas sensorimotor patterns are obliged to follow events without being able to exceed the speed of the action, verbal patterns, by means of narration and evocation, can represent a long chain of actions very rapidly.

Sensorimotor adaptations are limited to immediate space and time, whereas language enables thought to range over vast stretches of time and space, liberating it from the immediate. (3) The third difference is a consequence of the other two. Whereas the sensorimotor intelligence proceeds by means of successive acts, step by step, thought, particularly through language, can represent simultaneously all the elements of an organized

structure.

These advantages of representative thought over the sensorimotor scheme are in reality due to the semiotic function as a whole. The semiotic function detaches thought from action and is the source of representation. Language plays a particularly important role in this formative process. Unlike images and other semiotic instruments, which are created by the individual as the need arises, language has already been elaborated socially and contains a notation for an entire system of cognitive instruments (relationships, classifications, etc.) for use in the service of thought. The individual learns this system and then proceeds to enrich it.

Must we then conclude, as has been suggested, that since language possesses its own logic, this logic of language constitutes not only an essential or even a unique factor in the learning of logic (inasmuch as the child is subject to the restrictions of the linguistic group and of society in general), but is in fact the source of all logic for the whole of humanity? These views derive from the pedagogical commonsense characteristic of the sociological school of Durkheim and also the logical positivism still adhered to in many scientific circles. According to logical positivism, in fact, the logic of the logicians is itself nothing but

generalized syntax and semantics (Carnap, Tarski, etc.).

We have available two sources of important information on this subject: The comparison of normal children with deafmutes, who have not had the benefit of articulate language but are in possession of complete sensorimotor schemes, and with blind persons, whose situation is the opposite. The systematic comparison of linguistic progress in the normal child with the development of intellectual operations. The logic of deafmutes has been studied by M. Vincent¹ and P. Oleron,² in Paris, who have applied the operatory tests of the Geneva school, and by F. Affolter in Geneva. The result indicate a systematic delay in the emergence of logic in the deafmute. One cannot speak of deficiency as such, however, since the same stages of development are encountered, although with a delay of one to two years. Seriation and spatial operations are normal (perhaps a slight delay in the case of the former). The classifications have their customary structures and are only slightly less mobile in response to suggested changes of criteria than in hearing children. The learning of arithmetic is relatively easy. Problems of conservation (an index of reversibility) are solved with a delay of only one or two years compared with normal

children. The exception is the conservation of liquids, which gives rise to special technical difficulties in the presentation of the assignment, since the subjects must be made to understand that the questions have to do with the contents of the containers and not with the containers themselves.

These results are even more significant when compared with the results obtained in studies of blind children. In studies made by Y. Hatwell, the same tests reveal a delay of up to four years or more compared with normal children, even in elementary questions dealing with relationships of order (succession, position "between," etc.).

And yet in the blind children verbal seriations are normal (A is smaller than B, B smaller than C, therefore . . .). But the sensory disturbance peculiar to those born blind has from the outset hampered the development of the sensorimotor schemes and slowed down general coordination. Verbal coordinations are not sufficient to compensate for this delay, and action learning is still necessary before these children develop the capacity for operations on a level with that of the normal child or the deafmute.

Workplace Romance, Dismissals, And The Scope Of Sexual Harassment: A Legal Analysis Of The Mark Ngugi Mwaura V. G4S Kenya Ltd



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themtkenyetimes

Worth Noting:

- The case was governed by several relevant legal provisions, including the Employment Act, the Constitution, and G4S internal policies. The court found that G4S adhered to procedural fairness in the dismissal process but questioned the validity of the decision based on the substance of the allegations.
- A key issue in the case was whether the relationship between Mwaura and Mukami constituted sexual harassment or a consensual affair. The court determined that there was insufficient evidence to substantiate the sexual harassment claim and found that Mukami was not coerced into the relationship.



Workplace Romance

The case of Mark Ngugi Mwaura v. G4S Kenya Ltd provides a comprehensive examination of the complex intersection between workplace relationships, sexual harassment, and employment law in Kenya. The judgment, delivered by Justice Rika, offers valuable insights into the legal framework governing such matters and its practical implications for both employers and employees.

At the heart of the case was a dispute involving alleged sexual harassment, workplace romance, and the subsequent dismissal of Mr. Mark Ngugi Mwaura, a Regional Operations Manager at G4S Kenya. The claimant was accused of influencing the transfer of a subordinate, Ms. Anne Mukami, to a better position due to their romantic relationship, and of sexual harassment. While he admitted to a previous relationship with Mukami, he vehemently denied these allegations.

The case was governed by several

relevant legal provisions, including the Employment Act, the Constitution, and G4S internal policies. The court found that G4S adhered to procedural fairness in the dismissal process but questioned the validity of the decision based on the substance of the allegations.

A key issue in the case was whether the relationship between Mwaura and Mukami constituted sexual harassment or a consensual affair. The court determined that there was insufficient evidence to substantiate the sexual harassment claim and found that Mukami was not coerced into the relationship.

The requirement for Mwaura to undergo a DNA test raised serious concerns about his privacy rights. The court deemed this demand excessive and intrusive, emphasizing the need for employers to exercise caution when dealing with personal matters between employees.

While the claimant was cleared of

sexual harassment, the issue of conflict of interest remained. The court found that Mukami was transferred through proper channels and based on merit, weakening the employer's justification for dismissal.

The case underscores the importance of well-drafted and clear workplace policies. The G4S sexual harassment policy was criticized for being applied retrospectively and inconsistently. Justice Rika emphasized the need for employers to regularly communicate policies to staff and ensure they are updated to reflect current legal standards.

The decision in this case has broader implications for workplace relationships and employer conduct in Kenya. It clarifies that consensual relationships between employees do not automatically equate to sexual harassment and cautions employers against using personal relationships as grounds for dismissal without clear evidence of misconduct or policy vi-

olations.

Ultimately, the case offers critical lessons for both employers and employees. Employers must strike a delicate balance between enforcing workplace discipline and respecting the personal lives of their employees. The judgment not only vindicated the claimant but also set a precedent on how workplace relationships and sexual harassment claims should be treated within the Kenyan labor law context. Employers must be diligent in applying their internal policies in a fair, consistent, and constitutionally compliant manner.

The writer is a lawyer and legal researcher



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bridging The Rift: Strengthening The Relationship Between President Ruto And His Deputy For Kenya's Stability

By: **James Kilonzo Bwire**

The relationship between President William Ruto and Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua is critical for Kenya's political landscape. Effective leadership hinges on collaboration and mutual respect among top officials, a sentiment echoed by political scholars. The current tensions between Ruto and Gachagua highlight the urgent need for strategies to mend their partnership.

Open communication is essential in mitigating misunderstandings. Professor E. Beerbohm emphasizes that this principle is not merely theoretical; it is a practical necessity in political leadership dynamics. When leaders engage in candid discussions, they can address grievances before they escalate into larger conflicts. The ability to express concerns without fear of retribution fosters an environment of trust and collaboration. Beerbohm argues that reliable channels of communication allow representatives to be held accountable for their commitments, which is vital in maintaining public trust. This accountability is crucial in a representative democracy, where citizens expect their leaders to fulfill promises made during campaigns.

Aligning on shared goals is another crucial strategy for enhancing collaboration. Political theorists argue that unity in purpose often translates to effective governance. When Ruto and Gachagua focus on common objectives, they can present a cohesive front that resonates with the electorate. This alignment not only strengthens their internal relationship but also enhances public confidence in their administration. Beerbohm's insights suggest that high policy areas where

party leadership is engaged are critical for maintaining the effectiveness of governance, reinforcing the need for both leaders to work towards common goals.

The importance of public appearances together cannot be overstated. Joint appearances at significant events signal unity to the public, countering any narratives of discord. Political science research indicates that visible solidarity among leaders can reinforce public trust and support. Ruto and Gachagua must prioritize appearing together to demonstrate their commitment to working collaboratively for Kenya's benefit. This aligns with findings from political communication studies, which show that leaders' public visibility directly impacts their perceived legitimacy.

Involving mediators can also be beneficial in navigating conflicts. Political science literature suggests that external perspectives often facilitate resolution in high-stakes environments. Trusted allies or advisors can help bridge gaps between the two leaders, ensuring that discussions remain constructive and focused on development rather than personal grievances. The role of mediation in political relationships has been highlighted by various scholars who emphasize its effectiveness in conflict resolution.

Listening to the electorate's concerns actively is another vital aspect of leadership. Gachagua's recent remarks highlight the need for leaders to prioritize addressing socio-economic issues over internal political squabbles. This approach aligns with democratic principles, where leaders are accountable to their constituents. Engaging with citizens fosters a sense of ownership

and inclusivity in governance, as emphasized by Beerbohm's advocacy for participatory governance models.

Gachagua's emphasis on engaging with the youth reflects a forward-thinking approach to leadership. Understanding the perspectives of younger generations is vital for shaping policies that resonate with future voters. By involving youth in discussions about governance, Ruto and Gachagua can cultivate a more inclusive political environment that addresses the needs of all demographics.

The dynamics within the Kenya Kwanza coalition also play a significant role in the relationship between Ruto and Gachagua. Gachagua has pointed out that some members do not respect his position or contributions, which can create friction at the top levels of government. Addressing these internal party dynamics is essential for fostering a harmonious working relationship among leaders who have different backgrounds and interests.

Transparency is another key element in rebuilding trust between Ruto and Gachagua. As political leaders, they must be accountable not only to each other but also to the public. Clear communication regarding their decisions and policies will help mitigate speculation and rumors about their relationship. Studies show that transparency enhances government legitimacy and fosters citizen trust.

Looking at global political dynamics can provide insights into strengthening leadership relationships. Successful leaders worldwide often prioritize collaboration over competition within their ranks. By adopting similar practices, Ruto and Gachagua can enhance their effectiveness as a team while

learning from global best practices in political leadership.

Respecting each other's roles is critical in any leadership structure. Gachagua's assertion that respect for his office should be paramount serves as a reminder that every leader brings unique strengths to the table. Acknowledging these strengths fosters a collaborative environment where both leaders can thrive.

Actions speak louder than words; thus, both leaders must demonstrate their commitment to collaboration through tangible actions. Initiatives aimed at addressing pressing national issues should be jointly led by Ruto and Gachagua, showcasing their united front during challenging times.

Creating a culture of inclusivity within the administration will further strengthen their partnership. By encouraging diverse voices within government discussions, both leaders can ensure that policies reflect the needs of all Kenyans while fostering a sense of belonging among different groups.

Political leaders often face external pressures that can strain relationships. Ruto and Gachagua must develop strategies to navigate these pressures collectively, ensuring they remain focused on their shared vision for Kenya while managing external expectations.

Both leaders must prioritize development over political rivalries as they work towards addressing pressing socio-economic issues affecting citizens today. Focusing on tangible outcomes will resonate more with citizens than internal disputes.

Establishing mechanisms for constructive feedback within their administration will allow both leaders to express concerns without fear of

backlash or misinterpretation by others within the party structure.

Leveraging technology for communication can enhance engagement between Ruto and Gachagua as well as with the public. Social media platforms provide opportunities for direct interaction with constituents, fostering transparency while allowing them to gauge public sentiment effectively.

Finally, both leaders should commit to continuous improvement in their relationship through regular assessments of their partnership dynamics over time—identifying areas needing attention ensures they remain aligned in purpose while adapting strategies as circumstances evolve.

In conclusion, strengthening the relationship between President William Ruto and Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua is vital for Kenya's political stability and effective governance amid ongoing challenges facing society today—from economic recovery efforts post-pandemic through addressing youth unemployment rates—by prioritizing open communication channels along with shared goals; enhancing public visibility together; utilizing mediation techniques; engaging citizens actively; respecting each other's roles; fostering inclusivity—all elements critical toward building stronger partnerships capable of addressing pressing national challenges effectively moving forward into an uncertain future ahead.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and Communication Practitioner.

Resilient Campus Students Overcome Adversity Amidst Lecturers' Strike

In the wake of the lecturers' strike that has paralyzed the education system at the beginning of the semester, campus students in Kenya have defied the odds and showcased their resilience and determination to pursue their academic goals. Despite the challenges posed by the strike, these students have managed to find alternative ways to continue their education, proving their unwavering commitment not just to their studies but also to co-curricular activities.

During the ongoing strike, which has left classrooms empty and lecture

halls deserted, students are facing a dilemma. Instead of succumbing to frustration and despair, students are utilising online resources and educational platforms to acquire knowledge and stay on track with their coursework. This proactive approach not only allow them grasp the concepts taught but also help them learn other important skills that build their careers, and show adaptability to changing trends in job market.

Students have taken the initiative to organize workshops and peer-led groups, where they can share their

knowledge and help each other understand complex subjects. This collaborative effort has enabled them to compensate for the absence of lecturers and ensure that no one was left behind in their academic journey as a whole.

The students' ability to adapt and persevere during this challenging time has not gone unnoticed. Several non-governmental organizations and private entities have recognized their efforts and offered mentorship programs, webinars, free-online mentorships to students. This external

recognition has not only motivated the students but also highlighted the incredible potential they possess.

The campus students' tenacity and dedication during the strike will set them on a path towards success. Their ability to navigate through adversity and maintain their focus on education will undoubtedly be a valuable asset as they transition into the professional world. The turn around of campus students in Kenya amidst the lecturers' strike at the beginning of the semester is a testament to their resilience, determination, and

resourcefulness. By embracing alternative learning methods, supporting each other, and attracting external assistance, these students have proven that they possess the drive and commitment to overcome any obstacle that comes their way. Despite the challenges they are facing, their unwavering spirit will set them on a trajectory towards a bright and promising future.

By Orifwa Ruben

Protecting Africa's Cultural Soul: A Pan-African Imperative



By: Midmark Onsongo
@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- The Maasai of Kenya and Tanzania, renowned for their distinct attire, customs, and lifestyle, are a poignant example of this gradual cultural erosion. With increasing urbanization, many young Maasai are abandoning their traditional dress, language, and practices, opting instead for Western lifestyles that promise modernity but often deliver cultural disconnection.
- This phenomenon is not confined to one ethnic group or nation; it is a continental crisis where cultural dilution threatens the very fabric of African societies. The solution to this crisis lies in a renewed commitment to Pan-Africanism—a movement that seeks to unify and empower Africans worldwide to protect and celebrate their heritage.



The Maasai of Kenya and Tanzania.

“Pan Africans must protect the integrity of African culture and traditions else the continent will be swallowed with the aid of foolish and inferior natives.” These powerful words serve as a rallying cry for the defense of Africa’s heritage against external pressures and internal complacency. Throughout history, Africa has been a battleground for cultural conquest, from the violent impositions of the colonial era, where European powers dismantled traditional societies, to the more subtle, modern forms of cultural erosion driven by globalization. The Berlin Conference of 1884-1885, where European nations callously divided the African continent without any African representation, was not just a political coup but also a cultural one. It replaced African languages, customs, and beliefs with foreign standards, setting the stage for an ongoing struggle between indigenous values and imposed Western norms. This cultural domination continues today, albeit in a less overt form, as Western media, consumerism, and education continue to overshadow authentic African narratives, despite the vibrant efforts of Nollywood, Afrobeat, and African literature to reclaim and celebrate African identity.

My indictment of “inferior natives” highlights a painful truth: some of Africa’s greatest cultural threats come not from outside forces but from within. These are individuals who, often out of ignorance, self-in-

terest, or a misguided sense of modernity, undermine African culture by embracing foreign ideals at the expense of their own heritage. This internal betrayal can be traced back to the very roots of colonial resistance. Consider Kenya’s Mau Mau uprising (1952-1960), where freedom fighters relied heavily on indigenous beliefs, oaths, and rituals to galvanize their struggle against British rule. Yet, in the post-independence period, many of these cultural practices were swiftly abandoned in favor of Western norms, diluting the significance of their sacrifice and reflecting the actions of those I refer to as “inferior natives.” In the 21st century, the threat has evolved; it is no longer a colonial power wielding guns but a globalized world that bombards young Africans with foreign values and images, gradually eroding traditional customs and undermining cultural self-worth.

The Maasai of Kenya and Tanzania, renowned for their distinct attire, customs, and lifestyle, are a poignant example of this gradual cultural erosion. With increasing urbanization, many young Maasai are abandoning their traditional dress, language, and practices, opting instead for Western lifestyles that promise modernity but often deliver cultural disconnection. This phenomenon is not confined to one ethnic group or nation; it is a continental crisis where cultural dilution threatens the very fabric of African societies. The solution to this crisis lies in a renewed

commitment to Pan-Africanism—a movement that seeks to unify and empower Africans worldwide to protect and celebrate their heritage. Leaders like Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, and Marcus Garvey of Jamaica were not just political visionaries; they were cultural warriors who urged Africans to reject foreign domination and reconnect with their roots.

One of the most powerful tools in this cultural defense is the promotion of African languages. Language is not just a means of communication; it is a repository of history, tradition, and identity. When Tanzania adopted Swahili as its national language, it was not merely a practical decision; it was a cultural affirmation, a statement of pride in African heritage. Similarly, South Africa’s support for indigenous languages like Zulu, Xhosa, and Sesotho in education, media, and public life underscores the importance of valuing one’s own linguistic heritage in resisting cultural erosion. The preservation and celebration of traditional practices, arts, and festivals are equally vital. Across Africa, events such as the Lagos Carnival in Nigeria, the Marula Festival in Eswatini, and the FESPACO film festival in Burkina Faso serve as vibrant reminders of Africa’s rich cultural tapestry, drawing millions to reconnect with the continent’s past while celebrating its contemporary creativity.

Education is perhaps the most crucial battlefield in the fight to protect

African culture. African education systems must prioritize the teaching of African history, literature, philosophy, and traditional knowledge, ensuring that future generations grow up with a deep understanding and appreciation of their cultural inheritance. Ghana’s Year of Return initiative, which encourages the African diaspora to reconnect with their roots, is an excellent example of how education and cultural tourism can reinforce African pride and identity. It is essential to challenge and dismantle the perception that traditional knowledge is inferior to Western science. From the medicinal practices of the Yoruba to the agricultural techniques of the Kikuyu and the architectural brilliance of the Great Zimbabwe ruins, Africa’s indigenous knowledge systems are not archaic relics but living, dynamic, and relevant forms of wisdom that continue to offer solutions to contemporary challenges.

This warning is more than just a statement; it is a call to action, a reminder that protecting African culture is not merely about preserving history but about safeguarding the continent’s soul. Without a strong connection to our roots, Africa risks being overwhelmed by external influences that seek to erase its essence and reshape it in their image. To defend the gates of our cultural heritage, we must celebrate our languages, uphold our traditions, and educate the next generation to resist the temptation to become “inferior natives.” Africa’s cultural integrity is not just worth protecting; it is the foundation of the continent’s future. As guardians of this heritage, we must remain vigilant, proud, and resolute, standing firm against the forces that threaten to diminish the vibrant and living force of African culture. The battle for cultural preservation is ongoing, and every African has a role to play. In the spirit of Kenya times caution, let us protect our heritage, for Africa’s culture is not merely a historical relic but a testament to the resilience, brilliance, and enduring spirit of its people. The cultural soul of Africa must not be compromised; it must be fiercely guarded, celebrated, and passed down, for it is the bedrock of who we are and who we aspire to be.

This article was scripted by:
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Vintmark Travel Agency Denies KSh700 Fraud Claims

By: MKT Correspondent
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A travel agency yesterday denied claims that it had defrauded Kenyans and foreigners more than KSh700 million.

In a statement, Vintmark Travel Agency refuted claims that one of its directors, Ceaser King'ori Wagicheru had facilitated the fraud.

"We takes great exception to the false, malicious and defamatory story run by Nation Media Group on NTV and the Daily Nation titled 'How Sh720m jobs fraud suspect exploited Ruto's Germany tour'. The story is not only false, but the company and our shareholder, Mr Ceaser King'ori, were not accorded the right of reply as per the principles of journalism and rules of natural justice," the statement read in part

It continued, "We wish to reiterate that Vintmark Travel Agency Ltd is properly registered company working from a well-known establishment where more than 50 Kenyans are employed, and that it conducts its business in an above-board manner.



Ceaser King'ori Wagicheru

We run our affairs professionally, and any complaints, which are part of the nature of business in any sector, are resolved transparently and conclusively."

The statement further averred that contrary to the allegations in the story which claimed that KSh720 million is involved, all the complaints gathered together do not amount to Sh3 million.

"Most of these are clients whose visas were denied not because of any fault on the side of Vintmark Travel Agency Ltd. Still, Vintmark Travel Agency Ltd, as is the policy and agreement with our clients, offers several remedial measures which



include four times reapplication for a client whose visa has been denied, the option of choosing another country and the client substituting themselves with another person, say a relative," it further read.

It continued, "As a law-abiding company in good standing in the industry we subject ourselves to our regulator, the National Employment Authority (NEA). Eleven of the 23 cases against us are before the authority and we are on course to dispensing with them. These cases, even if they were all ruled in favour of the complainants, will not amount to even one per cent of the wild figure of Sh720 million mentioned in the story."

The management of the travel noted that owing to the defamatory stories, they would be moving to court to seek damages and aggravated damages from Nation Media Group and the reporter concerned.

"We are also seeking conservatory orders barring Nation Media Group from publishing more stories on the matter. We shall further seek to compel the company to pull down the defamatory story from NTV and Daily Nation's websites, and issue an apology of equal prominence as the damaging publications. The company is also taking the matter before the Media Complaints Commission of the Media Council of Kenya which by law should enforce the principles of good journalism,".

Safaricom Elevates Internet Speeds, Launches 1000Mbps Platinum Plan for Customers

By: Aoma Keziah
@themkenyatimes

Safaricom has announced a major upgrade to its internet services for home and business customers, introducing faster speeds and greater value to meet the evolving needs of its users. As part of the enhancements, Safaricom has launched a new ultra-fast 1000Mbps (1Gbps) Platinum plan for home customers, making it the first provider in Kenya to offer Giga speeds for home internet. Priced at Ksh 20,000 per month, this plan caters to heavy internet users such as gamers, content creators, and those using virtual reality applications.

Existing home customers will automatically be upgraded to the new speed tiers at no additional cost. The revamped packages now offer higher speeds across all tiers, from the Bronze plan's new 15Mbps speed to the top-tier Platinum plan with 1Gbps.

The elevated new internet speeds include: Bronze10 Mbps to 15 Mbps at ksh2,999,Silver 20 Mbps to 30 Mbps at ksh4,100 ,Gold 40 Mbps to 80 Mbps at ksh6,299,Diamond100 Mbps to 500 Mbps at ksh12,499 and the new Platinum 1000Mbps at ksh20,000.

In addition, Safaricom has introduced the Family Share plan, which integrates mobile voice, data, SMS, and home internet into a single package that can be shared with up to five household members. Customers on this plan will also benefit from up to a 20% discount compared to purchasing Fibre and mobile services separately.

Peter Ndegwa, CEO of Safaricom PLC, highlighted the company's commitment to delivering reliable and enhanced connectivity.

"The introduction of these new speeds enables users to handle even the most demanding online activities, including 4K/8K streaming, large file transfers, cloud computing, and gaming. With the Family Share plan, we offer a convenient solution that



Safaricom Sets New Benchmark in Internet Speeds with 1000Mbps Platinum Plan.

brings together mobile and internet services for the whole household." Said Ndegwa

Safaricom has also upgraded its Business Fibre offerings, introducing speeds of up to 1Gbps for Medium and Large Enterprises. These plans come with additional features such as 24/7 proactive monitoring, burstability, static IP support, and a 99.99% uptime guarantee, ensuring seamless and reliable service for businesses.

For Micro and Small Enterprises, the new plans range from 15Mbps to 100Mbps and include mobile data backup to ensure uninterrupted operations during outages. Business customers will also enjoy one-time offers, including a 30GB mobile data bundle and a free email and website domain for new customers.

Safaricom's increased Fibre footprint has been a key driver of internet adoption, with over 17,000 kilometers of Fibre now covering the country. In the last financial year, more than 110,000 new customers connected to the service, bringing the total to over 370,000 homes and 32,000 businesses.

These new offerings are part of Safaricom's ongoing efforts to celebrate 25 years in the market and drive deeper engagement with customers through innovative products and services.

SPORTS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Gor Mahia coach Leonardo Martins Neiva has come out to speak for the first time on why he axed midfielder Rooney Onyango from the starting XI for their second preliminary CAF Champions League return leg

Gor Mahia Coach Martins Neiva Reveals Rooney Onyango's Omission Against Al Ahly



Gor Mahia coach Leonardo Martins Neiva

By: **Louis Hobbs (Sports-Boom)**

Gor Mahia coach Leonardo Martins Neiva has come out to speak for the first time on why he axed midfielder Rooney Onyango from the starting XI for their second preliminary CAF Champions League return leg clash against Al Ahly on Saturday, September 21.

K'Ogalo faced the African champions from Egypt seeking to overturn a 3-0 defeat suffered from the first leg at the Nyayo Stadium on September 15. However, K'Ogalo's line-up for the decisive game at the Cairo International Stadium saw the name of Onyango missing despite being among the players, who had made the trip to the North African nation.

Apart from Onyango, the Brazilian tactician further made changes to the goalkeeping line with Gad Mathews coming in between the sticks after a very long spell out with injury to replace youngster Kevin Omondi.

In the defence, Martins Neiva trusted Geoffrey Ochieng, Sylvester Owino, Alpha Onyango and captain Philemon Otieno while Alphonse Omija, Enock Morrison and Austin Odhiambo marshalled the midfield. Shariff Musa and Samuel Kapen played behind striker Chris Ochieng.

However, the omission of Onyango elicited a lot of debate amongst a section of K'Ogalo faithful with some questioning why the 24-year-old, who has

been a key figure in the sides' recent success, was missing from the crucial game.

Martins Neiva Puts Record Straight on Rooney's Axe

Speaking exclusively to SportsBoom.com after the Al Ahly game, Martins Neiva confirmed the Kenya national team Harambee Stars player had been dropped because of disciplinary issues.

"Rooney (Onyango) missed the game because of lack of commitment, behaviour, and discipline. We are a team and we need to work together for teamwork," Martins Neiva told SportsBoom.com.

Asked whether the player will be available for K'Ogalo's next assignment, Martins Neiva responded: "This is an internal issue that we are going to solve."

However, SportsBoom.com understands Martins Neiva took the decision because the player had a day prior to the Al Ahly stormed out of a training session and refused to honour the coach's summons while rebelling against being fielded in offensive positions.

Onyango has been an integral part of K'Ogalo's squad and was the hero when they staged a comeback to defeat El Merreikh of South Sudan 5-1 in the return leg of their first round Champions League fixture at Nyayo Stadium on August 25.

The huge win saw K'Ogalo overturn a 1-0 first leg defeat suffered in Juba to qualify for the

second round on a 5-2 aggregate win and book a date to face Al Ahly. During the game at Nyayo, Gor Mahia trailed in the opening seven minutes but a quick turnaround saw them score goals through Chris Ochieng, Alpha Onyango, Alphonse Omija before Rooney Onyango completed the rout with a brace in the 80th and 92nd minute.

After the game, Martins Neiva singled out praise for Onyango, who had grabbed the headlines, for his superb display. "Rooney (Onyango) really played well. He is a very gifted, quality player, who can play in many positions," said the former Vipers SC coach.

Former Gor Mahia official Ronald Ngala believes Onyango should allow the coach to mould him because he understands him better on which area he can play him. Ngala gave the example of Arsenal's Bukayo Saka, who was a left back at Arsenal before switching to the attacking role.

"Bukayo (Saka) was a left wing back at Arsenal before becoming a lethal attacking midfielder. Players should allow the coach to mold them," said Ngala. "Closer still, Tillien Oguta was a lethal attacking midfielder before Coach Otti decided that he could be a better player at left wing back."

After Kenya's 2-2 draw against Russia in a friendly on October 16, 2023, Harambee Stars coach Engin Firat lauded Onyango for his breathtaking display after he made his senior debut and tipped him for greatness.

"He worked well and if somebody is working well, they really deserve to play. This is what happened with Rooney, and he is not somebody who is pushed by the media. He is only a footballer and concentrates on football. He is a player who has got a lot of potential and is ready to work on it," said the Turkish coach.

Gor Mahia Must Accept Al Ahly Defeat and Move On

Meanwhile, Martins Neiva called on Gor Mahia fans to ac-

cept Al Ahly defeat saying they were playing against African giants. K'Ogalo's journey in the inter-club competition came to an end after losing 6-0 on aggregate to the Egyptian giants.

Having lost the first leg 3-0 in Nairobi, Gor Mahia headed to Cairo seeking to overturn the result, but they suffered another 3-0 defeat courtesy of goals from Rami Rabia, Wessam Abou Ali and substitute winger Taher Mohamed Taher.

"We must accept the defeat and move on, we played against a strong Al Ahly side, their football is on another level, but I believe the two games we played against them have provided my players with a lot of experience and exposed them to the reality of football in Africa," explained Martins Neiva.

"That is why I gave the chance to players like Shariff Musa, Samuel Kapen to play and get the test of such football, but overall, we played well, we tried our best, the first goal was about set pieces, which we could not defend well, the second goal they cut through our line to score.

"At half-time I tried to change the system, changed the formation and my players responded well, but we should work a lot in our attack, our transition, we lost a few opportunities, but we must accept Al Ahly is on a different level of football."

Asked about his immediate plans following the exit, Martins Neiva said: "For now, our plan is to recover from these two tough games and make sure we transfer this energy, effort, and level to the Premier League. We must transfer this commitment to try to win the first game of the Premier League."

Gor Mahia's first league match will pit them against promoted side Mathare United on Saturday, September 28. Mathare United have already played three matches in the league, losing one and drawing two.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Kenya Breweries Limited (KBL), through its flagship brand, Tusker, have injected Ksh 22 million into this year's Safari 7s, set for Machakos on October 11-13.

Kenya Breweries Pump Ksh 22 Million Into Safari Sevens



From Left: KRU director of 15s Moses Mukabane, KBL managing director Mark Ocitti, and other officials during the unveiling of the Ksh 22 million sponsorship towards the Safari 7s.

By: Capital Sport

Kenya Breweries Limited (KBL), through its flagship brand, Tusker, have injected Ksh 22 million into this year's Safari 7s, set for Machakos on October 11-13.

KBL Managing Director Mark Ocitti said the sponsorship is symbolic of the longstanding relationship between the firm and the sport.

"We are thrilled to once again be involved in this prestigious tournament. Rugby holds a special place in our hearts, and we are proud to continue our legacy of supporting the Safari Sevens," Ocitti said.

He said KBL is proud to play a significant role in the growth of Kenyan sports, particularly rugby, in light of its humongous potential to uplift livelihoods.

"We believe in the power of sports to unite people, and the Safari Sevens is a perfect example of this. We aim to enhance the overall experience for fans, players, and teams, offering not just top-tier rugby but also world-class entertainment. Our goal is to make the 2024 Safari Sevens a memorable occasion for everyone involved," he said.

Echoing the sentiments, Kenya Rugby Union (KRU) chair Alexander 'Sasha' Mutai said the sponsorship is just what the doctor ordered for an out-of-this-world experience at this year's edition.

"Organizing the Safari Sevens is no small feat. We are welcoming teams from across the globe, and there are many aspects of the event that require substantial financial support. This sponsorship will go a long way in covering key

costs, from team logistics to ensuring top-quality entertainment for the fans," Mutai said.

The chair applauded the brewers for their unwavering support to Kenyan rugby.

"Their support over the years has been instrumental in elevating the tournament to the level it enjoys today. When you think of rugby in Kenya, the name Tusker inevitably comes to mind. It's a brand that has become synonymous with the sport, and we are grateful for their continued backing," he said.

The Safari Sevens returned last year following its postponement in 2022.

National men's rugby 7s team, Shujaa, beat Samurai Barracudas 19-0 to win the men's title as Uganda Lady Cranes edged out Kenya Lionesses 15-13 to clinch the women's trophy.

Men's Teams: Kenya Shujaa (defending champions), Kenya Morans, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Qatar, Shogun Rugby, Tropic 7s, Mayotte

Women's Teams: Kenya Lionesses, Kenya Cubs, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Tropic 7s, Spanish Barbarians, Shogun Rugby

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Frog And Stork



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Worth Noting:

- One of the frogs happened to lie down on the grass and watch the birds flying in the sky. His friends around him rolled their eyes at his decision, saying, "You are putting your life in danger." He did not back down from his decision. Out of the water, the barra jumped towards the grass.
- It was surrounded by reeds, clouds were floating in the blue sky, and birds were chasing each other among the floating clouds. The sun was rising and making the day very hot. He closed his eyes tightly. There was only light behind the frog's closed eyes, but that light disappeared and a shadow appeared instead.

Have you ever heard that a frog and a stork are friends? No, you say? Then listen, this story is for you. At the foot of the Blue Mountains is a beautiful village, on the southern side of which is a small, shallow lake surrounded by reeds, and on the southern side of it is a hill with a mud-slide on its shoulder and a house with cinch logs visible. Storks lived on the roof of the ruin on that hill, and their nests could be seen from the other side of the village. Because the village is very small. Frogs lived in the reeds by the lake.

Frogs come out of the water mostly at night, eat insects, fill their bellies, sing for a long time and dance in the moonlight. They were intoxicated by their own songs, while the other creatures around them looked at each other and shrugged their shoulders, hearing nothing but the squealing. In the morning, when the storks rose into the air, they swallowed their rest and threw themselves into the water.

One of the frogs happened to lie down on the grass and watch the birds flying in the sky. His friends around him rolled their eyes at his decision, saying, "You are putting your life in danger." He did not back down from his decision. Out of the water, the barra jumped towards the grass.

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Slowly opened it, as soon as the frog opened its eyes, it was ready to see dark clouds, but could the cloud be red, no, this redness was not a cloud, it was a long red beak.

After some time in the frog's imagination, he began to imagine himself in the stomach of the stork.

- Will my forehead be so salty? At that time, he closed his eyes tightly and said to himself, "It's your fault, now you're going to bask in the stomach of the stork."

Light replaced the shadow around the eyes:

- Yes, he looked around to see if the stork had left.



Frog And Stork.

When he jumped up and looked, next to the frog, a stork spread its wings and looked at the sun.

he closed his eyes, stood on thin, long legs, pulled the second leg into him, and when one leg got tired, he replaced it with the other.

- Hello, Laylakjon said the frog

The stork slowly opened his eyes and smiled at the frog:

- Hello, Bagajan said.

- What are you doing here?

- Can't you see, I'm basking in the sun

- It's good that you found out, but why didn't you attack me?

- I don't eat frogs

- Can a stork never eat a frog? After all, this is a law of nature. There must be a serious reason for this, right? Isn't that so?

- It has a long history. If you are so interested, let me tell you!

Springtime. When I was returning from hot countries with my girl-

friend, we stopped in this village for a while. The environment and the air were rich in freshness. Then we made the roof of the ruined house on the hill. , we used to fly to the neighboring villages and return with hunts. Thus, we didn't even notice that we had missed a single season. Hot summer came. while flying around the village, I saw a blue lake from among the reed fields.

- I haven't seen this place for such a long time, yes, not only I, but also the storks in my house have not seen this place, if they had seen it, I would have heard about it. !

Then I flew to the lake, where the sunlight was pleasant because it was near the water.

Just like now, I closed my eyes on one leg and looked directly at the sun. At one point, a frog started croaking and croaking non-stop, while I was enjoying myself. I opened my eyes and looked at the frog, which was far

away from me. He was pointing at my legs.

I looked down at my feet, not understanding what the frog was saying, and next to my feet was a large rattlesnake preparing to attack me. I immediately climbed up, and the snake crawled into the reeds. I came back and thanked the frog. And in return, I decided not to eat another frog.

Did you hear that my life was saved by your friends, don't be afraid of me

Bagajan, in this life, good is only returned with good. If you strive for good, you will never suffer!

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