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# Kindiki: There Will Be No Anarchy In Kenya

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The DP said Kenya will not be dragged into election-related chaos as happened in 2007, terming reckless and unpatriotic attempts to sell fear of similar happenings in the future.



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki

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**The NEW Democrats**

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# Kenya Launches Landmark 10-Year Plan to Rescue the World's Rarest Tortoise

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themtkenyatimes

*Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures*

## National Recovery Strategy Aims to Save the Critically Endangered Pancake Tortoise

In a historic move to prevent the extinction of the pancake tortoise (\*Malacochersus tornieri), Kenya last Friday unveiled an ambitious 10-year National Pancake Tortoise Recovery Plan (2025–2035) on World Endangered Species Day. The initiative, one of Africa's most comprehensive conservation efforts, solidifies Kenya's leadership in protecting biodiversity. Affectionately known as kobe kama chapati for its uniquely flat, flexible shell, the pancake tortoise is a biological marvel—capable of squeezing into narrow rock crevices for protection. Yet this same adaptation has made it a prime target for illegal pet traders, pushing the species toward extinction. Fewer than 10,000 remain in the wild, with over 95% found in Kenya across nine counties (Kitui, Embu, Meru, Tharaka-Nithi, Laikipia, Samburu, Isiolo, Marsabit, and Tana River), as well as in Tanzania and Zambia. The event was graced by among others; Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Director General Prof. Erustus Kanga, Tharaka-Nithi County Deputy Governor Nyaga Muisraeli, KWS Board of Trustees member Chachu Ganya and Tharaka University Vice Chancellor Prof. Peter Muriungi.



Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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# NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS



# The Mount Kenya Times

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua yesterday denied threatening to prompt chaos over 2027 General elections results. He spoke at Christ's Joy Christian Church in Ndunyu Chege, Gatanga Constituency in Murang'a County. He also addressed public meetings on his way to Nairobi. He was hosted by area MP Wakili Muriu and accompanied by several leaders.



Coffee farmers in Uasin Gishu County have a reason to celebrate after the government announced a major support package aimed at revitalizing the sector. Speaking during a meeting with New Kenya Planters Cooperative Union (KPCU) members in Eldoret, the Cabinet Secretary for Cooperatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development Wycliffe Oparanya unveiled plans to distribute 200 thousand coffee seedlings this year and another 5 million in the next financial year. Oparanya further affirmed the government's commitment to support the sector in order to restore its glory in terms of increasing production from the current annual 50,000 metric tonnes to 150,000 metric tonnes by 2027. He noted that neighbouring countries like Uganda and Ethiopia have surpassed Kenya in coffee output, and the government is determined to reclaim the country's former glory in the global coffee market.



Last week, Tower Sacco sponsored a financial education event in Baragoi, Samburu County. This initiative reflects the Sacco's continued commitment to empowering communities through financial literacy and inclusive economic growth. The Sacco was represented by Ms Jacinta Maina, Head of Marketing; Amos Thiong'o, Maralal Branch Manager; Ledumes Loongonyo, Loans Officer; and Stanley Wambiri, Business Development Officer. The Sacco strives to engage directly with its members and addressing their financial needs.



The Maendeleo ya Wanawake Organization (MYWO) has officially opened its new county office in Mandera, known as Maendeleo ya Wanawake Plaza, marking a major milestone in its ongoing agenda of empowering women at the grassroots level. The grand opening ceremony was attended by local leaders, women's groups, county officials, and community members who gathered to celebrate the achievement. The newly launched plaza is expected to serve as a central hub for coordinating development programmes, advocacy efforts, business-building support, and training initiatives in Mandera County and beyond. Mandera County MYWO Chairlady Ubah Gedi hailed the establishment of the plaza as a transformative move for the women of the region.

Youths from Mwea East sub-county in Kirinyaga County are earning a living through rabbit farming adopting a zero-waste model following high demand for rabbit meat and urine which they collect and use as foliar fertilizer to promote organic farming. Rabbit urine is a valuable plant nourishment for farmers, serving as both a biofertilizer and a natural pesticide. It's rich in nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, making it an effective way to improve soil health and promote crop growth. The group of five university graduates dubbed Favour Giants, located at Mugamba Ciura Village in Murinduko Ward, currently has over 300 rabbits which are kept in modern cages until maturity and sold in various eateries in different towns within and outside the county. Stella Njagi, a project management graduate who manages the farm on behalf of the other members, reveals that the zero-waste model involves building modern structures which have installed pipes that collect urine.





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# Kioni: Jubilee Party To Start Finance Bill Sensitization Process

By: Felix Njenga

@themkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

Jeremiah Kioni the Secretary General Jubilee party speaking after a church service at Pillars of Worship church in Banana village Kiambaa subcounty said that there are many Acts that are making it worse for Kenyans and they should be aware of them.

“We will be going round the country telling Kenyans about the finance bill that is already terrible, we also have the land rates Act that has been signed into law by the President and other many Acts that are making it worse for Kenyans on a daily basis,” he said.



Jubilee Party Secretary General Jeremiah Kioni with supporters at Banana area, Kiambu yesterday..

Jubilee party has announced that they will start going round the country to educate Kenyans over the finance bill 2025/2026 claiming it is terrible and should be rejected.

These include land rates Act that was signed into law and other Acts that are hurting Kenyans.

Jeremiah Kioni the Secretary General Jubilee party speaking after a church service at Pillars of Worship church in Banana village Kiambaa subcounty said that there are many Acts that are making it worse for Kenyans and they should be aware of them.

“We will be going round the country telling Kenyans about the finance bill that is already terrible, we also have the land rates Act that has been signed into law by the President and other many Acts that are making it worse for Kenyans on a daily basis,” he said.

He said that Kenyans wants education

fees to be paid by the government.

He claimed that President William Ruto and his allies are plotting to divide Mt. Kenya region and will use all tactics that will ensure that the Kenya region do not rally behind one person.

“There is a plot to scuttle Kenyans and especially mt.kenya region as they know that the region is vote rich and contributed to elect President Ruto which ground has shifted and they want to use all means to ensure that the people of the mountain with their vote is not backing one person,” he said.

He said that he has told former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua not to consider running for President as it will contribute to President Ruto being reelected.

“They are looking for a chance to divide us and that is why I have told Gachagua to desist from running for

president as this will give Ruto a high-way to State House,” he said.

He said that it is time that Kenyans united and speak with one voice against the oppression of the Kenya Kwanza government.

“It is us that can rescue ourselves from the problems that we have now and should keep our differences aside,” he said.

He said that the processes used by UDA during it’s formation of picking favourite persons have resurfaced again in the new parties being unveiled.

“We do not want to enter into the trap witnessed during UDA formation of picking certain person’s and locking out certain people and it is being witnessed in the new formed party,” he said.

He said that the economic empowerment programs being conducted

across the Mt. Kenya region is a con man game and it is unfortunate that leaders have grouped again to con Kenyans by doing populist things.

“How would they say they doing economic programs by giving money to people while our children are unable to pay for school fees? They cannot be able to pay for examination fees,” he pondered.

He called on Kenyans to unite behind former cabinet secretary Fred Matiangi as he is accepted across the country and does not harbour tribalism.

“I have heard cabinet secretary Aden Duale threatening war. Jubilee party is a national party and stands for peace and has united to support Matiangi to get rid of President Ruto,” he said.

The

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# Journalist Njogu wa Wachira's Appointment As Director At ICTA Revoked

By: Charles Kinyua  
@themtkenyatimes

The appointment of three board members at ICT Authority including a prominent journalist was over the weekend revoked.

In a gazette notice signed by ICT cabinet secretary William Kabogo and dated May 16, the appointment of Njogu wa Wachira, a newscaster at Kameme FM, Annette Mutuku and Alfred Ngeno was revoked with immediate effect.

According to Wachira, the revocation of their appointment was brought about by their participation in renewing the contract of Authority's CEO Stanley Kamanguya against the wish of the powers that be.

"I absolve the CS Kabogo over our ejection as it was beyond him as there were other forces beyond him", stated Wachira.

The statement seems to give credence to widespread fears that most government officials including cabinet secretaries and their principal secretaries are little more than flowers where power lies elsewhere.

"I served with dedication and fidelity to the rule of law. I have learnt a lot



Njogu Wa Wachira

about corporate governance as well as the complexities of statecraft," stated Wachira on his Facebook post.

The journalist further stated that he leaves the board with his head high as he did nothing contrary to the dictates of the law and guidelines in his two years and two months of services.

Sources intimated to the Mt Kenya

Times that the Mathira born journalist was in the forefront in fighting for the renewal of Kamanguya's contract. The CEO comes from Mukurweini constituency that borders Mathira.

Wachira however rubbished the accusation noting that the board's decision was purely on Kamanguya's credentials and work ethics.



Stanley Kamanguya.

It is worth noting that both Wachira and Kamaguya hail from the same county, Nyeri with former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua who has been accusing the government for kicking out government officials believed to be sympathetic to him.

A number of appointees who secured their seats through his patron-

age have been kicked out various board's including Jane Njeri from Kenya pipeline corporation, Wanyaga Gathaka from Tana Water Works Development Agency, Caroline Njoki from Kenya ports Authority and professor Stephen Kiama who was vice-chancellor of University of Nairobi among others.

# Former Governor Mwangaza Injured As Police Break Up Religious Gathering In Meru

By: Emmanuel Too  
@themtkenyatimes

Tensions flared on Saturday when police abruptly disrupted a gathering attended by former Meru Governor Kawira Mwangaza, her husband Murega Baichu, and members of her team. The incident occurred shortly after the former county boss and her entourage arrived at a church-hosted event.

According to eyewitness accounts and statements from Mwangaza's allies, police officers fired multiple teargas canisters to disperse the crowd, bringing the event to a sudden and chaotic end. One canister was reportedly thrown into Mwangaza's vehicle while she and her husband were still inside.

In a press statement issued later that day, Mwangaza's communications team confirmed that both the former

governor and her driver were rushed to the hospital for emergency treatment. The driver is said to have sustained a head injury, while Mwangaza was affected by the teargas fumes and was reportedly unable to speak immediately afterward.

"This is intimidation. They even threw tear gas into her car," said Nchamba Mbithi, a close ally of Mwangaza, visibly upset as he addressed reporters. "This was a peaceful church event. Why would police come and disrupt us like that?"

Human rights lawyer Mugambi Imanyara, who was part of the delegation, condemned the police operation as unlawful and heavy-handed. He announced that legal proceedings would be initiated to challenge what he described as "abuse of authority" by law enforcement officers.

"We had submitted proper notice for this event. There was no legal justification for what the police did today," said Imanyara. "If this continues, we

will be heading to court."

Authorities on the ground reportedly justified the use of force by citing intelligence reports warning of potential clashes between rival political groups. However, Mwangaza's allies dismissed this claim, insisting the event was strictly religious and peaceful in nature.

"This was a church function, not a political rally," said Mbithi. "There was no cause for this kind of aggression."

Activist Michael Makarina also weighed in, accusing high-ranking government officials of political persecution. "Deputy President, leave this woman alone!" he declared.

Mwangaza, who has faced repeated disruptions during her public engagements even after leaving office, once again blamed the state for misusing security agencies to settle political scores.

"This is not the first time," her team said in the statement. "The pattern is



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clear—targeting her events, frustrating her supporters, and weaponizing the police to silence her."

As of Sunday morning, no official police statement had been released

regarding the incident. Mwangaza's legal team is expected to file a formal complaint in the coming days.

# Kindiki: There Will Be No Anarchy In Kenya

By: John Kamau

@themkenyatimes



Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki with other leaders in Gatundu yesterday.

## Worth Noting:

- “At the right time, we will make a decision over those who thrive in the politics of poverty and those who thrive in the politics of empowerment and it is very clear who is where right now,” he stated.

- In Gatundu, the DP was accompanied by a host of MPs led by area MP Gabriel Kagombe, Alice Ng’ang’a (Thika Town), Njuguna Wanjiru (Kiambaa), Githua Wamacukuru (Kabete), Elijah Njoroge Kururia (Gatundu North), Machua (Kiambu), Anne Wamuratha (Kiambu Womn Representative) and Simon King’ara (Ruiru).

- The Deputy President defended the empowerment program saying it is meant to complement ongoing government initiatives geared at boosting mama mboga, boda boda hustles and other small-scale traders.

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has assured Kenyans that the 2027 elections will be free, fair and credible, asking them to be wary of prophets of doom preaching mayhem and division.

The DP said Kenya will not be dragged into election-related chaos as happened in 2007, terming reckless and unpatriotic attempts to sell fear of similar happenings in the future.

Speaking yesterday during an Empowerment Forum for Small-Scale Traders in Gatundu town, Gatundu South, Kiambu County and earlier during a Church Service in Teso North, Busia County, Prof. Kindiki said the government will ensure credible polls.

“As a government, we cannot allow the country to slide into anarchy. The 2027 elections will be free, fair and peaceful. There will be no violence as predicted by the prophets of doom. The government assures all the political players that there will be no election-related violence,” DP said.

He added that those busy issuing threats were inexperienced and unpatriotic, saying the government will not be drawn into divisive rhetoric and retrogressive politics but service delivery and development.

“At the right time, we will make a decision over those who thrive in the politics of poverty and those

who thrive in the politics of empowerment and it is very clear who is where right now,” he stated.

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The Deputy President defended the empowerment program saying it is meant to complement ongoing government initiatives geared at boosting mama mboga, boda boda hustles and other small-scale traders.

He said the government is already running the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) program that targets empowering 70 businesses in each of 1450 wards. Each of the businesses will receive a grant of Sh50,000 to boost their businesses.

“There are leaders peddling lies that the government is doing nothing, we will confront them head-on very soon. There are multiple projects and programs geared at improving the lives of the people, be it youth, women, or small-scale traders. On top of these, as leaders we are boosting their capital and stock,” he said.

The Ruto Administration is also building at least 400 modern mar-

kets to dignify places of operation for mama mboga and small-scale traders. Already 21 are ongoing in Kiambu County with each constituency benefitting.

“Their lies will soon dissipate to the four corners of the world. We believe in the Bottom-UP Economic Transformation Agenda. This is exactly what we are doing,” he said.

Earlier, during an interdenominational church service at Amogoro Primary School grounds in Teso North, Busia County, the DP said all government projects will be completed on time.

He assured that every part of the country will be equitably developed as the government is keen on fairness in the distribution of national resources.

“No part of the country will be discriminated against. All Kenyans will benefit from development projects,” he said.

He assured the church that the government would continue to respect their space and adhere to their rules. “We will not force ourselves on the church. We are not in any competition with them,” he said.

The lawmakers concurred with the DP chiding leaders in the opposition for propagating divisive politics in the country.

Kagombe said that Kenyans are woke and won’t allow political acrimony to dent the country’s peace

and tranquility adding that they will not blindly follow leaders who are positioning themselves as tribal warlords.

The MP averred that area leaders and residents are solidly behind the Kenya Kwanza administration led by President William Ruto saying that the region stands to benefit with a myriad of development projects including roads, electricity, modern markets among others.

“We urge Kenyans to be wise and discern leaders who have their interests at heart and those who are preaching politics of anarchy and poverty. We will stay in government so that our people can reap big development-wise,” Kagombe said.

The leaders at the same time hailed the empowerment programme under the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) noting that it will transform many lives in the grassroots.

“When we were campaigning in 2022 we promised our people that we will empower them and put money in their pockets. We are honouring this pledge through this programme and ultimately our people will expand and transform their income generating ventures and transform their livelihoods,” MP Alice Ng’ang’a said.

# Kenyans Awarded Top Scouting Honour In US

By: MKT Correspondent  
@themkenyatimes

Two Kenyans have received one of the top honours bestowed to scouting movement members by the American government.

Othaya Constituency born Antony Gitonga received the award last week in Orlando, Florida in United States of America during a colourful ceremony, attended and watched by thousands of people across the world.

Gitonga who is the International Scouts Commissioner received the award, courtesy of his contribution to mankind and environment.

He was praised for making great contribution by among other things, assisting the needy and vulnerable in the society as well improving the environment through activities like planting trees and cleaning up streets through his Antony Gitonga Foundation.

He has been carrying out various initiatives in his home Constituency of Othaya.



Antony Gitonga (right) with Victor Radido display their awards in Orlando, Florida last week. Photos/Courtesy.

The Silver World Award is granted by the US Federal Government through the Institution of Scouting America. It is exclusively bestowed upon exceptional International Leaders for their outstanding service and leadership to the youth of the world.

Since the inception of the Award in 1971, only 3 other Kenyans have received the award.

These are the founding president, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta who was awarded in 1973, the second President Daniel Moi in 1981 and Kenya's Chief Commissioner Victor Radido who received his award alongside Gitonga.

Other notable global leaders to have received the Award include Lady Olave Baden Powell, Haile Selasie and Pope John Paul II.



Antony Gitonga received the award. Photos/Courtesy.

Upon receiving the award, Gitonga who has declared his interest to serve Othaya people as the next Member of Parliament said, "Scouting is my lifestyle. I thank God for this rare hon-

our and extend my special thanks to all who continue to inspire me to do more for the betterment of community. I owe it to you!."

## The Mt. Kenya Times



# Human Rights Defender Slams Selective Courage Of Former Government Officials

By: Suleiman Mbatiah

[@themtkenyentimes](#)



Dr Isaac Kinity

## Worth Noting:

- In recent public rallies, Gachagua has accused the Ruto administration of neglecting economic hardships, sidelining certain regions, and mismanaging public resources. He has also claimed that his impeachment was a politically motivated move to silence dissent within the ruling coalition.
- “While in office, Gachagua was a staunch defender of the same government he now criticizes. Where was his voice when Kenyans faced rising costs of living, corruption and human rights violations or when regional imbalances were evident?” Dr Kinity questioned.
- He claimed Gachagua’s abrupt shift to outspokenness reveals self-serving motives rather than true public concern, undermining trust in leadership. Such inconsistency, he argued, deepens skepticism about politicians’ sincerity and weakens democratic accountability.

A prominent human rights defender has sharply criticized a growing trend among high-ranking government officials who remain silent on critical national issues while in office but become vocal critics after losing their positions.

Dr Isaac Kinity, a seasoned advocate for accountability, has described this selective courage as a profound betrayal of public trust, arguing that it undermines governance, fuels opportunism, and raises serious ethical questions about public service.

While fielding questions during an online interview with local media houses in Nakuru City, Dr Kinity emphasized that such behavior fails ordinary Kenyans who depend on leaders to advocate for their interests when it matters most.

The remarks by the former Secretary General of the Kenya Civil Servants Union were prompted by a series of controversies involving former officials who, after years of silence during their tenures, have publicly denounced government policies and decisions following their exit from power.

He singled out former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua as a prime example of this troubling pattern. Gachagua, impeached late last year, amid allegations of disloyalty and incitement, has since positioned himself as one of

President William Ruto’s fiercest critics.

In recent public rallies, Gachagua has accused the Ruto administration of neglecting economic hardships, sidelining certain regions, and mismanaging public resources. He has also claimed that his impeachment was a politically motivated move to silence dissent within the ruling coalition.

“While in office, Gachagua was a staunch defender of the same government he now criticizes. Where was his voice when Kenyans faced rising costs of living, corruption and human rights violations or when regional imbalances were evident?” Dr Kinity questioned.

He claimed Gachagua’s abrupt shift to outspokenness reveals self-serving motives rather than true public concern, undermining trust in leadership. Such inconsistency, he argued, deepens skepticism about politicians’ sincerity and weakens democratic accountability.

“True leaders must demonstrate courage and accountability while in positions of influence, as we have seen with the Controller of Budget, Margaret Nyakang’o who has remained steadfast even after attempts to silence her with fictitious arrests and court cases,” Dr Kinity urged.

The trend is not limited to Gachagua.

Former Attorney General Justin Bedan Muturi, popularly known as JB Muturi, has also joined the chorus of post-tenure critics. Muturi recently criticized the government for what he termed “systemic inefficiencies” and poor coordination within the executive.

In a media interview last month, he claimed that bureaucratic bottlenecks have hindered the implementation of key policies, a critique he notably avoided during his time in office. Dr Kinity pointed out that Muturi’s silence while in power raises questions about his commitment to public service.

“His criticisms now ring hollow because, as a senior official, he had the authority, and the responsibility, to take concrete action rather than merely pointing out failures after the fact,” Dr Kinity noted while congratulating Homabay Governor, Gladys Wanga for regularly calling out misdeeds in the broad-based government.

Similarly, former Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mithika Linturi, impeached in mid-2024 following a fake fertilizer scandal, has accused the government of failing to support farmers and address food security challenges.

Linturi’s tenure was marred by controversies, including allegations of distributing substandard agricultural inputs,

yet he remained largely silent on systemic issues within the sector while in office. In recent public statements, he has blamed the administration for neglecting rural economies, a stance Dr Kinity described as opportunistic.

“Linturi had the platform to push for reforms as Cabinet Secretary. As the country grapples with economic challenges, including high inflation and unemployment, citizens are increasingly demanding consistent and principled leadership,” stated Dr Kinity.

He called on public officials to uphold transparency and accountability, warning that speaking out only when it suits personal interests fuels public distrust and that, he added, Kenyans need leaders who speak up when it counts, not just when they’ve lost power or influence.

Dr Kinity called for a broader conversation on the ethics of public service, urging civil society and the media to hold leaders accountable for their actions both in and out of office. He also appealed to voters to scrutinize the track records of politicians, particularly those who shift narratives for political expediency.

# Imenti Development Forum Commissions Two ICT hubs In Remote Meru villages

By: Dennis Dibondo  
 @themkenyatimes

**Worth Noting:**

- They have already put up four in Ithimbari South Imenti constituency, Ngiine in North Imenti constituency, Kathiranga in Central Imenti constituency, and Maili Saba in Buuri constituency.
- On Saturday, they commissioned the ICT hub in Kathiranga Central Imenti and Ithimbari South Imenti. The group first commissioned Kathiranga ICT Center, which has 14 computers before proceeding to Ithimbari which has 20 computers and a printer.
- The group vowed to transform villages into a thriving technology hub to unlock digital opportunities.
- Led by their patron lawyer Mugambi Imanyara and chairman Charles Mbogori together with other officials, the professionals vowed to intensify their development agenda. Vice Chairman Kairu Magambo, Secretary-Brian Mutembei, Vice Secretary – Muthaura Njogu and treasurer-Mwenda Kirera.

Imenti Development Forum has initiated a program to transform Meru villages by putting up ICT hubs and donating computers.

The group has renovated and put up new structures and equipped them with state-of-the-art computers.

The group comprising of professionals and successful businessmen came together to help communities through sponsoring programs uplift livelihood programs.

They have already put up four in Ithimbari South Imenti constituency, Ngiine in North Imenti constituency, Kathiranga in Central Imenti constituency, and Maili Saba in Buuri constituency.

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Manyara said they will, with time, increase the number of computers to enable more residents and especially children to learn. Imanyara emphasized that the center is not just about browsing but a launchpad for education, employment, and farming empowerment.

“We have 14 computers in Kathiranga and 20 in Ithimbari and we aim to increase them to 30 in each Center by next year,”

“We started this initiative with the focus of transforming the community where digital world is sleepy to connect the people especially the youths in the rural areas with the internet and unlock the opportunities which come with the digital world,” Imanyara added.

Manyara urged residents, especially schools, to use the computer laboratory to enhance their computer literacy and catch up with other in the digital sector.

Chairman Charles Mbogori said they came together to give back to the community, and they have been putting up their resources and lobbying from friends to support them.

“For now, we are doing ict hubs our group stays away from politics and only engages in development,” Mbo-



Imenti development Forum Patron Mugambi Imanyara (left with white cap) member Kindigo Muriuki and chairman Charles Mbogori (far right) look at students enjoying the computers they donated after commissioning an ICT hub in Kathiranga Central Imenti Constituency. Photo/Dennis Dibondo.

gori said.

The group Vice Secretary Muthaura Njogu who is also a Principle Public Communication Assistant in the office of the Deputy President challenged the youths to take advantage of the ICT hubs saying it a doorway to global job opportunities and digital literacy.

“Our aim is to help our community to connect with the other world not everybody is able to access the digital opportunities so we want the even the most disadvantaged child to benefit and access technology that our dream”, said Muthaura.

Lawyer Kimaita Mkulima, a member, called on farmers to utilize the opportunity, claiming it’s a source of knowledge on modern agricultural practices.

Businessman Muriuki Kindigo, another member, urged the youths to shun toxic site and only focus on learning skills, which are useful to sharpen their knowledge.

Meru County Sport CEC Elias Murega, who was later picked as the group’s Organising Secretary, lauded the team for taking bold steps to empower the youth and stepping out to tackle rising social challenges.

Murega said the county government will partner with Imenti Development Forum in using ICT to uplift communities.

He urged the group to make the facilities more accessible to children living with disabilities.

He also urged the youths to embrace the opportunities for self-empowerment, including accessing financial

support through platforms like the Nyota App.

Murega further encouraged youth to take charge of their future by acquiring new skills and seeking economic independence.

Highlighting the pressing issues in the region, Murega revealed that Meru County is currently leading in cases of crime, gender-based violence, teenage pregnancy, and cancer.

“One of the county’s key strategies is promoting sports as a tool to engage youth, reduce idleness, and combat drug and substance abuse. We support sports as a platform to foster discipline and create new opportunities to the young by,” said Murega.



Imenti Development Forum Patron Mugambi Imanyara and Chairman Charles Mbogori are taken through an ICT hub they commissioned in Ithimbari South Imenti Constituency.

# New Pool Game Launched In Nairobi, To Be Rolled Out Across The Country

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themkenyentimes

A new Pool game, complete with new rules and regulations was over the weekend launched in Nairobi.

Dozens of Kenyans who are fans of the Pool table game thronged KICC's Comesa grounds for the event that was sponsored by Nairobi businessman Nick Mararo through his Lipalikes firm where he is the Chief Executive Officer.

Uasin Gishu County Women Representative Gladys Sholei was among the dignitaries who graced the occasion that saw the overall winner take home KSh350,000 in cash.

Other winners took home cash and assorted goodies .

As dozens competed, the organisers had put in place medical and counselling experts who took some of those life lessons sessions and medical examinations.

Further, all those present were sen-

sitized on the need to keep off vices that are detrimental to the society wellbeing and which lined with the tournament's theme which was geared towards eradication of gender based violence.

Sholei hailed the events slogan, "Gonga Boli Usigonge Dame" which was essentially calling on Kenyans to shun gender based violence as well as femicide.

The tournament dubbed Krekit Fest was also accompanied by numerous entertainments by various artists and celebrities led by Inspeka Mwala and Njugush.

Speaking during the event, Sholei, Mararo and other speakers urged the youth, particularly university and college students, to refrain from violent reactions even in the midst of frustrations and provocations.

Mararo pledged to sponsor more tournaments and sensitisation forums, starting with Eldoret in a few weeks time. From there the event will be taken to Meru, followed by Nyeri and then Mombasa before moving to other

parts of the country.

The initiative is aimed at ensuring that the barbaric vice is brought to negligible levels if not totally eradicated.

Mararo urged all stakeholders particularly parents, education managers as well as business entities to play significant roles in bringing down the

outdated practise to enhance civility.

Under the new pool game, players can use the cuestick or bare hands to hit the ball.

Each of the balls has a prize tag with the black one having the highest prize. Kenya Pool Players Association official Gabriel Wamutitu who also graced the occasion commended the

team behind the new game saying it was better off since it involved players getting many prizes.

He said his association had embraced the new game and would embark on training members to adapt it.



Lipalikes CEO Nick Mararo assisting Inspeka Mwala take a shot. Photos/Courtesy.



Uasin Gishu County Women Representative Gladys Sholei briefing the media at KICC, Comesa grounds on Saturday as Lipalikes CEO Nick Mararo looks on. Photo/Courtesy.



Some of the Pool Game players trying their luck.

## For The Safira



"Oh my "safira  
Oh shining light in  
the darkness...  
Oh you whom my heart longs for with longing...  
Oh you who reside in my heart...  
You remain a refuge for every pure ascetic...  
I fear for you from every greedy person who  
seeks to woo me...  
I fear for you from the tears of the orphan...  
When he cries or sighs...  
Then complains! Blessed are the people of  
generosity...  
Those who remain good and protective.  
The brave have the right to say:

and (Bilal Ahmad Harmoush) and ( Hussein Harmoush )is incomparable and incomparable . A true word, and it is true. Through the efforts of (Haider Harmoush) examples are set... and (Bilal HusseinHarmoush) how many favors and generosity he has. Anyone who opposes him will be disappointed. . For the noble feelings of (Khaled omar Harmoush) and his sense of marginalization and neglect. A thousand greetings of appreciation and reverence. The people of trustworthiness and faith bear witness... "The Fortress", the rock and the stone... And the waters of "Al-Shaqiq", "Baal" and the trees bear witness.. . Whoever breaks the covenant of "Al-Safira" for years... No promise is kept to him... And no decision is made... The son of "Al-Safira" has been given a sharp mind. He is not tempted by titles or temptations. Ranks and certificates are of no use. If they do not leave a good impression or do good!..

YASMIN ABDALSALAM HARMOUSH 🇵🇰✍️

## My Love Is Pakistan, My Love Is The Army Forces Of Pakistan



By Ibrahim husami

We were silent that not every wind would be the comfort of Garden, the ignorant of this, we do not have the strength  
Let me discuss the current situation in Pakistan and India. The relations between Pakistan and India have always been fluctuated. Various events have a profound impact on relations. The two countries were liberated on the basis of Hindu -Muslim, the majority of which were India's and the Muslims have not seen good relations between India and Muslims. The movement has been freed the riots have been shaken only after partition India. The honor was abducted on the microorganisms. India's recent operation is different because its scope is wide. India has simultaneously claimed to target three major extremist groups in Pakistan, though Pakistan rejects this claim. India has strongly warned Pakistan but the bill of Pakistan. Our soldiers came to the battlefield and fought against the enemy without care about the country and finally came to the fore. I would salute the Armed Forces of Pakistan, especially the Air Force, who made the enemy all four boxes. I will offer greetings to the Pakistani media who made the best reporting  
I will offer greetings to Pakistani hackers who destroyed India's digital setup. I will offer salute to all the social media activists who conveyed the message

of Pakistan all over the world and blew up every false news of India. I will offer greetings to every child, elder, young and women who are the victims of Indian barbarism. Your testimonies will always be written with golden letters in the history of this country.

Pakistan alive, Pakistan nation sustainable.

Written: Sardar Faizan Khalid Dogar (Chief Organizer Punjab Teachers Union Abbasi Sahiwal

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Elara and Lysandra twin daughters of Queen Avelyne were born under a prophecy of balance and chaos. Believing one to be a harbinger of destruction, the Queen makes a fatal mistake: she kills the wrong twin. Now, Elara, the discarded daughter, sits upon her sister's throne, while whispers from ancient mirrors and blades buried beneath the castle call to her. As the truth of her lineage unravels, she must decide whether to accept the destiny feared by all or forge her own path through fire and betrayal. With enemies lurking in the shadows and the weight of history pressing upon her, Elara steps into the heart of a kingdom built on deception where the glass has shattered, the knife will rise again, and the tempest is waiting to be un-leashed.

Photo: Ibrahim husami

A tale of the mistaken twins



## Silent Battles



We stand strong in the outer world,  
Because that's what we're supposed to do.  
We smile all day, we play our roles,  
Looking bold, unshaken, true.  
But no one sees the war inside,  
The demons, anger, pain we hide.  
We lock them up, we push them deep,  
Because no one asks, no one speaks.  
No one talks about the weight we bear,  
Providing, protecting, always aware.  
No one speaks of the fear of loss,

Or the cost of winning at all costs.  
No one offers a shoulder to lean,  
No safe place to let pain be seen.  
No one sees how love can break,  
Or how some wounds refuse to fade.  
We hold on, though it makes us bleed,  
Afraid to let go, yet longing to be freed.  
We never cry, we never bend,  
Always smiling, yet we pretend.  
But it's time we change the way we feel,  
To face our truths, to start to heal.  
It's okay to break, it's okay to cry,  
To let go of rage, to question why.  
Pain is fleeting, fear will pass,  
Our struggles do not have to last.  
Mental health is just as real  
As the smiles we force to feel.  
And if no one stands beside us still,  
We must be there for ourselves,  
And heal.

By Cathren Gathoni

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# Farmers, Experts Hail Ban On Hazardous Pesticides, Call For Stronger Oversight

By: Suleiman Mbatiah  
@themtkenyatimes

Biodiversity experts and sustainable agriculture proponents have commended the government's prohibition on the import and use of over 50 pesticide brands, citing its potential to safeguard public health and ecological integrity.

During a recent inspection of pyrethrum farms in Molo, Nakuru County, Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe emphasized that the policy shift is part of a strategic initiative to boost local agrochemical production and revitalize Kenya's pyrethrum sector as a sustainable pest management solution.

"We are going to stop importing these over 50 products, as they will now be produced here in Kenya. So, your market will not necessarily be abroad. Your market will be right here in Kenya. The government is prioritizing safer, locally-produced alternatives and is reviving the pyrethrum industry as a sustainable solution," Kagwe stated.

While the ban is framed as an economic measure to enhance domestic production, environmental organizations highlight its critical public health and ecological benefits. Many of the prohibited pesticides contain active ingredients already banned in the European Union (EU) and other jurisdictions due to their association with carcinogenicity, reproductive toxicity, and severe ecosystem disruption.

The Seeds Savers Network-Kenya CEO, Daniel Wanjama welcomed the decision but questioned the prolonged approval of these hazardous substances in Kenya. He noted the irony of European-manufactured agrochemicals being prohibited in their countries of origin yet exported to Kenya, undermining both environmental and market security.

The excessive application of herbicides and synthetic pesticides has been linked to the alarming decline in pollinator populations, particularly bees, which are important for crop pollination. Their depletion poses a direct threat to ecosystem stability, agricultural productivity, and long-term food security.

"African countries, especially Kenya, are losing access to European markets because of chemical residues in their produce, chemicals ironically manufactured in Europe but banned for use there. As a result, what we grow often can't be exported and ends up being consumed only locally, raising serious health concerns such as cancer," Wanjama observed.

A 2020 report by the Heinrich Böll Foundation revealed concerning lev-



Farmers display indigenous seeds at a seed fair in Kikopey, Gilgil, Nakuru County. These traditional seeds are known for their resilience against pests and diseases. Photo/Suleiman Mbatiah

## Worth Noting:

The excessive application of herbicides and synthetic pesticides has been linked to the alarming decline in pollinator populations, particularly bees, which are important for crop pollination. Their depletion poses a direct threat to ecosystem stability, agricultural productivity, and long-term food security.

"African countries, especially Kenya, are losing access to European markets because of chemical residues in their produce, chemicals ironically manufactured in Europe but banned for use there. As a result, what we grow often can't be exported and ends up being consumed only locally, raising serious health concerns such as cancer," Wanjama observed.

els of pesticide residues in Kenyan agricultural produce, with up to 60 per cent of sampled crops, including tomatoes and kale, exceeding recommended safety thresholds. This raises significant food safety and public health concerns.

In late March, Kagwe reported that the EU had rejected 95 Kenyan cut rose flower consignments and intercepted an additional 48 shipments, totaling 2.1 million stems, due to False Codling Moth (FCM) infestations, resulting in an estimated loss of Ksh 147.1 million.

Recent interceptions of Kenyan beans, chilies, and herbs revealed traces of hazardous chemicals such as Chlorpyrifos and Triazophos, substances prohibited in Europe due to health risks. The EU's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) has issued multiple warnings, prompting fears of stricter trade restrictions if compliance fails.

The EU's stringent pesticide regulations lead to substantial post-export losses for Kenyan producers. Non-compliant crops face rejection due to chemical residues, while pest infestations compromise quality and yield. This necessitates costly adaptations, including integrated pest management (IPM) and organic alternatives, to maintain market access.

Wanjama attributed the persistent use of hazardous pesticides to weak regulatory frameworks and insufficient farmer education. He emphasized the viability of agroecological

practices, including organic herbicide and fertilizer production, as cost-effective and environmentally sound alternatives.

"At Seed Savers Network-Kenya, we train farmers to make their own organic herbicides and fertilizers. We also advise them to move away from monoculture, as it increases the risk of pest, weed, and disease outbreaks," he stated, advocating for diversified farming systems.

John Wainaina, an organic farmer from Kikopey, Gilgil, highlighted the benefits of organic seeds, which exhibit greater resistance to pests and diseases, reducing reliance on synthetic inputs. He stressed that organic manure enhances soil health and plant resilience, yielding robust crops without the adverse effects of chemical fertilizers.

Keziah Kuria, a farmer in Kia Molo, Gilgil, recounted the devastating loss of her four-acre maize crop after applying a herbicide purchased from a Nakuru agrovet. The chemical caused total crop failure, resulting in significant financial and temporal losses.

"It's time the government cracked down on the chemicals being sold in Kenya. Some offer little to no benefit, while others are so harsh they destroy everything on the farm. We need stricter oversight to protect farmers, consumers, and the environment," she urged.

At the same time, civil society groups and farmers have raised concerns over the lack of clarity on the

recent government ban of over 50 harmful pesticides, saying it leaves them in the dark, exposes them to health and legal risks, and could lead to farmers unknowingly continuing to use banned chemicals.

The push is spearheaded by the Route to Food Initiative, with support from groups like the Biodiversity and Biosafety Association of Kenya, Kenya Organic Agriculture Network, and Consumer Grassroots Association. Others include the Kenya Parliamentary Human Rights Association, Resources Oriented Development Initiatives, and the Centre for Environment Justice and Development.

"We are happy the Ministry of Agriculture passed the National Agroecology Strategy in November 2024. Agroecology promotes a transition to sustainable production methods with the gradual withdrawal of highly hazardous pesticides and synthetic fertilizers," said Ann Maina, national coordinator at the Biodiversity and Biosafety Association of Kenya.

The groups argue that enforcing the ban would safeguard farmers' and consumers' health, protect the environment, and align with Kenya's FAO/WHO commitments. They also cited the Business Laws (Amendment) Act, 2024, stressing that banned chemicals must be clearly listed and removed per its standards.



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# What School Doesn't Teach One, But Life Does

By: Kamomonti Wa Kiambati  
@themkenyatimes

## Perfect Grades Don't Guarantee Success

I was always one of the top students in school. I chased perfect grades, obsessed over exams, and worked hard to stay ahead. Back then, I believed academic excellence was the surest way to guarantee a successful future. But life eventually showed me that success isn't measured solely by a flawless report card. While intelligence and knowledge matter, they're not enough on their own. What truly makes a difference is the ability to connect with people, to solve real-world problems, and to work harmoniously in a team.

The workplace doesn't just reward what you know; it values how well you apply that knowledge, how adaptable you are, and how effectively you interact with others. Over time, I came to understand that being smart is only part of the equation. More important is being dependable, collaborative, and emotionally intelligent. A person who is approachable and trustworthy often achieves more than one who merely scores highly on paper.

Life has a way of humbling even the most decorated scholars, reminding us that technical skill without interpersonal skill is incomplete. Look at Prof. Wajakoya with his over 7 degrees! I learned to shift my focus

from being solely an achiever to being someone others could rely on, someone who could lead with empathy, support others, and bring people together.

## Mental health is not a luxury

Another lesson that life taught me, though never covered in a classroom, was the importance of mental health. Growing up, mental wellness was rarely discussed, if ever. In school, we were encouraged to keep going, to work harder, to never show signs of struggle. Stress, anxiety, and burnout were treated as personal weaknesses, not as genuine concerns deserving attention. We internalized the idea that strength meant silence, and resilience meant never asking for help.

But life taught me the hard way that mental health is just as important as physical health, if not more so. Suppressing stress does not make it disappear. I had to unlearn the belief that pushing through at all costs was noble. I had to learn that rest is not laziness, that asking for help is not failure, and that vulnerability is not a flaw.

I discovered the strength it takes to pause, to admit that I'm not okay, and to prioritize my well-being. I began to understand the value of reflection, of taking mental breaks, and

of speaking kindly to myself. Over time, I realized that true strength lies in self-awareness and self-care. It's not about hiding your pain, but about managing it in a healthy way so that you can continue to grow and contribute meaningfully.

## You don't have to follow the same path

Perhaps one of the most liberating truths I've come to accept is that there is no single path to success. In school, the roadmap was clear and linear: finish your education, secure a good job, work hard, and eventually retire. That was the definition of a good life. But reality turned out to be far less predictable and far more nuanced.

I've learned that the journey is not always straightforward. Sometimes, the path disappears altogether. Sometimes, we take detours, stumble, fall, and have to find our way again. And that's okay. I changed careers more than once. I moved from one city to another, sometimes chasing opportunity, sometimes fleeing failure. I experienced moments of doubt and failure that forced me to start over.

But each time, I learned something new. I discovered strength I didn't know I had and resilience I hadn't needed before. Those twists and turns, far from being setbacks, be-

came the most important parts of my journey. They taught me flexibility, humility, and courage. I came to understand that success isn't a straight line but a winding path, often unpredictable and full of surprises.

It's in those unexpected turns that I've found the most meaningful growth. Whether it was starting anew in a different field or rediscovering a passion I had long abandoned, every step - no matter how uncertain - has shaped who I am today.

## Embracing life's lessons

Life has been my greatest teacher. It taught me that academic brilliance can open doors, but what you do once you're through them depends on much more than grades. It taught me that tending to your mental and emotional health is not indulgent, but necessary. And it taught me that it's okay to take the long way around, to change directions, and to build a life that might not look like anyone else's.

Because success, as I've come to know it, is not about perfection - it's about growth, authenticity, and the courage to keep going, even when the way forward isn't clear.

**\*Kamomonti teaches English and Literature in Gatundu North Sub County\***

**Worth Noting:**

- Another lesson that life taught me, though never covered in a classroom, was the importance of mental health. Growing up, mental wellness was rarely discussed, if ever. In school, we were encouraged to keep going, to work harder, to never show signs of struggle. Stress, anxiety, and burnout were treated as personal weaknesses, not as genuine concerns deserving attention. We internalized the idea that strength meant silence, and resilience meant never asking for help.
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# Kalonzo Slams Tanzania Over Karua's Deportation, Warns Of EAC Democratic Backslide

By: Seth Olale

@themtkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- Karua, a Senior Counsel and former Kenyan Minister of Justice, revealed on Sunday that she was denied entry into Tanzania and deported back to Nairobi. She was accompanied by Gloria Kimani, a Council Member of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), and Lynn Ngugi, a member of the Pan-African Progressive Leaders Solidarity Network.

- The three were travelling to Tanzania at the invitation of the East Africa Law Society to observe court proceedings related to Tanzanian opposition leader Tundu Lissu, who is currently facing treason charges.

- In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Karua wrote: "I have been denied entry into Tanzania and I and two colleagues are awaiting deportation at Mwalimu Nyerere International Airport, Dar es Salaam."



Speaking during the consecration and enthronement of Canon Patrick Kyalo Munuve as the new Bishop at ACK Cathedral in Machakos, Musyoka decried what he termed as rising authoritarianism in the region.

Wiper Party leader Kalonzo Musyoka has strongly condemned the deportation of Martha Karua, leader of Kenya's People's Liberation Party (PLP), from Tanzania, calling the move a serious threat to democratic freedoms and regional integration within the East African Community (EAC).

Speaking during the consecration and enthronement of Canon Patrick Kyalo Munuve as the new Bishop at ACK Cathedral in Machakos, Musyoka decried what he termed as rising authoritarianism in the region.

He also accused Kenya's Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) of being weaponized against county governors and political figures critical of President William Ruto's administration.

"Martha Karua's deportation is a regrettable affront to the principles of democracy, open borders, and mutual respect among East African nations," Kalonzo said.

Karua, a Senior Counsel and former Kenyan Minister of Justice, revealed on Sunday that she was denied entry into Tanzania and deported back to

Nairobi. She was accompanied by Gloria Kimani, a Council Member of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), and Lynn Ngugi, a member of the Pan-African Progressive Leaders Solidarity Network.

The three were travelling to Tanzania at the invitation of the East Africa Law Society to observe court proceedings related to Tanzanian opposition leader Tundu Lissu, who is currently facing treason charges.

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Karua wrote: "I have been denied entry into Tanzania and I and two colleagues are awaiting deportation at Mwalimu Nyerere International Airport, Dar es Salaam."

According to Karua, her passport was flagged by an immigration official upon arrival at 9:00 a.m., before being referred to a supervisor. After an hour of consultations, she was informed that she would not be allowed entry and was subsequently placed on a Kenya Airways flight back to Nairobi, arriving shortly after 4:00 p.m.

Karua linked the deportation to her active involvement in advocating for the release of Chadema party chair-

man Tundu Lissu, who was arrested in April and charged with treason after calling for electoral reforms at a public rally. Karua and her team were scheduled to attend a hearing at the Kisumu Magistrates' Court on Monday, May 19.

"I am concerned that as a citizen of the East African Community, my access to another member state appears inexplicably restricted," Karua stated. The People's Liberation Party issued a strongly worded statement condemning the deportation as "disgraceful," labeling it a violation of human rights and a betrayal of EAC protocols.

"That a prominent East African stateswoman can be treated in this manner, without due process or cause, is a stain on the integrity of regional cooperation," the party said. "This shameful action by President Samia Suluhu's regime reflects a deep-seated fear of democratic scrutiny and the retrogressive entrenchment of authoritarian rule in Tanzania."

Human rights organizations and legal bodies also voiced concern. Amnesty International Kenya Exec-

utive Director Irūngū Houghton said the action undermined fundamental rights and eroded international trust in Tanzania's judiciary.

The Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU) expressed "deep shock" at the deportation, calling it a violation of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. The organization called for an apology from Tanzanian authorities and assurances that Karua and her colleagues would be allowed to freely participate in future legal observation missions.

PALU noted that Karua had previously attended hearings for Lissu in May 2024 without obstruction.

The incident is likely to heighten tensions within the EAC and raise questions about member states' commitment to democratic principles and regional cooperation.

# The Shifting Sands Of Childhood And Adolescence



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande  
@themkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- At the extremes, permissive parenting (characterized by a lack of rules and expectations) and neglectful parenting (where parents are uninvolved and unresponsive to their children's needs) can have detrimental effects. Children raised in such environments may lack a strong moral compass, struggle with self-regulation, and feel a sense of abandonment. This can make them more vulnerable to negative influences and more likely to engage in rebellious behaviors as a way of seeking attention or expressing their unmet needs.
- Conversely, over-indulgent parenting, where children are given everything they want without having to work for it or face consequences, can also hinder the development of responsibility. These children may grow up with a sense of entitlement, a lack of appreciation for effort, and difficulty coping with challenges.

## Introduction

In the tapestry of societal discourse, a persistent thread of concern weaves through discussions about the rising generation: the perceived lack of responsibility among youth and the specter of rebellion. While some analysts point a blaming finger at inadequate parenting, suggesting a failure to instill core values and boundaries, others argue that a degree of defiance is an inherent characteristic of adolescence, a natural push for autonomy. This article delves deep into this multifaceted debate, moving beyond simplistic attributions of blame to explore the intricate interplay between evolving parenting styles, the developmental imperatives of youth, and the broader socio-cultural landscape that shapes the trajectory of young lives, ultimately seeking to understand the complex origins of what some perceive as a generation of youth rebels.

To truly understand the current landscape, we need to acknowledge that childhood and adolescence are not static concepts. They are shaped by the socio-economic, cultural, and technological environments in which they unfold. The experiences of a child growing up in the 21st century in Windhoek, Namibia, or that of the one who grows up in Nairobi, Kenya, or anyone grown in Cape Town, South Africa, are vastly different from those of a child growing up in a rural village a century ago, or even in a bustling metropolis today. These differences inevitably influence their development, their understanding of responsibility, and their potential for rebellion.

## The Evolving Role of Parents

Parenting styles have undergone significant transformations over time. In more traditional societies, parenting often followed established norms and expectations, with clear roles and responsibilities for both parents and children. Discipline might have been more authoritarian, and the path to adulthood often involved adhering to communal values and traditions.

However, with globalization, increased access to information, and changing societal values, parenting has become more diverse and, arguably, more complex. We've seen a shift towards more permissive or authoritative styles in some contexts, while others grapple with the pressures of balancing work and family life, often leading to less direct parental involvement.

## The Changing Nature of Youth

Similarly, the experience of being young has also evolved. Adolescence, as a distinct life stage, is a relatively modern concept. In the past, the transition from childhood to adulthood was often more abrupt. Today, young people navigate a prolonged period of exploration, identity formation, and the pressures of academic achievement, social media, and a rapidly changing world. This extended period of transition can be fraught with uncertainty and a desire to assert independence, which can sometimes manifest as rebellion.

## The Argument for Bad Parenting: Seeds of Disaffection

One school of thought firmly places the responsibility for youth rebellion and lack of responsibility squarely on the shoulders of inadequate parenting. Proponents of this view argue that certain parenting styles and practices can inadvertently sow the seeds of disaffection and rebellion in children.

## Lack of Consistent Discipline and Boundaries

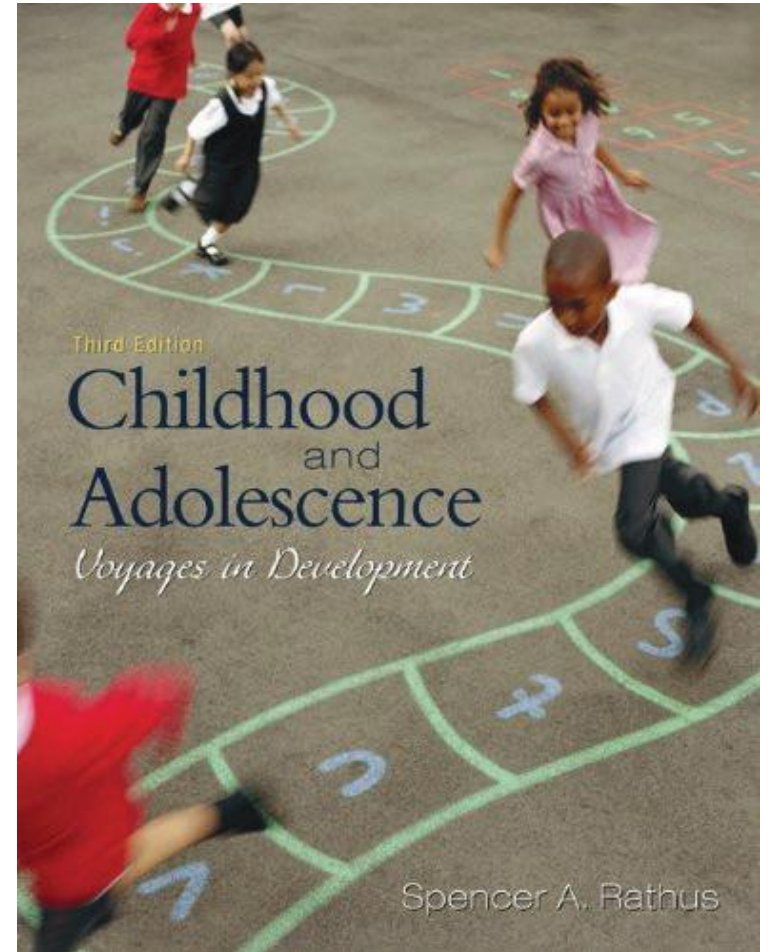
Children thrive on structure and clear expectations. Consistent discipline helps them understand the consequences of their actions and develop a sense of responsibility. When parents are inconsistent in their rules or fail to enforce them, children may struggle to internalize boundaries and develop self-control. This can lead to a disregard for authority and a tendency to act impulsively, potentially contributing to substance abuse or other risky behaviors.

## Permissive or Neglectful Parenting

At the extremes, permissive parenting (characterized by a lack of rules and expectations) and neglectful parenting (where parents are uninvolved and unresponsive to their children's needs) can have detrimental effects. Children raised in such environments may lack a strong moral compass, struggle with self-regulation, and feel a sense of abandonment. This can make them more vulnerable to negative influences and more likely to engage in rebellious behaviors as a way of seeking attention or expressing their unmet needs.

## Overindulgence and Lack of Responsibility

Conversely, overindulgent parenting, where children are given everything they want without having



to work for it or face consequences, can also hinder the development of responsibility. These children may grow up with a sense of entitlement, a lack of appreciation for effort, and difficulty coping with challenges. When faced with the realities of adulthood, they may struggle to take ownership of their lives and may resort to escapism or blame external factors for their difficulties.

## Poor Role Modeling

Children learn by observing their parents. If parents engage in irresponsible behaviors, such as substance abuse, excessive anger, or a lack of accountability, they are inadvertently modeling these behaviors for their children. This can normalize such actions and make it more likely that their children will adopt similar patterns.

## Lack of Communication and Emotional Connection

A strong parent-child relationship built on open communication and emotional connection is crucial for healthy development. When parents are emotionally distant, dismissive of their children's feelings, or fail to create a safe space for dialogue, children may feel misunderstood and isolated. This can lead them to seek validation and belonging elsewhere, potentially in peer groups that engage in risky or rebellious behaviors.

## The Impact of Trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

It's also important to acknowledge the profound impact of trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) on a child's development. Experiences such as abuse, neglect, parental separation, or exposure to violence can have long-lasting effects on a child's emotional regulation, social skills, and overall well-being. Children who have experienced significant trauma may exhibit behavioral problems, including rebellion, as a coping mechanism or a manifestation of underlying emotional distress.

## The Argument for Child Rebellion: The Inevitable Push for Autonomy

On the other side of the debate is the perspective that a certain degree of rebellion is a natural and even necessary part of adolescent development. As young people mature, they develop a stronger sense of self and a desire for autonomy. This inherent drive to assert their independence can sometimes clash with parental expectations and societal norms, leading to what is perceived as rebellion.

# The Shifting Sands Of Childhood And Adolescence

Contd from page 20

## The Developmental Need for Separation and Individuation

Psychological theories of adolescent development, such as those proposed by Erik Erikson, highlight the importance of the "identity vs. role confusion" stage. During adolescence, young people grapple with questions of who they are, what their values are, and where they fit in the world. This process often involves challenging parental beliefs and experimenting with different identities, which can manifest as disagreement, defiance, or a rejection of established norms. This is not necessarily a sign of bad parenting but rather a natural step in the process of becoming an independent individual.

## The Influence of Peer Groups and Social Norms

As adolescents spend more time with their peers, the influence of their peer group becomes increasingly significant. They may adopt the behaviors, attitudes, and even rebellious tendencies of their friends as a way of gaining acceptance and belonging. This can lead to conflicts with parents who may disapprove of their children's choices.

## The Appeal of Risk-Taking and Novelty

Adolescence is also a period of heightened risk-taking behavior. This is partly due to the ongoing development of the brain's prefrontal cortex, which is responsible for executive functions such as planning, decision-making, and impulse control. At the same time, the limbic system, which is involved in emotions and reward-seeking, is more active. This neurological imbalance can make adolescents more susceptible to seeking out novel and potentially risky experiences, including substance use or defiance of authority.

## The Clash of Generations and Changing Societal Values

Each generation grows up in a unique historical and cultural context. What was considered acceptable or responsible behavior in one generation may be viewed differently by the next. Young people today are exposed to a vast amount of information and diverse perspectives through the internet and social media. This can lead to a questioning of traditional values and a desire to forge their own paths, which may

be interpreted as rebellion by older generations.

## The Role of Mental Health and Underlying Issues

It's crucial to recognize that some behaviors that appear rebellious may actually be symptoms of underlying mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, or conduct disorder. Young people struggling with these conditions may act out, engage in risky behaviors, or withdraw from responsibilities as a way of coping with their distress. In such cases, the issue is not simply rebellion but a cry for help.

## The Interplay: A Complex Web of Influence

Ultimately, the question of whether it's bad parenting or child rebellion that leads to negative outcomes is not an either/or scenario. It's a complex interplay of both factors, along with broader societal and environmental influences.

## Parenting as a Foundation

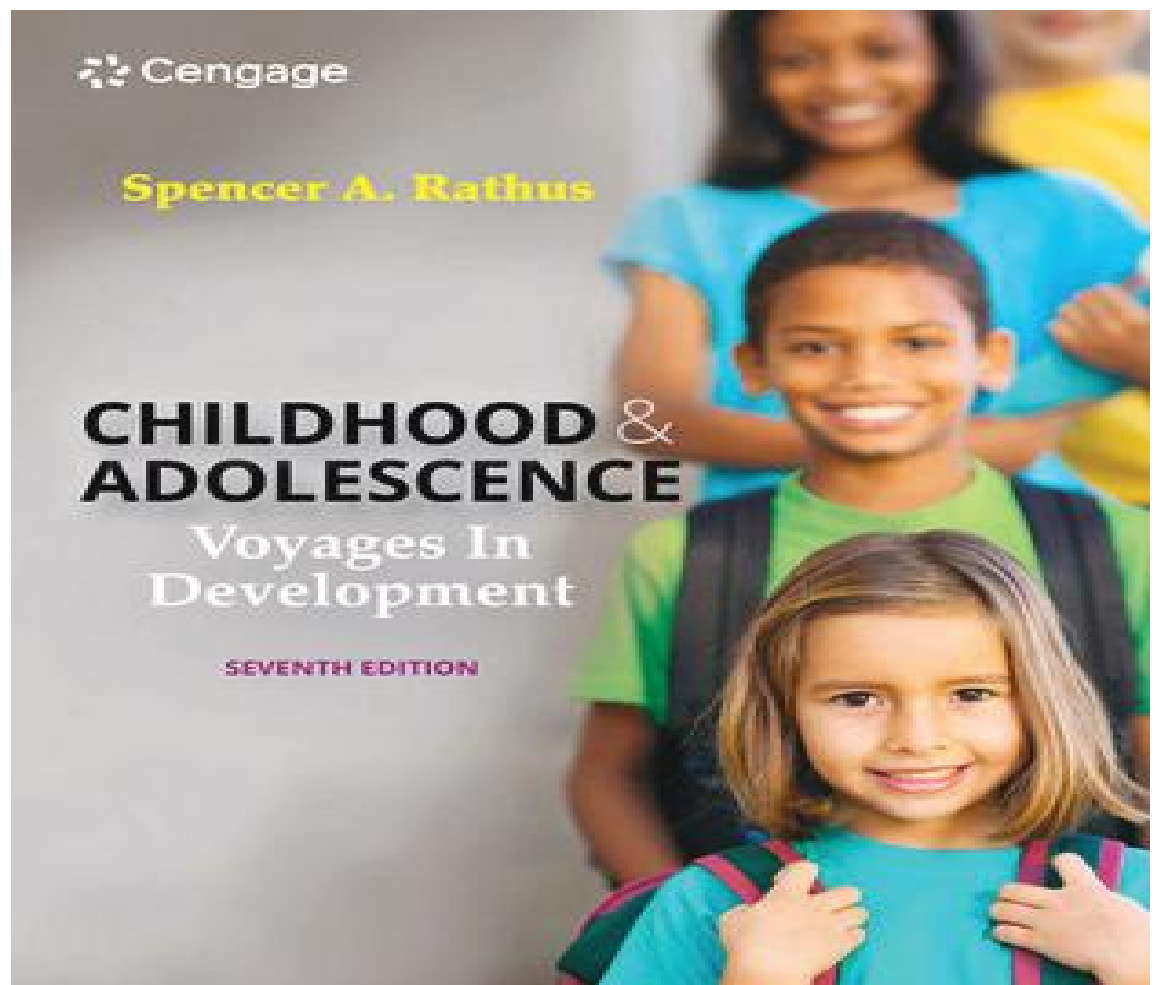
While rebellion may be a natural part of development, the foundation laid by parenting plays a crucial role in shaping how that rebellion manifests and whether it leads to destructive or relatively harmless outcomes. Secure attachment, consistent discipline, open communication, and positive role modeling can provide young people with the emotional resilience and internal compass to navigate the challenges of adolescence without resorting to extreme or harmful behaviors.

## The Amplifying Effect of Negative Influences

Conversely, poor parenting can exacerbate the natural tendencies towards rebellion. Children who feel neglected, misunderstood, or lack clear boundaries may be more likely to seek validation and belonging in negative peer groups or to engage in risky behaviors as a way of expressing their anger or frustration.

## The Societal Context

The broader societal context also plays a significant role. Factors such as poverty, lack of educational opportunities, exposure to violence, and the normalization of substance abuse can create an environment that fosters both poor parenting practices and increased vulnerability to negative influences among young people. The pervasive influence of social media and the pressures of consumer culture can also contribute to feelings of inadequacy and a desire for instant gratification, potentially fueling irresponsible behaviors.



## The Importance of Individual Differences

It's also important to remember that each child is an individual with their own unique temperament, personality, and experiences. Some young people may naturally be more compliant and less prone to rebellion, while others may have a stronger independent streak. Parenting approaches that work well for one child may not be effective for another.

## Moving Forward: Fostering Responsibility and Navigating Rebellion

Instead of assigning blame, a more productive approach is to understand the complex interplay of factors that contribute to the challenges faced by young people today. This understanding can inform more effective strategies for fostering responsibility and navigating the inevitable phases of rebellion.

## Empowering Parents Through Education and Support

Providing parents with access to education and resources on child development, effective parenting strategies, and mental health awareness can equip them with the tools they need to build strong, supportive relationships with their children and guide them through adolescence. Addressing systemic issues such as poverty and lack of access to healthcare can also reduce the stressors

that can negatively impact parenting.

## Creating Supportive Environments for Youth

Creating safe and supportive environments for young people, both within families and communities, is crucial. This includes providing access to quality education, extracurricular activities, positive role models, and mental health services. Fostering a sense of belonging and purpose can help young people channel their energy and desire for independence in constructive ways.

## Open Communication and Understanding

Open and honest communication between parents and children is essential for navigating the challenges of adolescence. Parents need to be willing to listen to their children's perspectives, even when they disagree, and to understand the pressures and influences they face. Creating a space where young people feel heard and respected can reduce the likelihood of them resorting to extreme forms of rebellion.

## Recognizing and Addressing Underlying Issues

It's crucial to be aware of the signs that rebellious behavior may be masking underlying mental health issues or the effects of trauma. Seeking professional help for young people who are struggling can make

a significant difference in their well-being and prevent more serious problems from developing.

## Embracing the Journey of Adolescence

Finally, it's important to recognize that adolescence is a period of significant growth and change. While some degree of rebellion may be challenging for parents, it is also a necessary part of the journey towards independence and self-discovery. By providing a supportive and understanding framework, parents can help their children navigate this stage and emerge as responsible and well-adjusted adults.

In conclusion, the development of responsible young adults and the phenomenon of youth rebellion are not simply the result of good or bad parenting, nor are they solely attributable to the inherent nature of adolescence. It is a complex interplay of individual developmental needs, parenting styles, societal influences, and broader environmental factors. By acknowledging this complexity and focusing on creating supportive environments and fostering open communication, we can better equip young people to navigate the challenges of their formative years and develop into responsible and engaged members of society. The focus should shift from assigning blame to fostering understanding and providing the necessary support for both parents and children to thrive.

# SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS  
SCORES  
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BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> \*Renaissance Berkane of Morocco scored twice within the opening 14 minutes to beat Simba of Tanzania 2-0 on Saturday in the CAF Confederation Cup final first leg.

## Clinical Berkane Take Two-Goal Lead In CAF Cup Final



Moroccan heavyweights RS Berkane take on Tanzanian giants Simba SC

Renaissance Berkane of Morocco scored twice within the opening 14 minutes to beat Simba of Tanzania 2-0 on Saturday in the CAF Confederation Cup final first leg.

Senegalese Mamadou Camara struck after eight minutes and Oussama Lamlioui six minutes later in front of a sell-out 15,000 crowd at the Municipal Stadium in Berkane.

Title favourites Renaissance had the ball in the net a third time on the hour mark, but a lengthy VAR review ruled that scorer Youssef Mehri was marginally offside.

Simba did well to recover from a disastrous start in their first Confederation Cup final appearance, but flopped in the attacking third and did not muster a single attempt on target.

The result will offer some hope

for the east African side ahead of the May 25 return match as they overcame a two-goal first leg deficit against Al Masry of Egypt in the quarter-finals.

Berkane, who scored five goals twice and four once in home matches en route to the final, would have hoped for a wider winning margin having made such a spectacular start.

Away goals count double in African club competitions and should the Moroccan side score once in Tanzania, Simba would have to find the net four times to succeed.

Given two-time Confederation Cup winners Renaissance have conceded just twice in 13 African matches this season, that would be a mammoth task for the Dar es Salaam outfit.

South Africa-born Simba coach Fadlu Davids acknowledged

before the match that his team would spend much of the tie defending.

But he could not have envisaged that Guinean goalkeeper Mousa Camara would be picking the ball out of his net twice so early in the northeast Moroccan city.

Berkane's Camara scored from the first corner, soaring unchallenged to head the ball across the goal and into the far corner of the net.

When Simba conceded possession not far from their area soon after, Lamlioui took advantage to score with a close-range shot that took a slight deflection as it trickled past Camara.

It was the sixth goal of the campaign for Lamlioui, making him joint leading scorer with Zakaria Benchaab from beaten semi-finalists CS Constantine of Algeria.

The Simba shot-stopper then

prevented further damage with his outstretched leg foiling an Imad Riahi attempt to put Berkane three goals ahead.

Simba lost centre-back Abdulrazack Hamza in the first half, and star attacker Denis Kibu at half-time, to injuries.

Scorer Camara thought he had turned goal provider when his chip was fired into the net by Mehri, but a four-minute delay ended with the Gabonese referee disallowing the goal.

An aggregate victory for Berkane would equal the record of three Confederation Cup titles held by CS Sfaxien of Tunisia.

KBC

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>** \*The home school team showed class as they won the second edition of the NCBA Interschools Golf Tournament at the Windsor Golf and Country hotel.

# Homeschool Show Class To Win NCBA Inter Schools Golf Tournament



The home school team showed class as they won the second edition of the NCBA Interschools Golf Tournament at the Windsor Golf and Country hotel. Kanana Muthomi was in fine form as she shot three under par 69 to lead her teammates to the top prize in the 13-14 years old category. She played level par 36 in the front nine and 33 in the back nine, boosted by an impressive six birdies. In second place in the category was Rosslyn Academy led by siblings Aidan Gachora and Ashley

Gachora, as well as Nawenxuan Li and Nawembo Li. Aidan led the way with a score of 80 with Ashley playing 82. Nawenxuan had a score of 84 with Nawembo finishing the day with a score of 94. The 15-18 years category was won by Homeschool D with an overall score of ten over par 82. Junaid Manji picked three birdies as he played one over par 73. Yuvral Rajput was also in good form to return a score of 74. Hetansh Shah returned a score of 79 while Ishan Simani played 88. Braeside Garden Estate finished

in second position with Braeburn finishing third. Despite a spirited effort by Simaloi Mbeya and Cheron Kipkurui, they both returned a score of 85 as Braeside Lavington finished fourth. "Today the course was hard. The second nine was playing hard but the first nine was ok. I think I could have played better but i'm ok with my score. I aim to improve," said Simaloi. Arja Arora, playing for the International school of Kenya returned a score of 108 as his school finished joint fifth.

"I had a few pars and then a few bogies, so overall I think I played well but there is still a lot of work to do especially on my chipping," he explained. The junior players now train their guns on the upcoming leg of the ongoing NCBA US Kids golf tour scheduled 25th May at Muthaiga golf Club.

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# SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS  
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# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



## A Beautiful Author And A Hair Activist- Vanessa Cookson From South Africa



By: Paula Otukile  
Gaborone, Botswana  
Correspondence

### 1. Who are you?

I'm Vanessa Cookson, Entrepreneur, Communication Developer, Hair Activist and Author and from South Africa, I am dedicated to empowering and make a changes

### 2. What does award nomination mean to you?

This nomination is an incredible honor, it validate my efforts as a writer to inspire me to continue sharing stories that resonates with readers to embrace their natural hair

### 3. What do you think of Mulher Forte African Literature?

Mulher Forte African Literature is a fantastic platform, celebrating African stories and authors. It promotes diversity, creativity, and unity through literature.

### 4. How is the book sales in South Africa?

Book sales in South Africa have been encouraging, with a growing interest in natural hair care and self-empowerment literature.

### 5. How do you feel about writing in Africa?

Writing in Africa is a fulfilling experience. It allows me to contribute to a rich literary tradition and showcase our culture and, our diversity, resilience, and creativity.

### 6. What can be done to improve book sales?

To improve book sales, we need to promote reading culture, increase accessibility, support and promote local authors and



publishers through our community events. We can also foster a culture of reading by collaborating with schools and libraries. Not forget that the digital platforms can also help reach a wider audience.

### 7. Are South Africans a reading nation?

While there's a growing interest in reading, South Africa still faces challenges in promoting a reading culture. However, there is still work to be done to encourage reading habits

### 8. Digital literacy how is it in your country?

Digital literacy in South Africa is improving, with increasing access to technology and online resources. Access to smartphone and internet has made information more accessible. However, there's still a need for initiatives that promote digital skills, especially in underserved communities.

### 9. Do you plan to make ebooks? Any plans of audio books?

Yes, I have a ebook available for a "A Beginner's Guide for Natural Hair". In future the audio book can be made available to cater for those who prefers listen

### 10. What category have you been nominated so far?

I've been nominated in the Non Fiction category, which I'm thrilled about.

### 11. Who is your local role model?

My local role model is Marlene Jameson and Haroldene Tshienda, known for their contributions to literature and community development.

### 12. Where do you see yourself in ten years in literature?

In ten years, as an established author, with publications that continue to empower individuals and to have a significant impact on African literature and beyond.

### 13. The concept of Unity, what can Unity do to authors?

Unity among authors can lead to powerful collaborations, shared knowledge, and increased visibility. It can also amplify our voices and promote a stronger sense of community.

### 14. Do you have background training in writing?

I do not have formal training in writing, my passion for storytelling



and extensive research on natural hair care have equipped me, as I am natural myself for the last 7years and it has gave me the knowledge and skills needed to write this book

### 15. What do you understand by copyrights?

Copyrights protect authors' intellectual property, ensuring they receive fair compensation for their work. It's essential for maintaining creative integrity and encouraging innovation.

### 16. Have you protected your books?

Yes, I've taken steps to protect my books through copyright registration and other measures.

### 17. Your advice to upcoming authors.

To upcoming authors, I'd say: keep writing, stay persistent, and believe in yourself. Seek feedback, learn from criticism, and always strive to improve your craft.

### 18. Your last word.

My last word would be to encourage readers to embrace their unique stories and experiences. Let's celebrate our diversity and creativity through literature, and never stop exploring the power of words.

*"Embrace your natural hair - it is where culture meets HAIRitage and creativity"*