



**The Manipulation Of Kenya's Administrative Boundaries Through Gerrymandering, Partisan Favoritism, Economic Bias, And Political Patronage Undermines Equitable Representation And Development**

In the sophisticated, subtle, nuanced, refined, intricate, complex and often opaque world of Kenyan politics, the manipulation of administrative boundaries, most notably through gerrymandering, has become a significant tool for securing political power and economic advantage. Page 18

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**News>> Murang'a Receives A Donation Of Nutrient-Rich Supplements For Children**

P. 8. The Murang'a County government has received a donation of nutrient-rich supplements from Irungu Nyakera Foundation to support the health of local children.



**News>> No Taxation Of Freehold And Commercial Agricultural Land In Kiambu**

P. 12. The County Assembly of Kiambu has unanimously passed law barring taxation of freehold and commercial agricultural land in the area. Freehold land had been subjected to tax due to the Kiambu County Valuation and Rating Act, passed in 2016

# Ruto Drums Up Support For Raila

**President William Ruto on yesterday met with 6 African presidents in Beijing China to drum up support for the Azimio leader Raila Odinga's African Union (AU) Commission candidature. Ruto held talks with Presidents Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé of Togo, Assimi Goita of Mali, Paul Kagame of Rwanda, Umaro Sissoco Embalo of Guinea-Bissau, Mahamat Idriss Deby of Chad, and Hakainde Hichilema of Zambia.**



President William Ruto yesterday met with 6 African presidents in Beijing China to drum up support for the Azimio leader Raila Odinga's African Union (AU) Commission candidature.

**STORY ON PAGE 9**

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# Kirinyaga County Livestock Farmers Trained On Animal Diseases In A Bid To Grow Dairy Farming

*Governor Anne Waiguru Says The Initiative Is Part Of Ongoing Dairy Sector Development Program Which Seek To Increase Milk Production And Earn Farmers More Money As Well As Enlightening Them On Signs Of A Sick Animal*

By: MKT Correspondent  
@themtkenyatimes



Waiguru diseases poses threat to the dairy sector and therefore the need for farmers to be trained on prevention, detection and proper management of livestock.

“We have been working on concerted effort including rolling out subsidized Artificial Insemination (AI) services and offering subsidized animal feeds to the farmers so as to improve on breeds and increase milk production,” Waiguru said.

Apart from Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lumpy Skin Disease the training is also focusing on other ailments like Anthrax, Rift Valley Fever, Rabies and Black Quarter which also pose threat to livestock and people.

Expert veterinarians and agricultural extension officers are leading the training sessions, offering hands-on demonstrations and practical advice to farmers.

Livestock farmers have praised the initiative saying it will help them manage their livestock much better so as to prevent them from acquiring diseases.

“I have learned a lot about how to spot early signs of livestock disease and the steps to take if my animals have the symptoms. This is exactly what we needed considering that I have previously spent a lot of money treating diseases while I could have spent just a Ksh100 when the county veterinary officers were doing mass vaccination,” said Joseph Munyi, a dairy farmer from Togonye area of Mwea East.

Muriuki Magondu, another livestock farmer from the same area said he is now better equipped with knowledge on how to deal with the diseases and how to manage his herd well.

**Worth Noting:**

- Dr. Gachara said private practitioners, government veterinary officers and officials from dairy cooperatives have also been trained so as to help them respond and take swift action on diseases once they break out.
- “The County Government, together with stakeholders in dairy farming has been able to develop a livestock farmer education programme that is being conducted across all the wards by our extension officers,” added Dr. Gachara.

County Government of Kirinyaga has launched an extensive animal diseases sensitization campaign targeting livestock farmers following reported cases of Foot and Mouth and Lumpy Skin diseases.

The campaign aims at equipping livestock farmers with crucial information on prevention of diseases, detection and proper management.

County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture, Livestock, Veterinary and Fisheries Dr. John Gachara said the training comes in the wake of an outbreak of the two diseases which has since been contained.

“Some farmers have been indicating that they recording cases of Lumpy Skin

Disease and Foot and Mouth disease and when we sent our officers to the ground, we discovered the main issue is lack of adequate knowledge on prevention and detection of the diseases,” he said.

Dr. Gachara said private practitioners, government veterinary officers and officials from dairy cooperatives have also been trained so as to help them respond and take swift action on diseases once they break out.

“The County Government, together with stakeholders in dairy farming has been able to develop a livestock farmer education programme that is being conducted across all the wards by our extension officers,” added Dr. Gachara.

The CECM said the county is a transit

point for livestock coming from Eastern and North Eastern part of the country and therefore is prone to diseases like foot and mouth.

He said the county has more than 90,000 dairy cattle and over 30,000 dairy goats which are the main target in the campaign.

Dr. Gachara noted that the sensitization campaign will empower the farmers with the knowledge and tools they need to protect their animals and by extension, their livelihoods.

Governor Anne Waiguru says the initiative is part of ongoing dairy sector development program which seek to increase milk production and earn farmers more money.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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Mama Judith Ongoro



# MEDICAL APPEAL

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



The Stanbic Bank, Kenya Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) indicates a mild recovery in business conditions in August as protests faded and firms resumed normal operations. Activity levels rose for the first time since May, with new orders picking up marginally. Firms also increased their purchases of inputs, whereas employment fell for the first time this year. Further pressure on import prices and taxation led to the sharpest rise in input costs since February, although overall inflationary pressures remained muted compared to the historical trend. The headline PMI rose from 43.1 in July to 50.6 in August, posting above the 50.0 no-change mark for the first time since May.



Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital elevated to level six. The facility, which serves a population of 10 million people in the Lake Region and beyond, will now operate as a parastatal under the county government of Kisumu. It will now run as a Semi-Autonomous Government Agency (SAGA), handling referral cases from Kisumu County and beyond. This new status grants the JOOTRH board operational autonomy in running the hospital's affairs, including determining its organisational structure and services.



Nairobi Region needs additional classrooms to accommodate more learners. Nairobi Regional Commissioner Katee Mwanza has emphasised the need for additional classrooms in public schools in Nairobi County to accommodate school-going children from informal settlements. This, he said, will prevent them from attending Apbet schools, where they lack serious learning and exam preparation. The feeding programme in public schools will upscale enrolment and retain children in schools.



Kwale Governor Fatuma Achani has put land grabbers in the coastal county on notice, stating that the devolved government will repossess hundreds of acres of public land grabbed by private developers and cartels. The governor has called for cooperation from stakeholders to hasten the recovery process of all stolen public assets in the hands of unscrupulous individuals. The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) has recently recovered parcels of land forming parts of the idyllic Chale Island in Kwale, which the commission said were fraudulently hived off. The EACC action followed a court ruling, which determined that the 32-acre piece of land had been unlawfully seized by a group of private investors. The governor claims that land is a source of material wealth, but the evil activities of land grabbers have made land a scarce commodity.



Digital Linear Accelerator Machine (LINAC), which was acquired by Nakuru County to help fight against cancer. Charity organisation Faraja Cancer Support Trust is collaborating with the devolved unit's administration to open a third branch in Nakuru before the end of the year as it seeks to offer support to more patients.



Thousands of Kenyans are leaving the country to foreign nations cannot be unaccounted for due to confusion in government. National Employment Authority (NEA), which says there is no coordination among government agencies on who is registering those seeking employment services outside the country. Speaking when she appeared before the National Assembly's Committee on Diaspora Affairs and Migrant Workers, NEA Director General Edith Okoki said they have already raised the issue with Labour Cabinet Secretary Alfred Mutua to harmonize the process.

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# Building Trust Between Teachers, Pre-Teens And Teens



By: Fridah Moli  
@themtkenyatimes



Volunteer Work with Children in Kenya for Teenagers

## Worth Noting:

- For pre-teens and teens, trust in their teachers can significantly influence their academic performance, motivation and overall well-being.
- When students trust their teachers, they feel safe and supported, allowing them to take intellectual risks, ask questions and engage fully in the learning process. On the flip side, lack of trust can lead to disengagement, anxiety and reluctance to participate, which may hinder their academic and personal growth.

The beginning of a new term means learners will spend more time in school for the next three months than at home. There is a need for educators and learners, especially pre-teens and teens to establish a relationship that is based on trust for positive outcomes for learners.

Trust between learners and teachers is crucial, particularly for pre-teens and teenagers.

They are at a stage where they are not only learning educational content but also navigating the complexities of social relationships, self-identity and emotional growth. For learners to thrive in this environment, it is essential to establish trust with their teachers.

On the other hand, educators must be intentional in this process, which serves as the bedrock for effective learning and personal development.

For pre-teens and teens, trust in their teachers can significantly influence their academic performance, motivation and overall well-being.

When students trust their teachers, they feel safe and supported, allowing them to take intellectual risks, ask questions and engage fully in the learning process. On the flip side, lack of trust can lead to disengagement, anxiety and reluctance to participate, which may hinder their academic and personal growth.

Teachers should employ different strategies when handling individual students as each child is a masterpiece. One of the most effective ways to build trust is through consistency.

Students need to know that their teachers are reliable and will keep their word. This includes being punctual, prepared and fair in their engagements. This fosters a sense of security

and trust.

Pre-teens and teens often feel misunderstood, or unheard, especially as they navigate the challenges of adolescence. Teachers need to actively listen by truly hearing and valuing their students' thoughts and feelings. This involves giving students full attention, acknowledging their perspectives and responding thoughtfully. When a student feels heard, they are more likely to open up and engage.

Adolescence is a time of significant emotional and psychological changes. Empathy and understanding can help learners feel supported during this transition period.

By acknowledging the challenges faced they are better placed to guide students, teachers can build trust and help students navigate their emotions more effectively.

Teachers should be transparent with

students about expectations, goals and feedback sought from them.

When mistakes happen, whether by the teacher, or the student, addressing them honestly helps maintain trust. Admitting when one does not know the answer, or taking responsibility for an error models integrity and builds respect.

As students wade through this transition period, they seek greater autonomy and independence. Teachers can guide them on how to take ownership of their learning. This can be done by providing choices in assignments, encouraging self-directed projects, and respecting students' opinions and ideas. When students feel that their autonomy is respected, they are more likely to trust their teachers.

Teachers allocating specific classroom tasks and responsibilities is part of improving relationships with students. This can be done by asking students to suggest assignment ideas reflecting trust in their capabilities and valuing their participation in the learning process. Students tend to respond well to a teacher who affirms their skills and offers them opportunities to display them.

Recognizing and celebrating students' achievements, no matter how small, can boost their confidence and reinforce their trust in their teachers. Support should also be available when students struggle, showing that their teachers believe in their potential and are committed to their success.

*Fridah Moli is a teacher at Crawford International School*

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Mugwongo Family

# Murang'a Receives A Donation Of Nutrient-Rich Supplements For Children

By: Bernard Munyao and Anjilwa Francis

@themkenyaintimes

The Murang'a County government has received a donation of nutrient-rich supplements from Irungu Nyakera Foundation to support the health of local children.

Delivering the donation to governor Irungu Kang'ata, the founder of the foundation, Irungu Nyakera who is immediate former chairperson of KEMSA said the donation will be supplied to different dispensaries across the county to help in fight against malnutrition among children.

Nyakera also stated that additional donations, including medicine and beds, will be made, in an effort to bolster health services and assist in making prescribed drugs available at the hospitals in Murang'a.

"As a foundation we will partner with the devolved administration with the aim to have a 100 per cent of drug availability at the local hospitals and this is why we have donated the 177 cartons of medicines rich in nutrients which will be distributed to different dispensaries in the county," he said.

Nyakera who also vied for the Mu-

rang'a County governorship in 2022, said he is ready to work with the administration of Kang'ata so as to assist in various programmes that are meant to uplift welfare of the local residents.

"I am pleased with the various projects being implemented by the county government in the sectors of education, health, agriculture, and economy among others. Am ready to support where possible to see the lives of the locals are better," he added.

Nyakera also urged the county administration to engage more and support tea and coffee cooperatives saying by doing this, it will increase the county's revenue and improve the livelihoods of its residents.

"Murang'a is an agrarian region and the county government has done an amazing job in prioritizing farmers' needs through provision of subsidies and programmes such as Inua Mkulima that benefit them immensely. However, we still need to do a lot more by engaging and supporting coffee and tea cooperatives," he remarked.

On his part, governor Kang'ata noted that the county is still in the piloting phase of telemedicine and is facing technical challenges lauding the sup-



Murang'a Governor Irungu Kang'ata (left) receives nutrition supplements from Irungu Nyakera (2nd left) at Murang'a hospital on Tuesday. Also in the photo are health workers at the facility.

port from the Nyakera Foundation in boosting delivery of health care.

Kang'ata said he will bring on board other leaders from the county to support ideas and areas of their profession citing the case of Nyakera who is a professional in finance.

"As we are working to tackle the hitches in the provision of telemedicine services, my administration will bring on board experts to ensure smooth operation of the programme,"

he noted.

The governor continued, "We are working to ensure drugs reach residents at their nearest dispensaries and with the experience Nyakera attained when he worked at KEMSA, he will be in a better position to help us in deliveries of drugs to our medical facilities."

Kang'ata emphasized that his government is ready to work with all leaders for efficient service delivery

and called for combined efforts towards initiatives that positively impact the people of Murang'a.

By bringing in other political leaders, Kang'ata said he will have a broad-based administration saying their contribution of the leaders will help develop the county.

"We want to mirror the national government by taking into account all political talents in the county," he added.

# We Will Not Allow County Money To Be Reduced - Waiguru, Njuki

By: MKT Correspondent

@themkenyaintimes

The Council of Governors now say they will not accept any move to reduce the counties shareable revenue as proposed to KSh380 billion from an initial agreement of KSh400 billion, saying the move would cripple counties.

According to the Council of Governors chairperson Anne Waiguru, counties have been struggling with the monies given with a ballooning urge for development and thus, any move to reduce what has already been approved would have a serious ripple effect to counties.

Waiguru, who spoke in Mukothima ward of Tharaka Constituency in Tharaka Nithi County where she officially opened the Ura Gate Cultural festival which is in its 6th year, said

the proposal to reduce allocation to KSh380 Billion and not the baseline for last year, of KSh385 Billion was tantamount to clawing back on devolution despite the progress made.

"We cannot allow anything less than the KSh385 Billion we got last year. Actually, we want the lowest amount given to counties to be at KSh400 Billion," said Waiguru.

"How will we run services at the counties which require money. Services such as health, water....." she wondered.

On his part, Tharaka Nithi governor Muthomi Njuki warned of an impending halt in the counties and a probability of a wave of industrial actions if counties are not capacitated enough.

According to governor Njuki, additional monies to counties was to cater for increased salaries for health care workers, county staff and development and thus this reduction would not sit well with running county op-



Governors Muthomi Njuki and Ann Waiguru with other leaders in Mukothima area, Tharaka Nithi County..

erations.

This comes at a time when the ministry in charge of civil servants has

announced a pay rise.

Consequently, the union for county workers has issued a 21 day strike

notice

# Ruto Meets 6 African Leaders In Beijing To Drum Up Support For Raila's AUC Bid

By: Wangechi Purity  
 @themtkenyatimes

President William Ruto on yesterday met with 6 African presidents in Beijing China to drum up support for the Azimio leader Raila Odinga's African Union (AU) Commission candidature.

Ruto held talks with Presidents Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé of Togo, Assimi Goita of Mali, Paul Kagame of Rwanda, Umaro Sissoco Embalo of Guinea-Bissau, Mahamat Idriss Deby of Chad, and Hakainde Hichilema of Zambia.

The head of state discussions with the 6 African presidents were tailored on supporting Odinga's Au bid as well as the Country's bilateral issues. "Met President Paul Kagame of Rwanda in Beijing, China, and deliberated on deepening our relations and also the candidature of Raila Odinga for the position of the African Union Commission chairperson," he revealed in one of the posts shared on

his X platform.

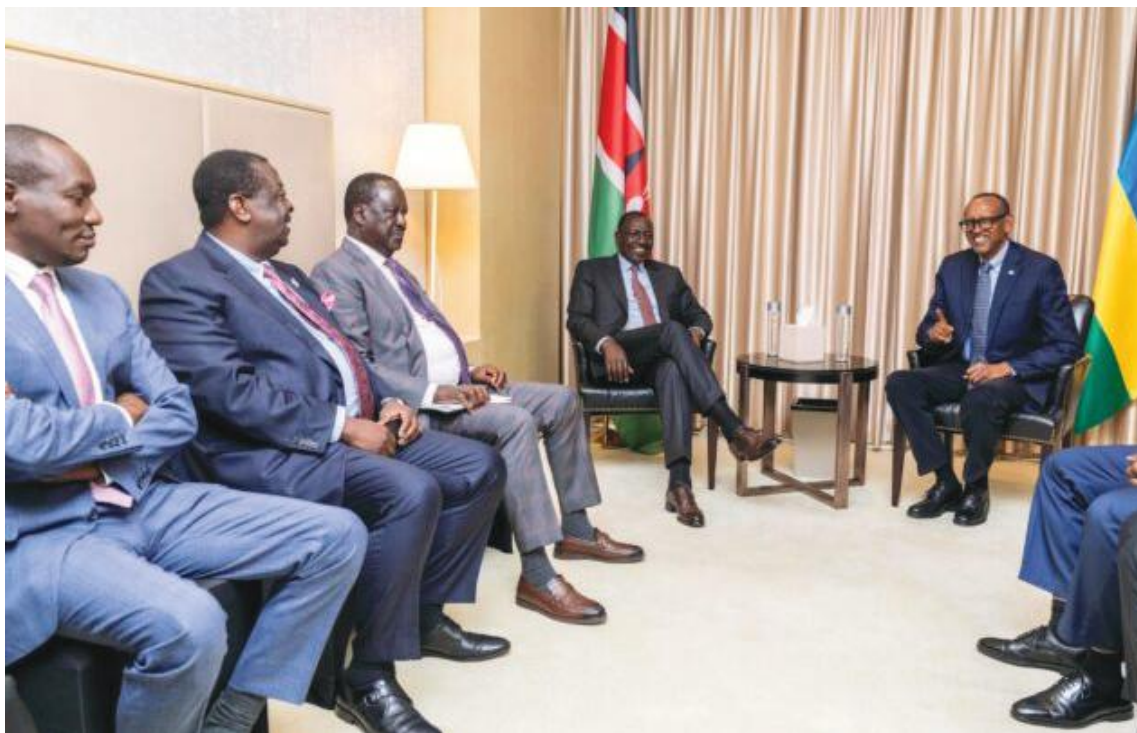
President Ruto has been at the forefront in championing Odinga's bid to win the AU commission top job stating that he will protect the region's interests.

This is after the East African Community leaders agreed to sponsor Odinga as the candidate for the African Union (AU) Commission chairman post.

Kenya officially launched the former Prime Minister bid for the African Union Commission (AUC) chairmanship on Tuesday, August 29 2024 where President Ruto hosted regional leaders to express his unwavering support for Odinga's candidacy at State House, Nairobi.

Ruto hailed former Prime Minister Raila Odinga as a "veteran mobilizer for positive change," expressing strong confidence in his ability to lead the AU Commission.

"Raila is a celebrated statesman whose longevity in leadership has been sustained by an unrelenting devotion to democratic change as the foundation of sustainable freedom and prosperity," he said.



Speaking during the official unveiling of his candidature at State House Nairobi Odinga has vowed to spearhead reforms in the continental body in order to achieve an AU Visa for ease movement within the continent. "My friend Aliko Dangote says that

for him to travel across the continent he needs 35 visas. His French competitor does not need a visa to travel with a French passport in Africa, what a shame," Odinga said. "In Europe you only need a schengen visa and you can travel across the

entire Europe without a problem, we will also ensure that we reach a stage where we can issue an AU visa and allow people to travel across the continent without a problem," he added.

# County Workers Threaten Strike Over Pay Disparities, Issue 21-Day Notice

By: IRENE MWANGI

Devolved units across Kenya's 47 counties are facing a looming crisis as county government workers threaten to down tools over unresolved pay grievances.

The Kenya County Government Workers Union (KCGWU), which represents various county employees, including firemen, garbage collectors, revenue clerks, and ECDE teachers, has issued a 21-day notice to their employers, demanding immediate resolution of their salary disputes.

KCGWU Secretary General Roba Duba criticized the government's decision to increase salaries for national government public servants while excluding county employees.

"We hereby demand the immediate implementation of the salary increment for all county employees without any further delay within 21 days. Failure to comply will result in a call for all county employees to down their tools until the matter is addressed," Roba stated.

Duba expressed frustration over the withdrawal of a salary increase circular that initially applied to all public servants, only to be reinstated for national government employees, leaving county workers out.

He noted that county employees were excluded from the first phase of salary adjustments, which saw public servants receive an increment of 7 to 10 percent.

"We addressed the President through a letter dated August 30, 2023, regarding the discrimination against county government workers. The head of Public Service directed the State Department for Devolution to address the matter, but nothing has been forthcoming, which is against the President's directive," Duba added.

Last month, the government implemented a pay rise for police officers, teachers, and civil servants as part of their Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

The 21-day notice has been officially served to all 47 County Government Secretaries, who are responsible for addressing the workers' grievances.



KCGWU Secretary General Roba Duba

# It Takes Both Visions And Dreams To Make A Mark On The Earth Pt 1



By: Eric Musa  
 EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

A dream brings about the dawn of a new day for you. Every turn around begins with a dream. No matter how young or old you. Once you have a dream it marks a turning point in life for you.

Josiah, for instance, was only eight years old when he began to reign in Judah. Abraham, on the other hand, was seventy-five when God unveiled the divine plan for his life. Purpose is never late. All you need is a decision to pursue it, and that decision determines what happens.

Apostle Paul was a man who pursued definite goals. He said, "I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air" (1 Corinthians 9:26). In other words "I am pursuing a definite

goal". At the end of everything, after he had accomplished his purpose he said, "...I have fought a good fight..." (2 Timothy 4:7).

Even Jesus while on earth was a man of purpose. He said in response to Pilate's question, "...Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth..." (John 18:37). He had one end and came for one cause. That's why He said "end" not ends, and "cause" not causes. Jesus has set an example for us that we should walk in His steps.

I have discovered that men who make outstanding impact on their generation are men of purpose. You too must become a man of purpose to become a man of accomplishment. You are not every man, you are just one man. That means one thing is sufficient for you to pursue. Give it all you have got and you will get all it contains.

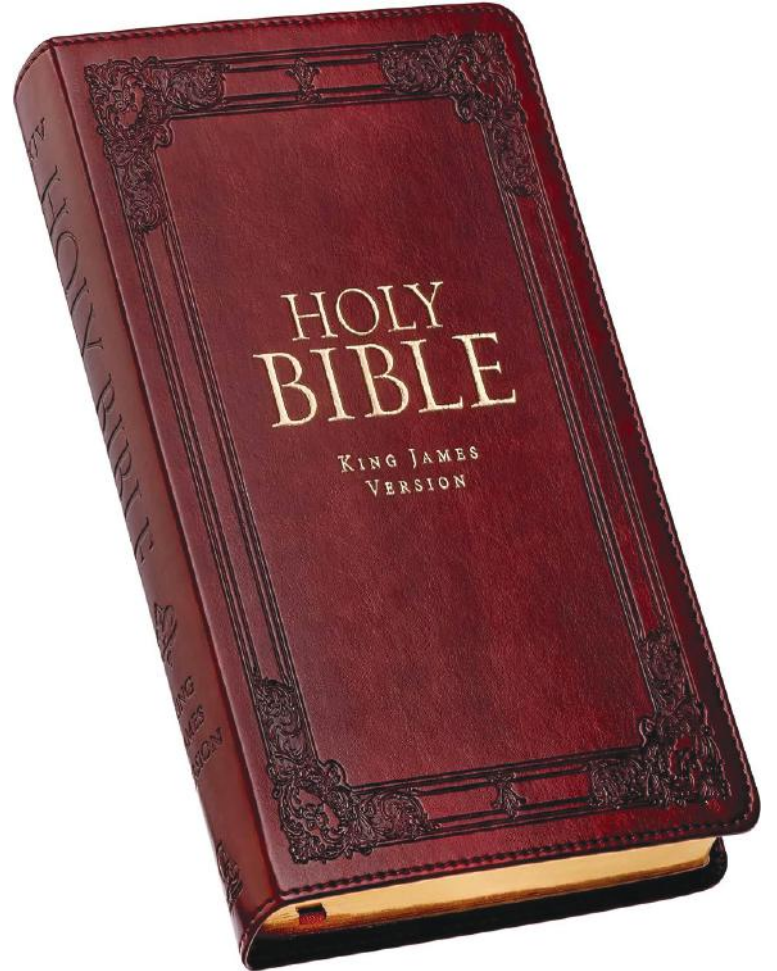
I am doing only one thing in the world, and that is what He has sent me to do. I have not invested money into any organization, yet I am bless-

ed as I pursue my goal. Show me a man with a goal and I'll show you a go-getter in the making.

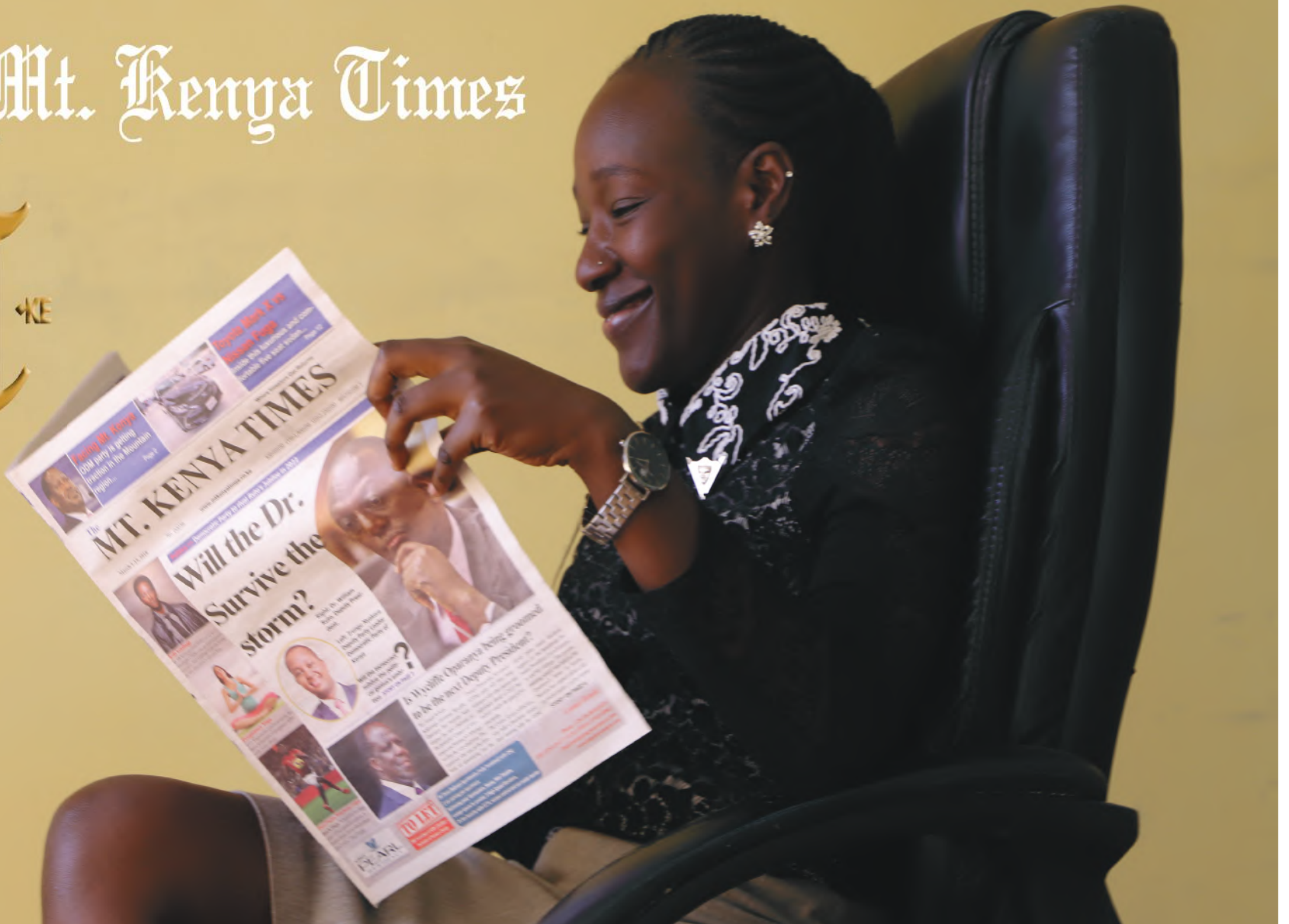
GLORY, HONOR, POWER BE UNTO THE LORD, GOD FOREVER AND EVER: AMEN.

References:  
 The Living Bible.  
 Pastor Dr. David Oyedepo.

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



## The Mt. Kenya Times



# Gachagua's Move To Mend Fences With Raila Was Wise, Laudable



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandongaa@yahoo.com

Last Sunday, I had an opportunity to listen to Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua's speech when he addressed congregants after attending a church service in Meru county.

This was DP's first public engagement with the people of the Mountain. He had for the last four days accompanied his boss, President William Ruto, to a development tour of four counties of Luo land.

The DP told the congregants that some people in this region (Mount Kenya) wanted me to explain and shed light on why I opted to throw my weight behind Hon. Raila Odinga.

This is my humble answer. In the run-up to 2022 polls, our son President Uhuru Kenyatta told us that Raila Odinga was a good man.

We ignored Uhuru, our son, and even called him names. We rejected Raila at the ballot.

On the other hand, the current President told us that Raila was a very bad man and we believed him when he told us if he wins the election he never share government with Raila.

Today, President Ruto is telling us that Raila is a good man.

He had reached out to him and brought him on board.

We are not saying what President Ruto has done is wrong.

But as your top leader in this region, I asked myself this question. Who is a fool?

Our son told us Raila is good. Ruto is now saying that Raila is good. If the two presidents have said that Raila is good, who is Gachagua to say No?

The DP received wild cheers and thunderous applause from the congregants when he told them. You can now understand why I changed my tune.

As a community, we have learnt big lessons. As your leader, I will never listen to a leader telling us to hate a leader of another community.

Moving forward, I urge you to make friend with other communities and treat them with respect.

In coming days, we will negotiate and create political alliances with like minds.

Back to the tour of Luo nation, the wish of critics of Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua particularly those drawn from the Mount Kenya region was to see him being heckled and humiliated.

But to utter shock and dismay, their prayer fell flat. The DP was accorded a rousing welcome in the entire trip that covered the region's four counties.

President Ruto also showered the ODM leader Raila Odinga with praises. In one of the stopovers, Gachagua told the residents. Thank you for welcoming me. You are good people. I have realized the secret of keeping friendship is to love and embrace Baba (Raila).

A few days earlier, you saw me exactly doing this in Nairobi during the unveiling of Hon Raila Odinga's candidacy for Africa Union Commission chairmanship.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

Pastor Dorcas Gachagua, the spouse of DP also attended the launch.

She is one who led the prayer of committing Raila Odinga to God after being invited by the President.

We pray God to hold your hands. With God, everything is possible. You will definitely clinch that seat.

After the tour, majority of people in the Mountain hit out at the critics of Gachagua. We were shocked to see them washing their dirty linen in public while visiting another region. To us, this was indeed the lowest moment.

By virtue of being the Second-In-Command, we want to tell the critics that Gachagua is not only the senior-most leader in our region but we also love him so much.

His critics were behaving badly. They were being given small money by the outsiders who felt threatened by Gachagua's rising influence and popularity.

The outsiders were out to divide us with a view to weakening our political bargain come 2027 polls. We are now more wiser. We will not allow DP's critics to have their way.

As we know, Luo Nyanza is the bedroom of Raila.

With this, Gachagua once again demonstrated that he is a well schooled and experienced politician.

Therefore, you can only ignore him at your own peril.

He had read the political mood and he knew what the people of Luo Nyanza wanted to hear.

While espousing his credentials as a reformer and gallant fighter for democracy and social justice in Kenya, the DP stated that he is highly qualified and best suited for AU seat. For Raila, serving the continent of Africa is not a job. It is calling.

We are praying for him and I'm sure

he will clinch it.

The DP added: As you can see, I'm here with my boss, the President.

The President is here for development. He will be around for four days and I'm going to be with him.

As a deputy, my work is to help the President in ensuring the projects he rolls out are constructed and completed.

During the launch of Raila Odinga's campaigns for AU top seat, the DP described Raila as his close friend.

You had previously heard a lot of stories. This did not mean I hate Raila.

But as a deputy, you know what my job entails.

The DP also received thunderous applause when he conveyed the greetings from the people of the Mountain.

I hoped the critics of DP particularly those drawn from the Mountain will not politicize and misinterpret the warm reception that Gachagua received to mean outshining the President. The DP was powerless. This was a mammoth crowd. The only thing he could have done is to cut short his speech and this is exactly what he would do.

I was wrong. In day two, some of Gachagua's fierce critics from the Mountain showed up and we saw them engaging him in a bare knuckled attacks. The ultimate goal was to deflate DP's growing popularity in Nyanza.

One of them stated: Don't listen to the leader who is here to lecture you about village politics.

He never believed in Baba (Raila). Remember there was a time he had declared that he had set traps around State House and hired spies. This was in a bid to stop Raila from accessing President Ruto. This leader is out 'to sow seeds of ethnic hatred and disharmony'.

We in the Mountain are fully behind President William Ruto's vision and agenda of building a united and harmonious Kenya for all of us.

I'm not holding brief for DP but I want to make one thing very clear.

The position of DP does not in any way contradict that of the President.

We know Kenya's politics is tribal and regional based. So, DP's push for unity of Mount Kenya first is geared towards the realization of that same noble course.

Today we have four notable ethnic kingpins-President William Ruto (Kalenjin), Raila Odinga (Luo), Kalonzo Musyoka (Kamba) and Musalia Mudavadi/Moses Wetangula (Luhya).

The point here is clear. These leaders rose to national fame after consolidating support of their respective communities.

Perhaps this explains why the Luos had little time for that Kikuyu leader as he trained his gun on Gachagua.

Putting the ongoing Nyanza tour aside, a friend of mine told me the other day that he does not believe in the rumors doing round that President William Ruto has abandoned his Deputy Rigathi Gachagua.

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

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

My friend added: If the rumors turn

**Worth Noting:**

- The DP received wild cheers and thunderous applause from the congregants when he told them. You can now understand why I changed my tune.
- As a community, we have learnt big lessons. As your leader, I will never listen to a leader telling us to hate a leader of another community.
- Moving forward, I urge you to make friend with other communities and treat them with respect.
- In coming days, we will negotiate and create political alliances with like minds.
- Back to the tour of Luo nation, the wish of critics of Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua particularly those drawn from the Mount Kenya region was to see him being heckled and humiliated.

# No Taxation Of Freehold And Commercial Agricultural Land In Kiambu

By: Felix Njenga  
 @themtkenyatimes



Bunge Mashinani presenting their petition on freehold land to Kiambu County Assembly speaker Charles Thiongo in february this year.

**Worth Noting:**

- “We have passed that no land owner on freehold land should pay penalties dating back 8 years as per the previous law,” he said.
- He said that they also amended that the penalties to be charged for late payment of the land rate should be 10% per year down from the previous charges of 36%.
- “We agreed that the 3% per month penalty on late payments of land rates on commercial land making it 36% per annum was too high and we passed into law that Kiambu people will be paying charges at 10% per annum,” he said.
- The assembly also repealed Section 45 of the Act which gave Finance executive powers to sell land through auction or a private treaty if one fails to pay land rates.

The County Assembly of Kiambu has unanimously passed law barring taxation of freehold and commercial agricultural land in the area. Freehold land had been subjected to tax due to the Kiambu County Valuation and Rating Act, passed in 2016, which stated that all freehold land in Kiambu is ratable. The Committee on County Planning and Urbanization tabled its report which included the amendments that proposed to repeal sections of the Act outlining the levying of land rates on agricultural land. Further, the Bill also proposed waivers on the land rates and penalties that land owners have been subjected to for the last 8 years. According to Peter Wainana, MCA Karuri Ward who moved the amendments and presented the report on behalf of the committee said that they considered the concerns of land owners in Kiambu county who had even presented a petition to the Assembly to repeal the law since it was punitive and unanimously removed the clauses which had made their lands be ratable. “As an Assembly we have unanimously repealed the Valuation Act 2016 which saw the freehold land being ratable,” Wainana said. He said that they ammended a clause which saw land owners pay arrears dating 8 years back for lack of rates payments. “We have passed that no land owner on freehold land should pay penalties dating back 8 years as per the previous law,” he said. He said that they also amended that

the penalties to be charged for late payment of the land rate should be 10% per year down from the previous charges of 36%. “We agreed that the 3% per month penalty on late payments of land rates on commercial land making it 36% per annum was too high and we passed into law that Kiambu people will be paying charges at 10% per annum,” he said. The assembly also repealed Section 45 of the Act which gave Finance executive powers to sell land through auction or a private treaty if one fails to pay land rates. The Assembly was divided and differed on amended of the clause which had been proposed to have commercial farming covering an acreage of five acres and above be ratable which those in opposition said that the term commercial farming had not been well define and will be used to exploit farmers and would face double taxation of their land and also products. The committee on Planning relooked into the clause and unanimously passed that the wording commercial farming be removed to be part of the bill. The assembly was in agreement and commercial farming was removed from the bill where Kiambu residents in commercial farming will not be taxed. Joe Kigara MCA Ngenda Ward and the assembly minority leader said that the Assembly worked in autonomy to pass a law which is in the interest of Kiambu people. “With the wisdom of the Assembly Members, we have looked into the 2015 Valuation Act and we have

looked into and we have since amended the clauses which were punitive to kiambu land owners,” Kigara said. He told Kiambu residents that their lands are free and nobody will charge them penalties as it has been scrapped off and nobody will sell their land for lack of rates payments as it has been scrapped off. Godfrey Mucheke MCA Kalimoni Ward and Leader of the Majority said that now that the assembly has repealed the law it should be a wake up call for the national assembly to relook into the law and also scrap the punitive tax imposed on freehold lands at the national level. “As the Assembly members we consulted widely which looked like we were differing amongst ourselves as leaders but we have come to a consensus and have given Kiambu people what they deserve and that is freeing their lands from taxes,” he said.

Kennedy Odhiambo MCA Kahawa Sukari ward said that most of the kiambu land was passed on through inheritance and was gotten through bloodshed during the fighting for independence of the country and it was a shame and punitive for the government to tax and take by force the lands from their owners. “Kiambu people have a right to their lands and imposing tax on lands which do not earn anything and then take away their lands for non payment of rates is a cruel law. I am glad that we have removed all these punitive laws and now Kiambu residents’ lands are free from those rates,” Odhiambo said. Charles Thiongo, Speaker Kiambu Assembly said that the agricultural lands have now been freed from being taxed by the government. “The assembly listened to the concerns of Kiambu residents on agricultural lands and now they will no longer be charged rates on their lands. The backdated penalties have also been scrapped off and residents will not be compelled to pay,” he said. However Eric Mutura, speaker of the Bunge Mashinani lobby which had gone round Kiambu county to collect signatures to present a petition to compel the assembly to repeal the valuation Act 2015 said that the Kiambu citizens freehold land owners can now rest easy. “Bunge Mashinani initiative, thank the Kiambu residents for the show of unity which culminated in pressure on the county government to amend the Valuation and Rating Act of 2016. although the residents had pushed for the repeal of the Act we are content for now,” Mutura said. Mutura called on the county government to put into consideration allocating 1% of the county budget to Civic Education as it had been demanded in the petition.



Kiambu County Assembly Speaker Charles Thiongo entering the chambers for a session.

# Farmers Urged To Practice Climate-Smart Agricultural Practices To Combat Climate Change

By: Kenya News Agency

Farmers in Murang'a are encouraged to adopt smart agricultural practices for profitable farming to ensure food safety and security in the country.

Agronomist Francis Mwamba emphasises the importance of soil testing for farmers to determine the nutrients available for their plants and make informed decisions on fertilisers.

"Testing the soil is a must do for any farmer who intends to reap returns in agri-investment because the soil PH majorly determines the nutrients that will be available to the plants," he states.

"Moreover, testing your soil helps you know the type and amount of food or nutrients available for your plants, and hence you can successfully decide on the fertiliser to use on the soil.

Testing soil helps build soil health, improving crop resistance to pests and

diseases.

Some crops that thrive in Murang'a include Pawpaws, mangoes, avocados, and oranges, which can be harvested with a soil PH of 6.0 to 6.5 and varieties that can withstand drought or require round-the-clock irrigation.

"A good soil PH coupled with other right agronomic practices will enable a pawpaw farmer, for example, to harvest 70-150 fruits per tree annually, with each fruit retailing at between Sh50 to Sh100 depending on its size," he says, adding that "it is paramount for farmers to choose quality seeds for optimum yields."

The agronomist further advises farmers to make use of agricultural lime as a natural, low-cost way to improve the soil to combat the effects of regular chemical-based fertilisers.

He urges farmers to use compost manure, which, when mixed properly with soil, will release nutrients over time and then leach away into groundwater like other organic matter can do, thus increasing the yields.

Challenges in managing excess water



Pawpaw farmer.

and preventing soil erosion need to be addressed through soil conservation methods and farmer empowerment

through climate ecological research. Rainfall replenished water sources and enhanced soil moisture can poten-

tially benefit crop growth in the long term if managed effectively through sustainable agricultural practices.

# Gachagua's Move To Mend Fences With Raila Was Wise, Laudable

Contd from page 11

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

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

President Ruto is not however coming out strongly to reprimand them and throw his full weight behind the DP.

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

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

in Kakamega.

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

Tellingly, DP Gachagua was conspicuously absent.

A few days earlier I had written an article in this column and these were my observations. In the run-up to 2022 General Election, the political opinions of the allies and confidantes of President William Ruto then Kenya Kwanza presidential candidate drawn from Mount Kenya region were divided on who should become his running mate.

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

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

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

He only intervened after they failed to agree.

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

Apart from being courageous and having deep pocket, Gachagua's prowess

in communicating in local dialect was immeasurable.

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

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

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

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

The argument that the kikuyus had already decided they will vote for Ruto with or without one of their own being a running mate does not hold any water.

I highly doubt this could have happened. Majority of Kikuyus wanted to see one of their own being at the top.

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

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

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

Reports indicate that a section of members of parliament from Rift Valley have hatched a plot to impeach DP Gachagua. The critics of Gachagua from Mount Kenya region were also behind this plot.

Whenever I read these stories, two questions would come to my mind. Were they enjoying the blessing of the President? Did they stand a chance of having their way?

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

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

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

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

He had also reached out to Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka.

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

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

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

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

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

Besides, if it turns out the President supported the motion, many members were bound to interpret this as a big betrayal.

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

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

## Angel Mother On Earth!



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

Working day and night  
Burning for his child.  
He who supplicates to god  
As an angel mother on earth!  
If they are near you, when you are paying  
attention.  
You will be lucky because of his prayers.  
Praying and asking for happiness.  
As an angel mother on earth!  
If you are sick, you have a headache.  
Thinking of you, my heart breaks every  
moment.  
Paradise is the only example  
As an angel mother on earth!  
HOMELAND!  
I grew up in your womb.  
Paradise in Uzbekistan .  
I loved the beautiful from  
the bottom of my heart .  
Nurullayeva Ra'no Xayrullayevna.

## Mother Is The Most Proud In The World!



By: Khakimova Dilnoza

In fact, we are born to be constantly surrounded by butterflies! Forgetting his desires, she looks at us at our desires. She brings us to the world with a thousand pains at a time when she should be spending time for herself. She always keeps our name in the deepest part of her heart even when we are children and are not fit for any day. For a mother, each child has a place. There are many rates for mothers. Poets can write verses about mothers, but mothers feel they deserve the best. A mother cares for her child as soon as she feels it in her body. When she raised her two sons white-washed. I was born when my elder brother was 12 years old and my younger brother was 11 years old. I wish you could have seen how happy she was when she gave birth to me and how grateful she was, saying, "I have a daughter too." My mother always talks about these days with tears in her eyes. One of the stories that my mother always tells me is that my grandfather loves me as my only and only daughter. I grew up in an ordinary family without straining for anything. They always tried to give me all the possibilities. I did not sleep hungry once, I was not without clothes, all the conditions were provided in my life. My mother would have a poetry notebook. Because it was written in Latin, I couldn't read it without much effort. When my mother was busy with household chores, she used to write poetry and memorize Alisher Navoi's ghazals. Even though my mind is low and it is difficult for me to memorize, he would repeat it again and again without any effort. Because my father taught music, we had various musical instruments in our house. My father would work on himself early in the morning, prepare for today's topic, and write questions about the previous topic. I was very curious about what was in the small clippings. I was talking to myself. I used to teach there, and I used to write the greetings that my mother brought me. But not a

single letter remained in my mind. I used to ask my mother, what was written on my father's papers? Why does my father always teach when she's grown up? I never got tired of asking. I was walking happily as if I were reciting a poem about the things that came to my mind to put a sentence on. My mother was very happy when I memorized ghazals. "My daughter will be the daughter of Zulfiyakhanim," she used to boast to her brothers. Days passed, days followed by years, and I went to school at the age of seven. In elementary school, I didn't study very well, I was shy, I was one of those people who said, "Don't be silent to me, I won't be silent to you." Every time my mother went to a meeting, her mood fell. "Your daughter is not interested in anything, her math grades are low, she doesn't study much," my class teacher used to complain to my mother. The day after the meeting, I would say with a different enthusiasm, "Today I will get five in my subject for 4 hours at school, so that my teacher will not complain about me to my mother in the meeting." I was good at singing and leading events, but my mother expected great results from me when I was in the 3rd grade. When the youth union noticed that I was writing poetry, my mother welcomed my small successes. "Samarkand Youth" appeared in the newspaper. My mother was getting closer to my dreams one by one. My brothers studied on a contract, and my father's monthly salary was insufficient for our family. My father went to work at the factory, and he said that his work was hard, but not so difficult for us. My mother used to work hard, saying "I will educate my children even if it hurts". After this surgery, my mother worked hard again. It is not easy to live in the village, there were also people who said that there was a farm and property. Seeing my mother's hard work brought tears to my aunts' eyes. Even though they said, "You didn't buy your soul, your soul is not iron, just do it," my mother never stopped trying. They gave my brothers a higher education. They are creating all the conditions for me to get knowledge. It is my responsibility to show the results of these difficulties.

## Love To Family



My love to my family,  
To my brother, sister, mother.  
A piece for my dad too,  
My way is a sidewalk.

I honor my father,  
I respect my mother.  
My brother and sister,  
Of course I care.

Abdurrahman, Umida,  
He respects me.  
With kind words to me,  
He tasted honey from his tongue.

Daddy loves me  
He caresses and hugs.  
what i say will do  
What can I say?  
My mother is kind,  
Every word has magic.  
My mother is my only one  
The whole world is one piece.

My sister is surprised  
My brother is a wrestler.  
Inspiration cries to me,  
A propeller in my head.

My family is my happiness  
My throne in the world.  
"Family is the holy place"  
The words madhim-ku.

Ikhomova Mohichehra is a teacher of the 8th grade of the 9th general secondary school of Zarafshan city, Navoi region.

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# IRA Unveils Underwriting Facility To Boost Geothermal Investments

By: MKT Correspondent

[@themkenyatimes](#)

The Insurance Regulatory Authority of Kenya (IRA), in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, the State Department of Industrialisation, and the East African Insurance Sector, has announced a geothermal risk underwriting facility, a pioneer initiative in the whole continent.

The product is expected to fast-track and attract greater investments in green energy projects in Kenya and the region by lessening the financial risk associated with geothermal projects.

The facility will underwrite up to KSh260 million in the early exploration stages, and its development has been supported by Financial Sector Deepening (FSD Africa) in collaboration with Parhelion Underwriting and Kenbright, who are huge partners in the joint initiative.

Principal Secretary, State Department of Energy Alex Wachira, noted that insurance cover for the risky geothermal exploration work is a great enabler for the country to exploit the geothermal power potential estimated at 10,000 MW.

According to Wachira, the huge potential of geothermal energy makes it not only an energy source but also a driver of economic growth and sustainable development.

He added that Kenya is endowed with vast geothermal resources, and great progress has been made in tapping into this clean power.

“However, for us to fill the energy gaps, we need collaboration and investment between the public and private sectors,” reiterated the PS in a speech read on his behalf by a representative from the Department.

Wachira emphasised that collaborations are a key step to harnessing and exploiting geothermal power to its maximum potential.

Speaking on the announcement, IRA Commissioner of Insurance Godfrey Kiptum lauded the facili-



ty as one that will deepen Kenya’s green energy credentials by spurring investments in the geothermal sub-sector, a form of energy in which the

region holds great potential.

“The insurance sector plays a critical role in the social-economic development of any nation. I am proud

that the insurance sector has kept innovation alive with products such as the geothermal risk underwriting facility,” he expressed.

# ICT Authority, KeNIC Sign MoU To Enhance Adoption Of ICT Standards And .ke Domains In Kenya

By: MKT Reporter

[@themkenyatimes](#)

The ICT Authority has signed a MoU with the Kenya Network Information Centre (KeNIC) to enhance the adoption of ICT standards, facilitate knowledge and skills transfer, and enhance the use of .ke domains.

The three-year collaboration aims to foster public trust in government digital initiatives and leverage the expertise and resources of both organisations to achieve a digitally transformed country.

One of the obligations of the MoU requires KeNIC to promote awareness on the importance and benefits of using .go.ke email addresses and domains, while the ICT Authority will promote the adoption of .go.ke email use in government Ministries and State Corporations to increase uptake and compliance.

ICT Authority CEO Stanley Kamunguya emphasised the importance of building a safe online environment as digital development continues to rise.

“We shall also be looking at how we address the issue of digital governance. We believe we can then work together with Kenic to realise this,” said Kamunguya.

“We have carefully looked at the security issue, and we shall work together to ensure these domains are secure so that businesses can also register this.

We believe that this collaboration will go a long way not only to support government institutions but also the private sector for them to be able to register on the .ke domain,” he added.

The partnership will help address strategic issues and provide more value to the Kenyan people, such as providing entrepreneurs with an online identity through .ke domains.



ICT Authority, KeNIC Sign MoU To Enhance Adoption Of ICT Standards And .ke Domains In Kenya

# Parliamentary Committee Accuses Treasury Of Sabotaging Key State Projects By Not Releasing Funds

By: PSCU

Members of the Parliamentary Departmental Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives have raised concerns that the National Treasury is sabotaging key development projects by failing to release funds appropriated to State Departments.

This emerged yesterday during a meeting between the committee chaired by Embakasi North MP James Gakuya and Senior National Treasury Officials.

At the meeting, Treasury Officials led by Benard Ndungu, the Director General in charge of Accounting Services, told the MPs that a total of KSh218.5 billion was not released to five state agencies under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The State departments include Investment Promotion, Industry, Trade, Cooperatives and that of MSMEs.

“Our biggest concern as a committee is that the National Treasury has decided to kill industrialisation and

the manufacturing sector by starving the state departments of funds,” said Gakuya.

Committee Vice Chairperson Marianne Kitany, on her part, wondered why the State Departments and their agencies were denied development funds, knowing very well that some of the sectors are critical in generating revenue.

“For the government to collect more revenue in the key sectors of the economy, it has to invest funds to spur growth in the various sectors. How do you project to get revenue when you are not investing?” posed Kitany.

While responding to the queries, Mr Ndungu, who was accompanied by Francis Anyona ( Director of Budget )and John Anjera (Director of Planning-Macro and Fiscal Affairs), explained that lack of funds is to blame for the situation.

“Due to the shortfall of revenue and scarcity of cash resources, the National Treasury usually apply for administrative criteria by giving priority to public debt, security, salaries, counties, social programmes such as education, health, development and flagship projects and others,” Mr



Embakasi North MP James Gakuya

Ndungu told the MPs.

Several key projects are in limbo due to the National Treasury’s failure to release allocated funds. These include the construction of six Export Promotion Zones (EPZ), each allocated Sh500 million in the last financial year, totalling KSh3 bil-

lion. So far, only KSh300 million has been released for these projects, which were directed by President William Ruto.

Additionally, KSh3.5 billion for the Coffee Cherry Fund has not been released, despite Parliament allocating KSh4 billion in the 2023/24 budget.

The Treasury also has not released KSh350 million meant for the modernization of Kenya Planters Cooperative Union (KPCU) warehouses, as allocated by the National Assembly in the Supplementary Budget II of 2023/2024.

# Kiambu County Clear All Debt Owed To KEMSA

By: MKT Reporter

@themkenyaintimes

Kiambu County has cleared KSh2.06 million debts with the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) for medical supplies provided to its hospitals in the last financial year.

The county ended the year debt-free for drugs supplied to over 120 level 2-5 hospitals.

KEMSA Board Director Bernard Bett stated that counties owe KEMSA over Sh3 billion in debts and urged them to speed up the clearance of these pending bills.

“We are happy that we are making progress in engaging the counties. Our order fill rate is still at 60 per cent. We are hopeful we will get those debts cleared. By the end of the year, we shall be somewhere close to 90 per cent,” Bett said.

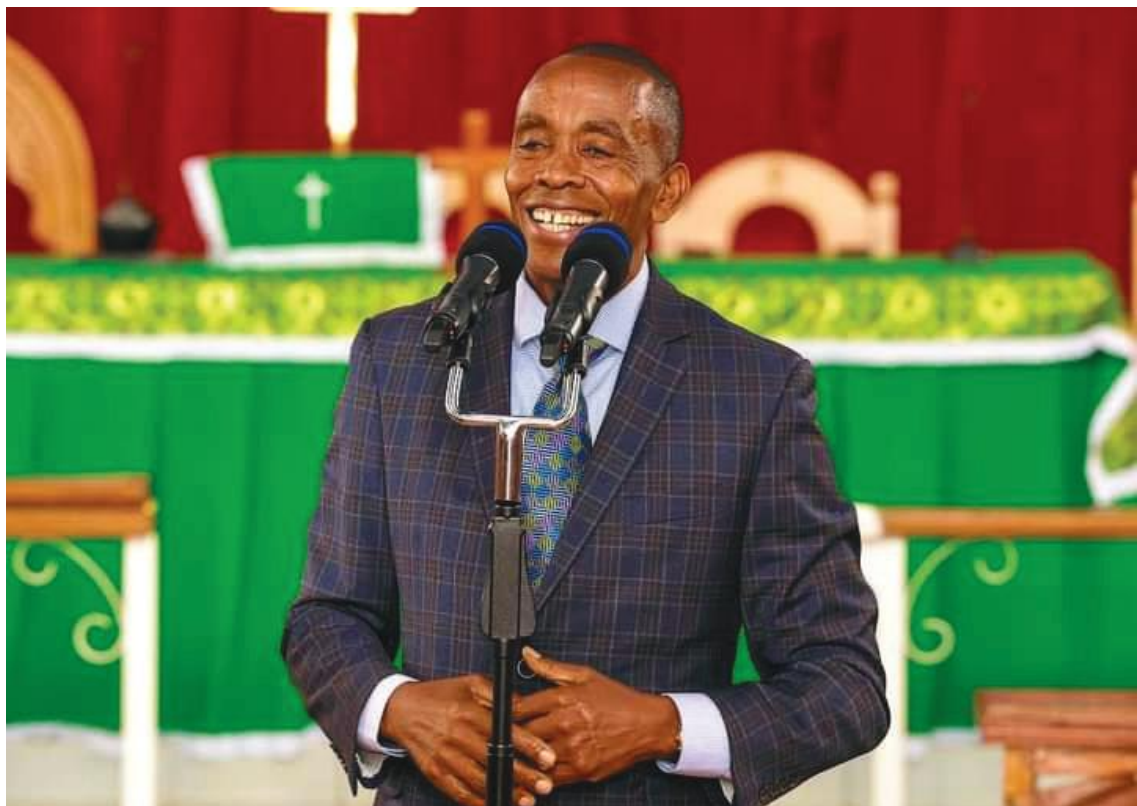
They have been reaching out to the Council of Governors and individual

counties to ensure they pay the debts so that operations can move forward.

Kiambu Governor Paul Kimani Wamatangi stated that the county entered the 2024/25 financial year without any pending bills for goods and services rendered to the county government.

The county is the only county that transitioned to the 2023-2024 fiscal year without even one outstanding bill from the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

“I directed that departments should procure any goods and services or advertise for projects, regardless of size, only if they have the funds available. We are operating on a cash basis,” Wamatangi said.



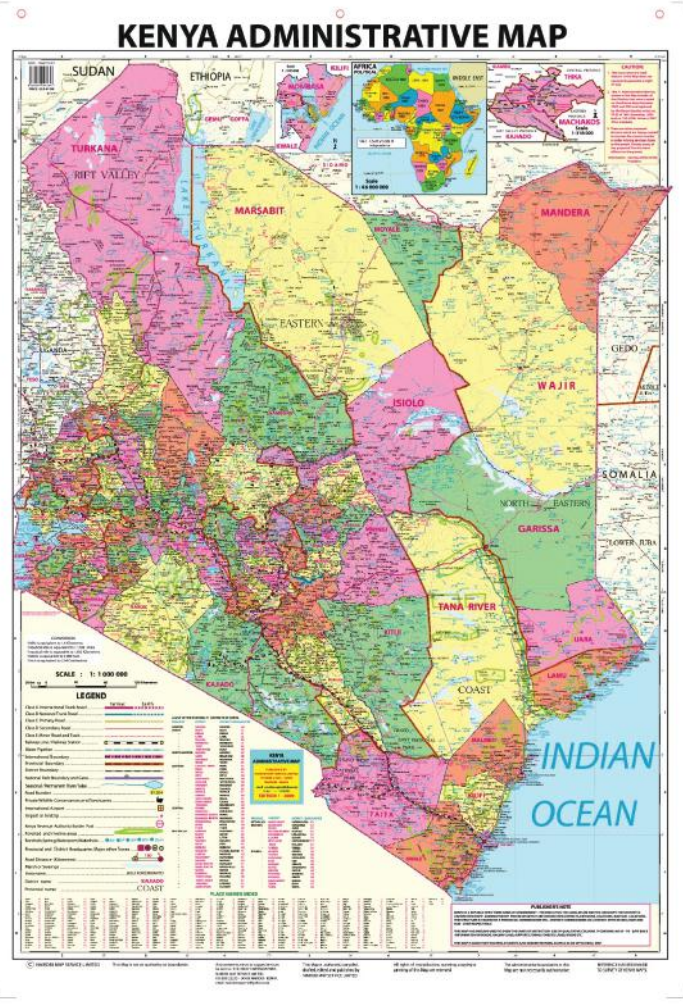
Kiambu County governor Kimani Wamatangi.

# The Manipulation Of Kenya's Administrative Boundaries

*The Manipulation Through Gerrymandering, Partisan Favoritism, Economic Bias, And Political Patronage Undermines Equitable Representation And Development*



By: Midmark Onsongo  
@themkenyatimes



**Worth Noting:**

- While counties like Tharaka Nithi are underrepresented, larger and more economically powerful counties like Nairobi and Kiambu enjoy substantial political leverage due to their numerous constituencies. Nairobi County, the nation's capital and a hub of economic activity, is divided into 17 constituencies, including Westlands, Embakasi East, and Lang'ata.
- Political patronage, where resources and representation are distributed based on political loyalty rather than need, is another critical factor influencing Kenya's administrative boundaries. This practice often results in the creation of constituencies that favor regions and communities aligned with the ruling party or influential political figures.
- The manipulation of boundaries and the resulting disparities in representation have significant economic consequences.

In the sophisticated, subtle, nuanced, refined, intricate, complex and often opaque world of Kenyan politics, the manipulation of administrative boundaries, most notably through gerrymandering, has become a significant tool for securing political power and economic advantage. This practice, along with other systemic issues such as partisan favoritism, economic bias, and political patronage, has led to a skewed distribution of resources and political representation. These manipulations have fostered a political environment where certain regions are disproportionately favored while others are systematically marginalized. Despite the progressive intentions of the Kenyan constitution to ensure equitable representation and regional development, these issues have perpetuated inequalities and hindered balanced national growth.

### Gerrymandering and Its Manifestation in Kenya

Gerrymandering, the deliberate manipulation of electoral boundaries to benefit specific political interests, has played a pivotal role in shaping Kenya's electoral landscape. The redrawing of county and constituency boundaries is often influenced more by the desire to secure electoral victories and entrench political power than by the need for fair representation

or balanced development. This manipulation has led to the creation of counties and constituencies that favor certain political elites and regions, while others are left underrepresented and under-resourced.

One of the clearest examples of this manipulation is the division of Tharaka Nithi County. Despite its small geographic size and population, Tharaka Nithi has been allocated fewer constituencies than it arguably deserves, considering its socio-economic challenges and the need for more localized representation. The county is divided into only three constituencies: Tharaka, Chuka/Igambang'ombe, and Maara. This limited representation in the national legislature does not adequately reflect the county's needs, resulting in insufficient political influence and a lack of resources for development. The imbalance in representation highlights a broader issue of underrepresentation and economic marginalization that affects many small counties across Kenya.

### Partisan Favoritism and Economic Bias in Boundary Allocation

While counties like Tharaka Nithi are underrepresented, larger and more economically powerful counties like Nairobi and Kiambu enjoy substantial political leverage due to their

numerous constituencies. Nairobi County, the nation's capital and a hub of economic activity, is divided into 17 constituencies, including Westlands, Embakasi East, and Lang'ata. This extensive representation not only reflects Nairobi's large population but also its strategic importance as the political and economic heart of the country. Similarly, Kiambu County, which is closely linked to Nairobi and benefits from its economic spillover, has 12 constituencies, including Kiambu Town, Ruiru, and Thika Town. The high number of constituencies in these counties translates to greater political influence and access to national resources, further entrenching their economic advantages. In contrast, economically marginalized counties such as Bomet, Taita Taveta, and Samburu are divided into far fewer constituencies, despite their significant populations and the vast areas they cover. For instance, Bomet County, which plays a crucial role in Kenya's agricultural sector, is divided into only five constituencies: Bomet Central, Sotik, Chepalungu, Bomet East, and Konoin. Similarly, Taita Taveta County, known for its tourism and mining potential, is represented by only four constituencies: Taveta, Wundanyi, Mwatate, and Voi. The limited number of constituencies in these counties results in a diminished political voice and less access to national resources, exacerbating their socio-economic challenges.

This pattern of favoritism is also evident in counties like Uasin Gishu and Nakuru, which are key agricultural and economic regions. Uasin Gishu, home to Eldoret, one of Kenya's fastest-growing towns, has six constituencies, including Turbo and Ainabkoi. Nakuru County, another economic powerhouse, is divided into 11 constituencies, such as Nakuru Town East, Nakuru Town West, and Naivasha. The allocation of more constituencies in these economically vital regions reflects the influence of economic factors in boundary delineation, ensuring that these counties receive a larger share of national resources and development projects.

### Political Patronage and Its Impact on Representation

Political patronage, where resources and representation are distributed based on political loyalty rather than need, is another critical factor influencing Kenya's administrative boundaries. This practice often results in the creation of constituencies that favor regions and communities aligned with the ruling party or influ-

ential political figures. As a result, regions perceived as opposition strongholds or lacking significant political connections are frequently marginalized in the allocation of constituencies and resources.

Counties such as Garissa, Wajir, and Mandera in the northeastern region of Kenya exemplify this marginalization. Despite their vast geographical areas and unique socio-economic challenges, these counties are divided into a relatively small number of constituencies. Garissa County, for instance, is divided into six constituencies, including Garissa Township and Dadaab. Wajir County, which covers a large area with a sparse population, has six constituencies, such as Wajir East and Wajir North. Mandera County, another expansive region, is divided into six constituencies, including Mandera West and Mandera South. The limited representation of these counties in the national legislature often results in inadequate attention to their developmental needs and a lack of resources for essential services, perpetuating their marginalization.

Conversely, counties that are politically aligned with the central government or have influential political leaders often receive favorable treatment in boundary allocation. For example, Nyeri County, which has historically been aligned with the ruling party, is divided into six constituencies: Tetu, Kieni, Mathira, Othaya, Mukurweini, and Nyeri Town. Despite its smaller geographic size compared to counties like Garissa or Wajir, Nyeri enjoys a higher level of representation, which translates into greater political influence and access to resources.

### Economic Consequences of Boundary Manipulation

The manipulation of boundaries and the resulting disparities in representation have significant economic consequences. Counties with more constituencies and greater political representation tend to receive a larger share of national resources, including funds for infrastructure, education, healthcare, and other essential services. This allocation often leads to better development outcomes in these favored counties, further entrenching their economic advantages and political influence.

For example, the high number of constituencies in Nairobi and Kiambu



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# The Future Of Azimio: Gladys Wanga's Leadership And The Call For Unity

By: **James Kilonzo Bwire**

Gladys Wanga's statements underscore a pivotal moment for the ODM party and the broader Azimio coalition. Her assertion that "nobody can remove us from the Azimio coalition" reflects a determination to maintain unity and leadership under Raila Odinga, despite rising tensions and challenges from within the coalition.

Wanga's comments come amid accusations against certain Azimio leaders, particularly Kalonzo Musyoka, for allegedly attempting to undermine Odinga's authority. By labeling these actions as a "coup," Wanga not only defends Odinga's leadership but also positions ODM as a steadfast ally in the coalition, committed to its principles and goals.

The internal strife within the Azimio coalition raises critical questions about its future and cohesion. Wanga's insistence that ODM's collaboration with the Kenya Kwanza administration does not signify a departure from Azimio is crucial. It highlights the party's strategy to engage constructively with the government while remaining loyal to its coalition partners.

Moreover, Wanga's call for unity amidst dissent emphasizes the need for a collective approach to leadership

within Azimio. Her stance reflects a broader sentiment among ODM members who feel that the party has borne significant sacrifices in its opposition to the government, including the loss of lives during protests.

As the political landscape evolves, Wanga's leadership will be tested. Her ability to navigate these internal conflicts while maintaining ODM's integrity will be vital for the coalition's stability. The support she receives from women leaders within Azimio, advocating for her elevation to a deputy party leader position, further illustrates her growing influence and the push for gender representation in leadership roles.

Women leaders in Azimio have rallied behind Wanga for one of the vacant deputy party leader slots, emphasizing the need for female representation in top leadership. This call for inclusivity reflects a broader desire to enhance gender balance in political decision-making, a sentiment echoed by various female politicians who argue that a woman in leadership can better represent affirmative groups.

The recent nominations of Junet Mohammed and Millie Odhiambo for key positions within ODM further highlight the party's commitment to diversifying its leadership. This move has been

welcomed by many, including Likoni MP Mishi Mboko, who emphasized that having women in decision-making roles is essential for achieving gender balance.

As Wanga navigates these challenges, her leadership will be scrutinized not only by her party members but also by the broader political landscape. The dynamics within Azimio, especially with figures like Kalonzo Musyoka questioning Odinga's leadership, will test Wanga's resolve and strategic acumen.

Going forward, the Azimio coalition must prioritize internal cohesion and a clear vision for its future. Wanga's leadership could serve as a stabilizing force, but it requires collective effort from all coalition members to address dissent and maintain unity. The coalition should focus on articulating a shared agenda that resonates with the electorate, emphasizing accountability and transparency in governance.

Furthermore, as Wanga continues to advocate for women's representation, the coalition should also consider the broader implications of inclusivity in leadership. By fostering a diverse leadership structure, Azimio can better address the needs and concerns of various demographic groups, enhancing its appeal to a wider voter base.



Gladys Wanga.

In conclusion, Gladys Wanga's firm stance on ODM's commitment to the Azimio coalition and her defense of Raila Odinga's leadership reflect a critical juncture in Kenyan politics. The coming months will reveal whether her efforts to unify the coalition can withstand the pressures of dissent and ambition within its ranks. The future of Azimio may very well depend on

the strength and cohesion of ODM under her leadership, and the coalition's ability to adapt and thrive in an ever-changing political landscape.

*James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and Communication practitioner.*

## Moving Forward: The Call for Unity and Integrity in Kenya's Political Landscape

By: **James Kilonzo Bwire**

In the wake of rising political tensions in Kenya, Kapsaret MP Oscar Sudi's statements serve as a critical reflection on the current state of the opposition and the broader political dynamics at play. His critique of the ODM party and its members underscores a pressing need for unity and selflessness among political leaders. As Kenya navigates these turbulent waters, it is imperative that politicians prioritize the collective good over personal ambitions.

Sudi's comments resonate with many Kenyans who are increasingly frustrated with the self-serving behaviors exhibited by some politicians. His assertion that certain individuals lack genuine support for ODM's role in the government highlights a disconnect between political leaders and the electorate. This disconnect is

detrimental to the democratic process and undermines the trust that citizens place in their leaders.

The shifting political landscape, particularly with ODM members now participating in President William Ruto's administration, reveals a complex interplay of interests. Sudi's call for unity among opposition members is particularly relevant as the Azimio coalition grapples with internal divisions. These divisions threaten to weaken the opposition's effectiveness at a time when a cohesive front is essential for holding the government accountable.

Moreover, Sudi's emphasis on respect among leaders points to a broader need for collaborative governance. In a democracy, leaders must work together to address the pressing issues facing the nation, rather than allowing personal rivalries to dictate their actions. This collaborative spirit

is crucial for fostering an environment where all Kenyans feel represented and heard.

The recent unrest in Kenya, which Sudi claims was part of a calculated plot to destabilize the government, further complicates the political climate. His allegations suggest that some politicians may be using unrest for their own gain, manipulating public sentiment to further their agendas. This manipulation not only endangers the stability of the government but also jeopardizes the livelihoods of ordinary Kenyans.

As Sudi reflects on the destruction caused by protests, including the loss of his entertainment venue, he highlights the far-reaching consequences of political unrest. The impact on local businesses and communities cannot be overstated; when political ambitions lead to violence and destruction, it is the everyday citizen

who bears the brunt of the fallout.

Moving forward, it is essential for political leaders to adopt a more responsible and inclusive approach to governance. Sudi's call for a united front, particularly in support of Kalonzo Musyoka, reflects a desire for a more cohesive strategy to challenge the ruling government effectively. This unity is not just about political survival; it is about ensuring that the voices of all Kenyans are represented in the decision-making process.

The challenges facing Kenya's political landscape are significant, but they are not insurmountable. By prioritizing integrity, accountability, and collaboration, leaders can work towards a more stable and prosperous future. The emphasis on selflessness and respect among leaders is not merely a lofty ideal; it is a necessary foundation for a healthy democracy.

In conclusion, Oscar Sudi's state-

ments encapsulate the urgent need for political leaders in Kenya to reflect on their roles and responsibilities. As the nation grapples with complex challenges, the call for unity and integrity must resonate throughout the political sphere. By fostering a culture of collaboration and respect, Kenya can move towards a more inclusive and effective governance model that truly serves the interests of all its citizens. The path forward requires commitment from all political actors to prioritize the common good over individual ambitions, ensuring that the democratic process remains robust and representative.

*James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and Communication Practitioner.*

# EAEP, KICD And The Moribund Kenya Publishers Association Have Failed The Moral Test

By: Kamomonti wa Kiambati  
 @themkenyatimes



**Worth Noting:**

- Educational materials play a crucial role in shaping young minds and influencing societal attitudes. Therefore, the content in textbooks should promote values of respect, equality, and human dignity. The fact that such a regressive and harmful idea was included in an educational resource is deeply troubling. The apology by KICD is a case of too late too little. It suggests a failure on the part of the publishers and the educational system to protect students from harmful ideologies and to promote a culture of respect and equality.
- In advancing the notion that women who are “indecently” dressed should be raped, the textbook not only undermines the rights of women and girls but also perpetuates a toxic culture that excuses violence against them.

They say that, “It takes two to tango.” For the case of Certificate Biology Form 3 text book, it must have taken three to tango. The misleading content about indecent dressing leading to rape has caused a public outcry. The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) may have offered an apology about this content but still there are more valid concerns about how this course book found its way in our Kenyan classrooms.

The inclusion of content in the Form 3 Certificate Biology textbook by East African Educational Publishers (EAEP) that suggests women who are indecently dressed should be raped is deeply concerning and indefensible. Such a message is not only a gross violation of ethical standards in education but also a direct attack on the dignity and rights of women and girls. It perpetuates dangerous myths that fuel gender-based violence and victim-blaming, both of which are serious societal issues that need to be eradicated, not reinforced.

First and foremost, it is important to emphasize that rape is a violent crime, rooted in a perpetrator’s desire for power and control, rather than being a response to a victim’s clothing or behavior. The idea that someone could “deserve” to be raped because of what they are wearing is a blatant form of victim-blam-

ing. This line of thinking absolves the perpetrator of responsibility and places the onus on women to avoid assault by dressing a certain way, which is both unjust and harmful.

Educational materials play a crucial role in shaping young minds and influencing societal attitudes. Therefore, the content in textbooks should promote values of respect, equality, and human dignity. The fact that such a regressive and harmful idea was included in an educational resource is deeply troubling. The apology by KICD is a case of too late too little. It suggests a failure on the part of the publishers and the educational system to protect students from harmful ideologies and to promote a culture of respect and equality.

In advancing the notion that women who are “indecently” dressed should be raped, the textbook not only undermines the rights of women and girls but also perpetuates a toxic culture that excuses violence against them. This is particularly dangerous in a society where gender-based violence is already a significant problem. Instead of challenging the misogyny and patriarchal attitudes that contribute to this violence, the textbook reinforces them, potentially normalizing such views among impressionable students.

It is equally worrying when the publishers own association - the moribund Kenya Publishers Asso-

ciation (KPA) choose to remain silent on this potentially grievous development. We expect that KPA would take a position on this matter by condemning the viewpoint being advanced by one of their rogue publishers unless they too have a big log in their eyes. They day that, ‘silent is worse than approval.’

Moreover, the idea of “indecent dressing” is highly subjective and culturally loaded. What is considered indecent in one context might be perfectly acceptable in another. By tying this subjective concept to the justification of rape, the textbook not only perpetuates harmful stereotypes but also contributes to a culture of control and oppression over women’s bodies and choices. This is antithetical to the principles of equality and human rights that education should promote.

The impact of such content on students, especially young women, cannot be understated. It sends a dangerous message that their worth and safety are contingent upon their adherence to arbitrary and patriarchal standards of dress. It also risks instilling in young men the idea that violence against women can be justified based on their clothing choices, which is a dangerous and destructive belief.

There is an urgent need for the educational authorities in East Africa to address this issue. The content

must be immediately reviewed and revised to remove any harmful and misleading information. Furthermore, there should be a broader conversation about the importance of promoting gender equality and respect for human rights in educational materials. Textbooks should be tools for empowerment, teaching students to respect one another’s rights and to stand against violence in all its forms.

In conclusion, the inclusion of content in the Form 3 Certificate Biology textbook that suggests women who are indecently dressed should be raped is a grave error that must be corrected. It is essential that educational materials reflect the values of respect, equality, and human dignity, rather than perpetuating harmful and dangerous myths. The educational system has a responsibility to protect students from such harmful ideologies and to promote a culture of respect and non-violence. This issue should be addressed immediately, with the offensive content removed and replaced with messages that uphold the rights and dignity of all individuals, regardless of their gender or how they choose to dress.

*\*Kamomonti teaches English and Literature in Gatundu North.\**

# The Manipulation Of Kenya's Administrative Boundaries

## *The Manipulation Through Gerrymandering, Partisan Favoritism, Economic Bias, And Political Patronage Undermines Equitable Representation And Development*

Contd from page 18

counties has facilitated substantial investments in infrastructure, such as roads, schools, and hospitals. These developments not only improve the quality of life for residents but also attract more investment and economic activity, creating a positive feedback loop that further strengthens the counties' economic positions. In contrast, counties with fewer constituencies, such as Marsabit and Turkana, struggle to secure sufficient resources for development, leading to persistent poverty, inadequate infrastructure, and limited economic opportunities.

The unequal distribution of resources also affects social services, such as education and healthcare. Counties with more constituencies and better political representation are often able to secure more funding for schools, hospitals, and other public services. This results in higher standards of living and better access to essential

services for residents of these counties. In contrast, residents of counties with fewer constituencies, such as Lamu and Isiolo, often face significant challenges in accessing quality education, healthcare, and other services, contributing to a cycle of poverty and underdevelopment.

### **The Need for Reform in Boundary Allocation**

The issues of gerrymandering, partisan favoritism, economic bias, and political patronage in Kenya's boundary allocation process highlight the need for comprehensive reform. A more equitable approach to boundary delineation is essential to ensure that all regions and communities receive fair representation and access to resources, regardless of their political or economic influence.

Reforming the boundary allocation process would require a transparent and independent mechanism for drawing and reviewing electoral boundaries. This mechanism should prioritize proportional representation based on population size, geograph-

ic area, and socio-economic needs, rather than political considerations. Additionally, there should be regular reviews of constituency boundaries to ensure that they reflect changes in population and development patterns, preventing the entrenchment of existing inequalities.

Moreover, addressing the underlying issues of political patronage and economic bias would require broader political and institutional reforms. Strengthening the independence of key institutions, such as the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), and ensuring that decisions on boundary allocation are free from political interference would be crucial steps towards achieving more equitable representation. Additionally, promoting greater accountability and transparency in the allocation of national resources would help to address the disparities in development and ensure that all regions receive their fair share of funding and investment.

The manipulation of administrative boundaries and the allocation of con-

stituencies in Kenya reflect deep-seated issues of gerrymandering, partisan favoritism, economic bias, and political patronage. These practices have contributed to significant imbalances in political representation and economic development, with certain regions and communities being disproportionately favored while others are systematically marginalized. Addressing these challenges requires a concerted effort to reform the boundary allocation process and ensure that all regions and communities are fairly represented and supported in their pursuit of development and prosperity.

Ultimately, achieving more equitable representation and development in Kenya will require a commitment to fairness, transparency, and accountability in the political and electoral processes. By addressing the issues of gerrymandering and other



systemic shortcomings, Kenya can move towards a more inclusive and balanced political landscape, where all citizens have an equal voice and access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive.

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

## Siaya Politician Stephen Odinga Backs New Cabinet Appointments From Nyanza

By: Peter Aowa  
@themkenyaintimes

Siaya politician Wakili Stephen Odinga has voiced his support for the recent appointment of Cabinet Secretaries from Nyanza.

Speaking on a local radio station, Odinga emphasized that the inclusion of these leaders in the Cabinet will be instrumental in addressing long-standing stalled projects in the region.

"We have confidence in their ability to complete ongoing projects and initiate new ones," Odinga remarked. He cited the historical ties between Nyanza and the national government, from the days of the first Vice President Jaramogi Odinga and President Kenyatta to the current collaboration between Raila Odinga and President Ruto.

He acknowledged that previous political alliances have not always

yielded significant results but noted that the current relationship between President Ruto and Raila Odinga offers new hope for Nyanza.

He expressed gratitude to President Ruto for his recent visit to the region, which saw the launch of several projects.

Mr. Odinga, for example, praised President Ruto for the launch of a solar power system on Mageta Island in Bondo constituency, highlighting its potential to enhance security and boost fish production through solar-powered cold storage. He also commended Ruto for his support of Raila Odinga's bid for the African Union Commission chairmanship.

Odinga who is currently the Managing Partner at Odinga Oboge Advocates is set to run for the Bondo constituency MP seat in the 2027 general elections.

The Advocate of the high court of Kenya has encouraged Nyanza residents to strengthen the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) party. He dismissed concerns about ODM po-

tentially being overshadowed by the United Democratic Alliance (UDA), focusing instead on increasing party membership and influence.

His comments come in the wake of President Ruto's appointments of Ugunja MP Opiyo Wandayi as the Cabinet Secretary for Energy and Petroleum and nominated MP John Mbadi as Cabinet Secretary for Treasury. The appointments have been widely welcomed in Nyanza, with many residents expressing their support for President Ruto in the upcoming elections.



Lawyer Stephen Odinga |Photo courtesy.

# SPORTS NEWS

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**Sports >>** \*Two-time world powerlifting champion Hellen Wawira yesterday registered a personal best of 101kg in the women's under-41 kilograms to finish sixth at the Paris Paralympics Games.

## Powerlifter Wawira Lifts Personal Best To Finish Sixth In Paris



Kenya's Hellen Wawira Kariuki competes in the Powerlifting Women's up to 41 kg final event during the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games at La Chapelle Arena in Paris, on September 4, 2024. (Photo by FRANCK FIFE / AFP)

Two-time world powerlifting champion Hellen Wawira yesterday registered a personal best of 101kg in the women's under-41 kilograms to finish sixth at the Paris Paralympics Games.

Wawira lifted 98kg in the first attempt and then went for 99kg in the second attempt before going for 101kg in the final attempt to place sixth, missing out on her pre-championship podium finish target.

China's CUI Zhe won gold, lifting a Paralympic record of 119kg with Esther Nworgu of Nigeria taking silver as De Lima Lara

Aparecida of Brazil settled for bronze.

Nigeria's Nworgu had set two new Paralympic Games records in her last two attempts, lifting 112kg and 118kg, respectively, but the Chinese powerlifter surpassed her feat at every turn to claim the top honours.

Nworgu's silver earned Team Nigeria's second medal at the Paralympics after Eniola Bolaji won the country's first laurel on Monday in the women's singles SL3 badminton event.

Meanwhile, freshly minted long jump silver medallist Sam-

son Ojuka has set his sights on breaking the world record after bagging the country's first medal in Paris.

Ojuka produced an incredible fourth jump of 6.20 metres, a new African record, to recapture his second position before hanging on strongly to take silver.

"Giving Kenya a medal at such a high stage in my first Olympics is a high honour. The sky's the limit, I'm aiming higher. My next target is to break the world record which is just a few centimetres," he said.

Ojuka, a final year law student

at Kenyatta University, erased the previous African Record of 6.05m set by Andrea Dalle Ave from South Africa in 2015 in Johannesburg.

He will jet back to the country on Thursday morning.

*Citizen Sport*

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*Ugandan long-distance runner Rebecca Cheptegei is set for a specialised treatment in Nairobi after being set on fire by her estranged Kenyan boyfriend, just weeks after taking part in the Paris Olympics.

## Gov't To Airlift Ugandan Athlete Cheptegei For Specialised Care In Nairobi



Long-distance runner Rebecca Cheptegei was assaulted after her Kenyan partner Dickson Ndiema Marangach reportedly snuck into her home in western Trans-Nzoia county on Sunday at around 2:00 pm while she and her children were at church, police said..

Ugandan long-distance runner Rebecca Cheptegei is set for a specialised treatment in Nairobi after being set on fire by her estranged Kenyan boyfriend, just weeks after taking part in the Paris Olympics.

The 33-year-old athlete is being treated at the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) in Eldoret after the Sunday's attack that saw her sustain burns to 80 percent of her body.

Sports Principal Secretary Peter Tum on Wednesday said the ministry was planning to airlift the Olympian to Nairobi for a specialised care.

"We're in touch with the Ugandan authorities to ensure Rebecca receives the best treatment," said Tum on the side lines of the Nairobi City Marathon press briefing.

Police said a man identified as Dickson Ndiema Marangach had doused Cheptegei with petrol and set her alight at her home in Endebess in Trans-Nzoia County.

However, a medical counsellor at the hospital, who spoke to AFP on condition of anonymity as they were not authorised to speak to the press, said her condition had worsened.

"Cheptegei has developed a bacterial infection of sepsis due to the

severe injuries to the stomach and the lower part of the body," the counsellor said.

The suspect was also wounded in the incident, sustaining 30 percent burns on his body.

Cheptegei took part in the women's marathon at the Paris Games on August 11, placing 44th.

The assault on Cheptegei comes two years after Kenyan-born athlete Damaris Mutua was found dead in Iten, a world-famous running hub.

In 2021, record-breaking Kenyan runner Agnes Tirop, 25, was found stabbed to death at her home in Iten in 2021. Her estranged hus-

band is on trial over her murder. He has denied the charges.

Latest figures by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics published in January 2023 found that 34 percent of women in the country have experienced physical violence since the age of 15.

AFP

# SPORTS NEWS



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# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



# Inclusive Education In Preschool Education As An Example Of A Foreign Education Program



By: Rahimjanova Mashhura  
@themtkenyatimes

**Abstract:** This article is about the introduction of inclusive education in preschool education, the application of the inclusive education program in foreign countries and its practical and theoretical aspects in the Republic of Uzbekistan and its implementation, the health of children with disabilities in Uzbekistan and foreign countries. Information is provided about the education of the children and the comparison of the conditions created for them.

**Key words:** inclusive education, international experiences, children with disabilities, individual planning, concept, integration, convention, intellect, educational integration.

## INTRODUCTION

Great attention is paid to the strategy of education development in the Republic of Uzbekistan. In the new renaissance period of new Uzbekistan, all reforms in the education system are showing their results and creating a new ground for the future of our people. In particular, inclusive education has become an urgent issue today.

President's concept of development of inclusive education in the public education system in 2020-2025, [1] December 29, 2016 "On measures to further improve the preschool education system in 2017-2021" Decision No. PQ-2707 was adopted. In accordance with the decision, a number of tasks were defined, such as the introduction of the pre-school education system of foreign countries in depth and implementation in our country, as well as important and urgent tasks were defined. [2] In addition, in order to create the legal basis for the introduction of inclusive education based on today's requirements, the concept of inclusive education was included in the draft Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Education". In this regard, the President's decision "On measures to introduce new management principles into the public education system" adopted on September 5, 2018 is of great importance in the development of the system. It is no exaggeration to say that the introduction of the concept of inclusive education for the first time in our General Assembly - our new Constitution was one of the biggest changes in the field of inclusive education. That is, in accordance with the revision of the New Con-

stitution, in the second section, the ninth chapter, article 50: "Inclusive education and training is provided for children with special educational needs in educational organizations." This year, by decision of the Cabinet of Ministers, it is for pre-school and school education

Resolution No. 46 dated January 25, 2024 "On measures to improve the system of education and rehabilitation of children with special educational needs" was signed. [3] There is no doubt that such efforts made in our country will definitely bear fruit in the future.

In the countries of the world, special attention is paid to the issue of educating children with disabilities who need social protection, helping them to take their rightful place in society. The United Nations "Universal Declaration of Human Rights", "Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons", "Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities", "Education for All" program is correct. Declaration, "Asia and Oceania Program of Measures for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities", "Standard Provisions on Ensuring Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities", "Convention on the Rights of the Child" and other internationally accepted the main goal of regulatory legal documents is aimed at protecting children with disabilities, and this international legal framework provides for the effective introduction of an inclusive approach to the educational process.[4]

Professor Peter Mittler of the University of Manchester writes: "Inclusive education is a step towards the ultimate goal - that of all children and adults, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, ability, disability or not, to create society, to participate in society and to contribute to it", he said.

Dear President: "We consider preschool education and school education, higher and secondary special education system and scientific and cultural institutions to be the four integral links of the future Renaissance, kindergarten teacher, school We consider our teachers, professors, and scientific-creative intellectuals to be the four pillars of the new renaissance era, "realizing that the pre-school education system is the first pillar, i.e. the foundation, we today's young personnel need to be able to respond to the demands of the times, to provide proper educa-

tion and training for our future.

## LITERATURE ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY

### Germany

German law stipulates the right to free preschool education. Children can be taken to kindergarten from the age of 4 months. Many Germans use this right. There are different types of kindergartens in Germany. In particular, they are divided into:

1. Waldkindergarten (from the German Wald - forest, German Kindergarten - kindergarten) means. The idea of creating such kindergartens started in Scandinavia. Many such kindergartens are located in the forest. Children are constantly walking in the open air and doing various activities, studying trees and other plants, making different things from natural materials, and having ideas about them. Through this, human feelings of loving nature and preserving it are formed in children.
2. Bauernhofkindergarten (from the German Bauernhof - farmer's yard, fortress; Kindergarten - kindergarten). Such kindergartens are located on farms, farms, or on land close to them. As long as the children are strong enough, they help the farmers in feeding the cattle, growing vegetables and fruits in the fields and gardens.

3. Freinet-Kindergarten. This direction of preschool pedagogy takes its name from the surname of an Italian family couple who developed a unique approach to child education. The peculiarity of this direction is that the child becomes completely free and independent. That is, children decide for themselves what to do, what games to play, what to do, when to eat and sleep. It is important to take children to more creativity, story-role games, experiments, trips in the heart of nature or in enterprises and organizations of the city.

4. Integrated kindergartens. Physically and mentally unhealthy children are brought up together with healthy children in such type of MTMs. Such conditions are considered a great opportunity for ordinary children to learn endurance, tolerance and respect. Children with disabilities are not separated from society, they learn to communicate and cooperate with their peers. The large number of such kindergartens and schools creates favorable conditions for disabled people to live, learn and express themselves in Germany.

5. International kindergartens. Such kindergartens were created for emigrants, and often they are organized by emigrants themselves for their children.

There are many Turkish-German, Jewish, Russian-German kindergartens in Germany. In such groups, there is always a teacher who speaks the mother tongue with the children, as well as a teacher who speaks German. Children learn their parents' language as well as German. It should also be noted that in Germany preschool educational institutions conduct activities such as active games, gymnastics, running, and jumping with children. The physical education program includes water games and swimming lessons. [5]

## CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In conclusion, I can say that I was surprised by the system of preschool education in foreign countries and the education of children with disabilities in it. The system of preschool education is developed in different ways in all countries, within the framework of their own laws, decisions, orders, and based on the mentality of the state, the country can also provide education to children with disabilities. It depends on the skills of today's personnel to integrate the experience of inclusive education abroad and in Uzbekistan, without separating children with disabilities from the society, and not contradicting the laws being developed in our country on the basis of innovative approaches and technologies in foreign countries.

It is up to us young personnel to take into account our own mentality when introducing foreign experiences and educational system to our country, to diagnose and analyze children with disabilities, to know their psychological, spiritual, physical and mental potential, to feel what is possible and what is not possible for a child. is one of our priorities. All professions can make mistakes during their career, but doctors and pedagogues cannot make mistakes. Because it is the task of the educator and pedagogue to educate the young generation to be perfect in every way. That is, the educator and pedagogue is the pillar of the first building in the formation of the child as a person.

## Worth Noting:

- Resolution No. 46 dated January 25, 2024 "On measures to improve the system of education and rehabilitation of children with special educational needs" was signed. There is no doubt that such efforts made in our country will definitely bear fruit in the future.
- In the countries of the world, special attention is paid to the issue of educating children with disabilities who need social protection, helping them to take their rightful place in society.
- The United Nations "Universal Declaration of Human Rights", "Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons", "Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities", "Education for All" program is correct.