



The Caprivi Strip: A Detailed Historical, Political, And Geopolitical Analysis Of Namibia's Sovereignty

The Caprivi Strip, a slender and strategically vital panhandle in northeastern Namibia, stands as a testament to the intricate and often arbitrary nature of colonial cartography. Its unique geographical configuration has profoundly shaped its history, rendering it a recurring focal point in discussions surrounding Namibian sovereignty

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Opposition To File ICC Case Against Ruto

The United Opposition has accused President William Ruto's administration of overseeing extrajudicial killings, deploying rogue police units, and forming illegal alliances with militia gangs, which they say mirror Haiti-style death squads. The opposition bloc now says it is compiling evidence for submission to the International Criminal Court (ICC), seeking to have President Ruto held accountable for alleged crimes against humanity.



File image of President William Ruto. PHOTO| COURTESY

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Mediation Committee Agrees In KSh415B For Counties Equitable Share Allocation

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

The Mediation Committee on the Division of Revenue Bill, 2025 yesterday reached a final agreement on a KSh415 billion allocation for the County Equitable Share for the Financial Year 2025/26. This decision came after extensive deliberations during the fourth meeting of the committee, which included separate sessions with representatives from both the National Assembly and the Senate.


The agreed-upon allocation represents a KSh10 billion increase from the National Treasury's initial proposal of KSh405.1 billion, marking a 4.8 per cent growth.

The new allocation of KSh415 billion is a significant increase compared to the KSh387.4 billion allocated for the Financial Year 2024/25, reflecting a KSh27.6 billion rise in funding for the counties.

The agreement marks a crucial step in finalizing the national budget and ensuring fair and equitable distribution of resources to the counties for the upcoming financial year.



Editor's Desk



The Mt. Kenya Times

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) Party Leader Rigathi Gachagua yesterday received new members led by former Cabinet Secretary and Kigumo MP Jamleck Kamau.



Nairobi politician and businessman Dennis Waweru has strongly condemns the use of goons to terrorize residents. He emphasizes that the safety and dignity of every person, whether living or visiting the capital city must never be compromised, especially by those entrusted with leadership. Waweru noted that the deployment of hired thugs to instil fear and disrupt daily life is not only shameful but also a criminal act. He called out Governor Sakaja Johnson for what he describes as deliberate negligence and orchestrated violence saying, instead of fulfilling his constitutional mandate to protect and serve all Nairobians, he has allowed and even facilitated chaos on the streets of the capital. Waweru urged all leaders of goodwill to rise against the culture of intimidation, noting that the country's top town deserves leadership that is accountable, transparent, and people-centered.



Forestry Principal Secretary Mr. Gitonga Mugambi yesterday held a strategic meeting with representatives from Safaricom Foundation Group led by Ms. Karen Basiye at the Ministry's headquarters. The discussions focused on the 4.3 Km fencing of City Park to address issues of insecurity and illegal activities within the park. The project, supported by Safaricom Foundation, aims to transform the park into a beautiful and iconic space with internal walkways, water features and the restoration of key structures within the park in support of the 15 billion trees growing programme. The PS was joined at the meeting by Forest Development Secretary Mr. George Tarus and Dr. Margaret Kaigongi.



AHF Kenya was on Tuesday honored to host Meri Martin, Director of Global Financial Operations, and Will Medina, Senior Global Operations Manager, ahead of the upcoming Finance and Operations Retreat in Kenya. They were warmly received by AHF's Director of Finance; Africa Bureau, Leonard Chira, and Country Program Director, Dr. Samuel Kinyanjui, before embarking on a meaningful field visit to AHF Mathare Clinic along Juja road and U-Tena, a community-based organization proudly supported by AHF Kenya. During their stop in Mathare, they enjoyed a warm, nutritious cup of porridge; a simple yet impactful experience made possible through the organisation's Food for Health Program, which ensures its clients receive essential nutritional support alongside medical care.



The State Department for Medical Services Principal Secretary Dr. Ouma Oluga has called on county governments to embed HIV prevention strategies within their healthcare services, citing the urgent need to reduce rising infection rates among young people. He highlighted that nearly 6,000 new HIV infections were recorded among individuals aged 15 to 24, describing the trend as deeply troubling. Dr. Oluga emphasized that the Ministry of Health has established a coordinated prevention mechanism at the county level, involving surveillance officers and community health promoters. He attributed the high infection rate among teens to gaps in both education and enforcement, underscoring the need for comprehensive strategies to protect vulnerable age groups. The PS made the remarks while officiating the opening of the Joint Annual Program Review Workshop on the Syndemic Strategic Framework, convened by the National Syndemic Diseases Control Council (NSDCC) in Naivasha.



Partnerships with the private sector will be critical in unlocking new investments and delivering lasting impact to communities across Kenya. The Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation Mr. Julius Korir, together with Technical Experts yesterday reviewed the progress of ongoing Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects in the sector. Currently, six key projects are at various stages of processing through the PPP Committee of the National Treasury, signaling strong momentum in leveraging alternative financing models to boost service delivery. The Ministry is committed to fast-tracking these projects as part of its broader strategy to tap into innovative and sustainable financing mechanisms with the goal of achieving universal access to water and safely managed sanitation by 2030.



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Kenya Classified As A Low-Risk Country Under EU's New Deforestation Regulations

By: Wangari Ndirangu
@themkenyaintimes

Worth Noting:

“If you must shift the goalpost, provide support. These regulations increase the cost of production for Kenyan farmers,” he said, referencing the recent introduction of the deforestation law shortly after Kenya had successfully implemented the False Codling Moth (FCM) Systems Approach Protocol for rose flower exports.

Ambassador Geiger moved to allay fears, assuring the Cabinet Secretary that Kenya is considered low risk and will not face a stringent assessment under the new EU rules.

Kenya has been classified as a low-risk country under the European Union's new deforestation regulations, offering a significant reprieve for local exporters concerned about emerging compliance costs.

The reassurance came during a high-level meeting between Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe and EU Ambassador to Kenya, Ms Henriette Geiger, held at Kilimo House.

The meeting, which brought together top officials from the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) and the Agriculture and Food Authority's Coffee Directorate, centered on strengthening agricultural trade ties and addressing challenges posed by evolving EU regulations.

Kagwe welcomed the EU's recognition of Kenya's environmental efforts, noting that the country's tree cover is steadily increasing, bolstered by the expansion of crops such as avocado and coffee, which contribute to reforestation.

However, the CS warned against what he termed “shifting goal posts” that could jeopardize Kenya's competitiveness in the European market.

“If you must shift the goalpost, provide support. These regulations increase the cost of production for Kenyan farmers,” he said, referencing the recent introduction of the deforestation law shortly after Kenya had successfully implemented the False Codling Moth (FCM) Systems Approach Protocol for rose flower exports.

Ambassador Geiger moved to allay fears, assuring the Cabinet Secretary that Kenya is considered low risk and will not face a stringent assessment under the new EU rules.



The Ministry and EU officials after the meeting.

She further indicated that the EU will continue to consult its partner nations to evaluate the real-world impact of such regulations.

On the issue of FCM, the meeting heard that Kenya's efforts to control the pest are yielding good results.

KEPHIS reported a drastic reduction in flower interceptions at EU borders, with none recorded last month and only one this month.

“We began implementing the Force Code Removal System Approach Protocol in January of this year, and since we started the implementation of that protocol, there has been a drastic reduction in the number of cases, which has strengthened Kenya's phytosanitary compliance and protected a vital export sector,” KEPHIS CEO Prof. Theophilus Mutui said

Despite the progress, exporters have raised concerns over the current 25

percent sampling rate for flower consignments, arguing that it is too high, and Prof. Mutui urged the EU to consider reducing this to between five and 10 percent and called for the deployment of more inspectors to facilitate smoother export processes.

Kenya exports more than 60 million stems of cut roses daily to the EU and UK, making efficiency in the value chain critical.

The discussions also touched on pesticide regulations, with KEPHIS requesting what alternatives Kenyan farmers have when the EU bans certain chemical products.

In response, Kagwe said the government is actively promoting the pyrethrum industry as a sustainable and organic alternative, aligned with both local priorities and global environmental standards.

Beyond trade protocols and regula-

tion, the CS outlined Kenya's broader agricultural agenda, which focuses on food sustainability and independence, import substitution for key commodities like rice, wheat, edible oils, and animal feeds, and ensuring that donor funding is put to effective use.

The Coffee Directorate, on its part, shared ongoing efforts to geo-map coffee farms across the country, a move aimed at enhancing traceability and aligning Kenyan coffee with international compliance standards.

The meeting also underscored Kenya's commitment to meeting international benchmarks, while advocating for fair and stable trade practices that do not unduly burden farmers.

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Elijah Masinde's Followers Join Mau Mau fighters In Fight For Compensation

By: MKT Correspondent and Standard Online
 @themkenyatimes

Some communities that suffered historical injustices have joined a push by Mau Mau fighters to seek compensation from the British government.

Dini Ya Musambwa head Elijah Masinde's family and the church's followers in Trans-Nzoia, Bungoma, and West Pokot counties have backed campaigns pushing for compensation.

Masinde's widow, who was his sixth wife, Gladys Nanjala held a meeting with members of the Mau Mau War Veterans Association (MMWVA) in Kitale town.

While lamented neglect by the Kenyan government, Nanjala quipped, "We are living in abject poverty. We don't have decent houses despite the sacrifices made by my husband in the struggle for the independence of the country."

The widow backed the efforts by the MMWVA officials to push for compensation from the British administration.



Mau Mau War Veterans Association Director General James Njuguna Mahuria addressing former freedom fighters and their descendants in the past. Photo/Courtesy.

tration.

Masinde, a fierce freedom fighter, died in 1987 at the age of 79.

After the meeting, MMWVA Director General James Njuguna Mahuria said they are seeking KSh550 trillion from the British administration for atrocities committed during colonial times on Kenyan communities.

The money, he said, will cater for thousands of families of freedom fighters and their descendants across the country.

Mahuria observed that the major contribution the freedom fighters made towards the country's independence, those alive and their descendants are living in abject poverty.

"Some of the children and descendants of freedom fighters didn't go to school. They are living in abject poverty because of the neglect. We are asking the Kenyan government to help us push for the rightful compensation from the British administration," said Mahuria.



Elijah Masinde's wives (L) Gertrude Naliaka, Elizabeth Nakhumicha and Gladys Nanjala at Maeni in Kimilili, Bungoma county on April 26, 2022. Photo/Courtesy.

He disclosed that grassroots mobilisation across the country by the Mau Mau War Veterans Association has resulted in the establishment of county teams for easy coordination of affected families.

He argued that it was improper for the families of the freedom fighters to continue suffering after the country gained independence years ago.

"Many of the freedom fighters and descendants are not enjoying the fruits of independence. It is a shame

for the government to neglect them," he lamented.

Francis Chemwor, an elder from the Sabaot community, asked President William Ruto to listen to the cries of the freedom fighters and support their cause.

"It is disturbing that some of the freedom fighters and their descendants are frustrated with poverty. We are asking our president to listen to their concerns," said Chemwor.

Meru County Emerges As A Leading Champion Of The Model Village Approach

By: Dickson Mwiti
 @themkenyatimes

Meru County, currently ranked third in Kenya in tree cover, has emerged as a leading champion of the Model Village approach, touted to be the game-changer for Kenya's green future.

Mr Lawrence Muthamia, an economist at the Forestry Department and the focal person for realizing 15 billion trees by 2032, said that with strategic partnerships, citizen engagement, and strong institutional leadership, Meru is well-positioned to become the best county nationwide in tree cover.

"We want Meru to inspire the nation. Let every county adopt the Model Village vision. Together, we shall grow a greener, safer, and more prosperous Kenya by 2032," said Mr Muthamia.

He added that with the County being the flagship of this initiative, more than 30 schools have established fruit tree nurseries, not only greened their learning spaces but also empowered students to be custodians of Kenya's environmental future.

Other notable ongoing works include the establishment of creation of community woodlots, capacity-building for youth and women groups, and the development of green innovation hubs.

These initiatives, Muthamia said, serve as demonstration centers for sustainable agroforestry and climate-smart livelihoods.

"The Ministry calls on all counties, civil society organizations, development partners, and the private sector to rally behind this framework."

"The Model Village Framework aligns with Kenya Vision 2030, the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), the National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy, the Kenya Forest

Policy 2023, and international commitments such as the AFR100, Bonn Challenge, and the SDGs," said Mr Muthamia.

Meanwhile, youth and women-led groups in the county are also establishing community woodlots, supported by technical guidance and input supply chains from the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) and development partners.

These efforts, he said, are supported by a robust Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system to ensure transparency, survival tracking, and long-term impact measurement.

He said that the Government continues to advance its transformative environmental agenda by institutionalizing the Model Village Framework—an inclusive, locally anchored approach to tree growing, climate resilience, and sustainable development.

"The Model Village Framework is the sure bet for realizing the Government's transformative agenda on



Mr Lawrence Muthamia.

environmental restoration, forestry development, and climate action—including the ambitious 15 billion Tree Growing Campaign aimed at achieving 30 percent national tree cover by 2032," said Mr Muthamia.

He said the framework has integrated communities, schools, public institu-

tions, and faith-based organizations into localized tree-growing ecosystems, which promotes Climate-smart livelihoods, Youth empowerment through green education, Sustainable Forest value chains, Food and nutrition security, and Carbon markets and ecosystem services.

Opposition To File ICC Case Against Ruto Over Police Killings, Link To Sudan Militia

By: Ian Omondi
@themkenyatimes

The United Opposition has accused President William Ruto's administration of overseeing extrajudicial killings, deploying rogue police units, and forming illegal alliances with militia gangs, which they say mirror Haiti-style death squads.

The opposition bloc now says it is compiling evidence for submission to the International Criminal Court (ICC), seeking to have President Ruto held accountable for alleged crimes against humanity.

In a strongly worded statement released yesterday, the opposition condemned what it termed as "brazen shooting of unarmed citizens" during Tuesday's peaceful protests in the Nairobi Central Business District (CBD), blaming the National Police Service (NPS) for carrying out what it described as "rampant and senseless extrajudicial killings."

The opposition political faction painted a grim picture of what it claims is a coordinated crackdown on dissent, accusing the police of acting as "judge, jury, and executioner" under a "paranoid and repressive regime."

They further allege that police officers are working in collaboration with militia groups, described as similar in nature to Haiti's armed gangs, to violently suppress public protests.

"What is now clear is the Kenya-led Haiti Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission was not a peacekeeping mission, but a benchmarking trip by Ruto on the use of militia to terrorize a nation on taxpayers' money," read the statement signed by Martha Karua, Kalonzo Musyoka, Rigathi Gachagua, Justin Muturi, Eugene Wamalwa, Mukhisa Kituyi and Saitoti Torome.

They raised a series of pointed questions regarding the conduct of law enforcement during the protests, including: the use of masks and lack of identifiable badge numbers by officers; the deployment of live ammunition against unarmed demonstrators; as well as the alleged involvement of police officers in the looting of private property.

They further cited similarities between firearms used by Kenyan police and those reportedly supplied by the Kenyan government to Sudan's Rapid Support Forces (RSF) militia, and what they termed as perjury by senior police commanders before Parliament regarding the death of digital activist and teacher Albert



The United Opposition

Ojwang.

The opposition accused President Ruto's government of systematically violating the Constitution of Kenya and international human rights laws, including the Rome Statute which established the ICC.

They went ahead to link Ruto to illegal arms transfers and accuses him of enabling atrocities both in Kenya and Sudan.

"It is clear the Ruto regime has waged war against fundamental human rights with calculated vengeance. He has deployed killer rogue

police squads whose tactics are similar to the Haiti militia," the statement added.

"These death squads are using special firearms that Ruto has also illegally supplied to Sudan's RSF militia. These acts have resulted to countless deaths both in Kenya and Sudan."

While expressing doubt that any form of accountability would come from within government institutions, the opposition disclosed that it has been collecting and compiling evidence to hand over to the ICC Prose-

cutor, seeking international intervention.

"To the Kenyan people: do not be afraid and intimidated," the statement urged, calling on citizens to remain united in the face of what it described as a regime reliant on "bullets and lies."

"The will of the people shall prevail, and the courage of Albert Ojwang and countless others will not be in vain. We stand united, resolute, and unafraid."

Klinzy Barasa Masinde, Duncan Kiprono: Police Officers Suspended Over Shooting Of Hawker Boniface Kariuki

By: Joseph Muia
@themkenyatimes

The National Police Service (NPS) has identified and interdicted two officers linked to the shooting of an unarmed civilian during a disturbing incident that occurred on Tuesday.

The two, Police Constables Klinzy Barasa Masinde and Duncan Kiprono, were captured in a now-viral video as one manhandled and the other shot the mask vendor, leaving him for dead along Moi Avenue.

"The two officers have now been interdicted and are currently being processed by the Homicide Team, DCI Headquarters, pending further

action," read the statement signed by NPS spokesperson Muchiri Nyaga.

The police service added that the injured victim, now identified as Boniface Mwangi Kariuki, is in stable condition at Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi after undergoing successful surgery.

"The National Police Service (NPS) deeply regrets this unjustified act and commiserates with the victim and his family, while reaffirming its full commitment to ensuring justice is served," added the statement.

The identification follows public uproar, which has pressured the police service to identify those culpable in the offence.

The protests, which called for the resignation of Deputy Inspector General Eliud Lagat, turned into chaos

after goons infiltrated the protesters.

In one of the videos that has elicited public uproar, the officers confronted the unarmed mask vendor before one of them opened fire at close range.

Hawker Boniface Kariuki confronted by anti-riot police in Nairobi's CBD on June 17, 2025.



CS Ogamba Calls For Prudent Utilization Of Government Funds

By: Sadik Hassan and Covenant Njeru

@themkenyaintimes

The government will strengthen the existing school auditing department to ensure proper financial management of public funds.

Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba said auditing of funds given to schools countrywide will continue to be done, noting that the Ministry of Education will receive a whopping KSh702.7 billion, the largest share in the 2025/2026 national budget of Sh4.239 Trillion.

“The allocated budget is almost 28 per cent of the entire budget, and we have already surpassed the UNESCO recommendation that 20 per cent of a nation’s budget be allocated to education. We will work within that figure. We will try as much as possible to ensure those resources are utilized optimally and effectively, without undue wastage, to cover the largest number of our students,” he stated.

Speaking during the inaugural Na-

tional Retreat of Public Universities Councils in Mombasa, the CS stated that for instance, if audit reports show that the head teacher of a particular school has misappropriated funds, then whoever is found culpable will be held to account.

He said out of the KSh702.7 billion allocation, the Teachers Service Commission will receive KSh387.2 billion, including KSh7.2 billion earmarked for the recruitment of intern teachers.

At the same time, to address the teachers’ gap, the government plans to recruit 24,000 intern teachers in the first quarter of the 2025/2026 financial year. Additionally, KSh5.9 billion has been set aside for national examinations, while the School Feeding Programme will receive KSh3 billion. Free Primary Education will also benefit from KSh7 billion.

The CS also allayed fears that the budget for the School Feeding Programme has been cut, saying learners from Arid and Semi-Arid Lands and informal settlements will continue to enjoy their meals to boost school attendance and retention.



Cabinet Secretary for Education Julius Ogamba addressing the Media in Mombasa.

Meanwhile, Ogamba welcomed the recent High Court verdict outlawing the imposition of extra levies by schools, affirming that the government’s position doesn’t allow Head teachers or Principals to levy any extra amount that is not in state policies.

“Those levies, as we had said before, are illegal, and the court was just affirming our position that no levy should be added by school administrators to parents because we give free education and capitation to all institutions,” he said.

The CS further warned school heads imposing extra levies not permitted by the government that they will face the full force of the law.



Employers Urged To Conduct Regular Gender Audits At Workplaces

By: Esther Mwangi and Esther Ochieng
 @themkenyatimes

Employers in both public and private sectors have been urged to conduct regular gender audits to identify gender disparities in policies, practices, and organizational culture towards enhancing equity in the workplaces.

Egerton University's Institute of Gender, Women and Development Studies (IGWDS) Director Dr Lilian Chesikaw said that equality and empowerment of all employees at work stations were essential components of human development and basic human rights and called for greater visibility, professionalism and value-based leadership for all workers.

Dr. Chesikaw argued that demonstrating a commitment to gender equality through gender audits would not only improve employee morale but would also enhance the reputation of an organization.

She elaborated that a more equitable and inclusive workplace environment could lead to increased productivity, innovation, and overall organizational success.

Dr. Chesikaw went on to say that gender audits help uncover hidden biases and inequalities in recruitment, promotion, pay, and other

workplace practices, issues she said often affect all genders.

The Director made the remarks during the Institute's Annual Training and Sensitization workshop on gender mainstreaming and gender-based violence (GBV) that was held at the university's Njoro Main Campus.

The event is part of the institution's commitment to the Performance Contracting and Reporting process, which the Director said aligns with national and international frameworks such as the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Convention on Equal Remuneration, Kenya's Employment Act 2007, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Dr. Chesikaw added that gender audits could reveal issues related to workplace culture, such as sexual harassment, discrimination, and lack of support for all employees, which she said could be addressed to create a more positive and respectful environment.

"Studies show that organizations with greater gender equality tend to have better financial performance and employee satisfaction," stated the Director.

While noting that Kenya had legal frameworks and policies promoting gender equality, the Director emphasized the need for organizations to conduct regular gender audits, say-



ing doing so demonstrates commitment to their obligations.

Chesikaw observed that by addressing gender inequalities, organizations could contribute to broader national development goals, improve workplace dynamics, and contribute to a more equitable and inclusive society.

She explained that the process may involve reviewing documents, conducting surveys, holding focus group discussions, and conducting interviews with employees, adding that the data collected should be analyzed to identify patterns, trends, and areas of concern related to gender equality.

"By conducting gender audits, Kenyan workplaces can take concrete steps towards creating a more

just and equitable environment for all employees, contributing to both individual well-being and broader societal development," noted the Director.

The workshop was attended by representatives from the International Solidarity Foundation (ISF), Monchari, Damaris Mwikali, and Douglas Moenga, who shared insights from gender initiatives in Kisii and Nyamira Counties.

Egerton University's Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academic Affairs, Prof. Bernard Aduda, commended the Institute's efforts in raising awareness on gender issues.

Prof. Aduda encouraged more women to apply for senior leadership roles to overcome the persistent glass ceiling in institutions and fos-

ter mutual respect.

The Don, at the same time, urged women to lend their voices to combating harmful cultural practices, including female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriages, factors he said impede girls and women from attaining their potential.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor noted that while the journey of women in leadership had been long and bumpy, their determination and commitment had yielded fruits, adding that all genders should take leadership roles and actively shape Kenya's development by ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making.

Deaf Schools Receive Sports Equipment

By: Samuel Waititu
 @themkenyatimes

Deaf Schools in the Eastern Region have benefited from sports equipment from a non-governmental organization, aimed at enhancing learning and promoting sports development and inclusion for deaf learners.

Through donations from the Deaf Outreach Program (DEAFOP), three institutions, St Luke's and Mary Magdalene Schools for the Deaf in Embu County and Machakos School for the Deaf in Machakos County, were equipped with volleyballs, uniforms, nets, and knee caps.

They will also get trained coaches to enable the learners to develop the

necessary skills, according to DEAFOP Founder and Director Gloria Njoki.

Njoki said they are seeking to use sports, particularly volleyball, as a tool for empowering learners with hearing impairments to foster life skills, teamwork, and confidence.

Speaking during the handover of the equipment at St Luke's School for the Deaf in Mbeere South Constituency, Njoki emphasized the role of sport in holistic learner development.

"Sport is a powerful tool to promote student confidence and performance, both in and outside the classroom. It helps learners navigate real-life situations through teamwork, strategy, and resilience," she said.

The Director said sports go beyond competition by teaching students how to collaborate, handle wins and



DEAFOP Founder and Director Gloria Njoki with other stakeholders and beneficiaries during the handing over ceremony.

losses, and develop critical thinking, noting that these skills will serve them in school, life, and in future workplaces.

St. Luke's Principal, Michael Nya-

ga, welcomed the program, saying it aligns well with Kenya's Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC), which emphasizes talent development applicable in real-life situations.

"This initiative supports physical activity as a potential career path, particularly for learners with physical ability but limited opportunities," said Nyaga.

Kenya Backs Regional AI Compact As IGAD Warns Of Widening Cyber Threats

By: Frida Amiani and Brenda Oluoch
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- “Our commitment is rooted in the belief that technology must not deepen inequalities. AI should not become the next racial or economic divide. Instead, it must become a bridge to opportunity, a tool to uplift every citizen, particularly women, youth, and marginalised communities,” he stressed.
- Kabogo proposed the creation of a regional platform for secure threat intelligence sharing, joint training programmes through national institutions, and the establishment of a network of AI and cybersecurity research centres across IGAD countries.
- “Let us, together, develop a shared roadmap for digital governance that secures our people, empowers innovation, and strengthens our security,” urged the CS.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) has hosted a high-level regional consultative seminar in Nairobi, drawing government leaders, experts, and partners from across the Horn of Africa to explore how Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cybersecurity can bolster security, cooperation, and resilience in the region.

Presiding over the opening ceremony, Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communication and the Digital Economy, William Kabogo welcomed delegates to Nairobi and urged IGAD member states to work together in securing their digital future.

“As each of our member states pursues digital transformation, we must recognise that cyber threats are transnational. Misinformation, data breaches, cybercrime, and the misuse of AI tools are not problems any country can solve alone,” stated Kabogo.

The CS highlighted Kenya’s efforts to place digital transformation at the centre of national development, citing projects such as the Digital Superhighway, which aims to lay 100,000 kilometers of fiber optic cable across the country.

He also pointed to the recently launched Kenya National Artificial Intelligence Strategy 2025–2030, which lays the groundwork for a responsible and inclusive AI ecosystem.

Further, Kabogo noted that Kenya has also implemented a robust National Cybersecurity Strategy and strengthened legal protections through its data protection laws and regulatory institutions.

“Our commitment is rooted in the belief that technology must not deepen inequalities. AI should not become the next racial or economic divide. Instead, it must become a bridge to opportunity, a tool to uplift every citizen, particularly women, youth, and marginalised communities,” he stressed.

Kabogo proposed the creation of a regional platform for secure threat intelligence sharing, joint training programmes through national institutions, and the establishment of a network of AI and cybersecurity research centres across IGAD countries.

“Let us, together, develop a shared roadmap for digital governance that secures our people, empowers innovation, and strengthens our security,” urged the CS.

On the other hand, IGAD Executive Secretary Dr Workneh Gebeyehu delivered a compelling keynote address,



CS William Kabogo in a past function.

reminding participants that the region stands at a critical juncture.

“The future of security will be determined by how well nations harness the power of artificial intelligence and how quickly they respond to the growing risks in the digital domain,” he implored.

Dr Gebeyehu painted a vivid picture of how AI is already transforming law enforcement across IGAD states, citing Ethiopia’s use of predictive policing algorithms to tackle armed crime, Kenya’s AI-enabled ambulances that have improved response times by 40 percent, and Uganda’s national digital ID system, which enhances secure identity verification.

“Across our region, we face a multitude of security challenges, from terrorism and transnational crime to gaps in in-border management. But within these very challenges lie opportunities,” noted Dr Gebeyehu.

He warned that the region remains deeply vulnerable, as cyberattacks account for 68 percent of successful digital breaches across Africa, with Kenya alone losing over \$83 million

to cybercrime in 2023.

Dr Gebeyehu urged IGAD member states to adopt the Nairobi Commitment anchored on three pillars: harmonised security governance, massive investment in cyber talent, and indigenous AI innovation.

“Let us agree that by 2030, every IGAD citizen benefits from the promise of AI while being protected from digital threats. We must train cybersecurity professionals, support startups focused on regional challenges, and allocate at least 2 percent of national budgets to digital security,” he rallied. Meanwhile, Norwegian Ambassador to Kenya Gunnar Andreas Holm delivered a sobering perspective from the global north, describing cybersecurity as an increasingly critical component of national defence.

He commended IGAD for its regional leadership and reiterated Norway’s support for the seminar and the broader Security Sector Program.

Holm shared that his country has revised its national cybersecurity strategy four times since 2003 to keep up with the speed of technological

change.

“Just last week, our hydropower station was attacked remotely, causing the sluice gates to open. That tells you how vulnerable we all are,” he revealed.

Nevertheless, Ambassador Holm expressed hope that the forum would yield actionable outcomes, including a shared vision for regional AI governance rooted in human rights, transparency, and inclusivity.

“Norway is proud to stand with IGAD and its member states in this crucial journey. We remain committed as partners for peace, digital resilience, and inclusive innovation,” he said.

As deliberations continue over the three-day seminar, delegates are expected to finalise proposals for a regional AI and cybersecurity compact, strengthen data-sharing protocols, and develop frameworks for training and capacity-building.

Staff Urged To Safeguard Official Records Against Cybercriminals

By: Kizito Maruti
@themtkenyatimes

Government employees have been asked to stop using personal communication devices while discharging their duties to safeguard against data breaches.

The Directorate of Human Resource Management at the State Department for Public Service also cautioned staff in government offices to refrain from storing sensitive data in personal laptops to avoid incidences of unauthorized access to government records by cyber intruders.

An Assistant Director in charge of Human Resource Information Systems Dickson Kinyua, said negligence in emphasizing on cybersecurity awareness at the workplace exposes information to the risks of hacking and potential theft of sensitive government data.

Kinyua called for strengthened cybersecurity awareness among the workforce in the public sector by integrating technology safeguards with behavioral change to ensure the systems at the workplace are foolproof against intrusion.

He made the remarks at Telposta Towers during a daylong performance contracting workshop for sectional heads from the State Department for Broadcasting and Telecommunications.

“It is risky to carry out government work using personal laptops. In the event the laptop is stolen or accessed by a third party, sensitive data can be tampered with, resulting in dire consequences for the affected officer,” he said.

At the same time, Kinyua implored government officers to always project a positive image of their employer by conducting themselves with decorum, especially at social places and in their private engagements as well.



“Mind where you eat and what you eat; whatever you drink and the location of where you take the drink matters because always remember you are the personification of government,” Kinyua said, adding that “excessive alcoholism and domestic violence are an absolute no for officers.”

Director Human Resource Management at the State Department for Broadcasting and Telecommunications

Juanita Ombima said the workshop was meant to build the capacity of heads of sections to effectively administer performance contracting online.

Public Service (Performance Management) Regulations 2021 require all government employees to have signed their PCs by August 30 of every year.

The contracts are signed at three levels, between the President and Cabinet

Secretaries in charge of Ministries. At the second level, CSs sign contracts with their principal secretaries and finally, the PSs sign contracts with directors, who are heads of directorates and chief executives of semi-autonomous government agencies.

Bishop Deya Dies In A Tragic Road Accident

By: Chris Mahandara
@themtkenyatimes

Controversial Bishop Gilbert Deya died while 30 university students were injured, 15 of them critically following a tragic accident involving three vehicles along the Bondo-Kisian road.

The Tuesday afternoon accident occurred at Namba Kapiyo area in Seme Sub-County of Kisumu and involved a bus belonging to Moi University, a Toyota Fortuner belonging to the County Government of Siaya and Deya’s Toyota Noah.

According to Nyanza Traffic boss Peter Maina, Deya was driving from Kisian towards Bondo when his vehicle lost control and rammed into the university bus, which was on its way to Kisumu.

Maina said the driver of the university bus that was ferrying students swerved to avoid a head on collision but lost control and rolled.

A third vehicle, the County Government’s Toyota Fortuner, which was behind the bus, was hit in the process.

“The deceased, Bishop Gilbert



The late Bishop Gilbert Deya.

Deya, was driving the Toyota Noah and had two female passengers, believed to be his wife and another woman, who sustained minor injuries,” Maina said.

The police boss said 15 students sustained serious injuries, while 15 others suffered minor injuries. “In total, we have 31 people who were affected, one fatality, 15 serious injuries, and 15 minor injuries”, he said.

The body of Bishop Deya was taken to Kombewa Sub-County Hospital morgue.

The injured were rushed to the same facility for treatment, with three of the victims referred to Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTRH) for further medical attention.

Maina said investigations have been launched to determine the exact



The vehicle which Bishop Deya was in when the accident occurred on Tuesday. Photos/ Courtesy.

cause of the accident.

Gilbert Deya, who moved to London in the 1990s, came to the limelight following the miracle babies’ saga, where he was accused of stealing five children between 1999 and 2001.

The Bishop and his wife Mary claimed that infertile or menopausal women could become pregnant in four months, without having sexual relations, thanks to their prayers.

The late bishop, who owned several churches, including some in London, Liverpool and Nottingham, was extradited from Britain to Kenya in 2017 after a legal battle lasting almost 10 years.

He was, however, acquitted by a Nairobi court Magistrate Robison Ondieki, who ruled that the prosecution had not produced sufficient evidence.

Falling Down Is Not Always Losing



Raindrops fall, yet become the sea,
Seeds fall, and forests grow free.
Tears fall, but lead to impressive

progress
Falling down is a chance to rise again
Mistakes fall, but wisdom's gained,
Struggles fall, and strength's sustained.
Dreams fall, but hopes remain,
Falling down is a step to rise again.
Falling down is not always losing.

T. Vasugi M.A,B.ED.,
B.T Asst,
Kamaraj Matriculation Higher
Secondary School,
Kovilpatti.

Waiting In Traffic Is Like



Waiting in traffic, is a different
experience
It seems like an endless wait,
my patience comes to an end
It is a mere waste of time,
as minutes tick very slow,
Perspiring, sweating, my frustration
starts to grow rapidly

The heat is unbearable, the noise
pollution can't bear
Air pollution chokes my lungs
I struggle to breathe even
Time stands frozen,
all desires go unfulfilled and delayed,
By each passing moment, my anxiety is
shown

When I'm held up in this jam,
My golden opportunities slip away,
Missed flights, lost exams, and moments

unable to reach in time
Waiting for the green light to display
But it is a remote promise,
A distant hope I can't bear
But the red light's again and again
blinking
It irritates so much

Countdown ticks so slow, each second
moved slowly
My breath comes hard, my mind in
anxiety,
Confusion is there

Opportunities are wasted, what could I
do?

The traffic crawls like a snail ,
It is a slow-motion in action
It is really a test of endurance,
I think I can't escape this traffic jam
But still I wait, for the traffic to move
And hope that sometime later all will go

BRINDA.D
CREATIVE WRITERS
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GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPAKKAM
CUDDALORE,
Tamilnadu , India

You Will Never Satisfy An Ungrateful Person



Gratitude brings good life,
Practice this even in their strife,
Having positive attitudes
Lead their life into altitudes.

Ungrateful person focus on others'
mistakes
Rather than their good strokes.

Stop to pour on them
Who drain you always.

They are in the egoistic mind
We never convince them.
Lackness of kindness
Don't have mindset of appreciation.
Rajesh Kanna B N

I am Rajesh Kanna B N
B T Asst,
From Government Higher Secondary
School,New Gummidipoondi. Tiruvallur
District.
Tamil Nadu. India.

Beyond the Checklist



Half the year, and she felt worried
Looking through her New Year's resolutions
and current achievements.
She wished maybe she hadn't set them.
Life hadn't been fair, as she thought.

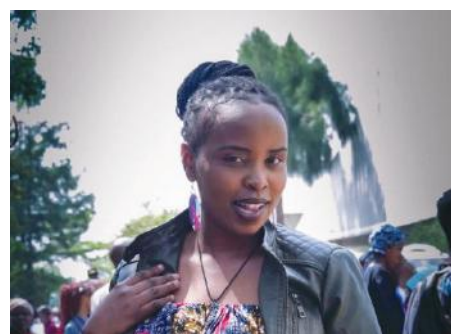
Nevertheless, she had attained some
attributes
Learned, unlearned, and relearned.
Maybe life isn't about perfection
Maybe life isn't about ticking off all, or even

half, your New Year's resolutions mid-year.
It's about the days you wake up when you
didn't want to
The extra push-up you did in the gym when
you were already strained.
The kind words you said to a stranger.
The smile that you effortlessly gave to a
random sad person and lit up their day.
A prayer you said in silence for someone in
need.

There is more to life than just the
achievements society has labeled as success.
Live, love, and, above all, be kind to one another.

Mary Blessing Ahairiirwe
maryblessingahairiirwe@gmail.com

Been Fine



This a letter so brief I pen,
I would like to clear this mayhem,
I want to make everything clean,
Let no one cast me any blame.

I know you know me well,
All my aspects, likes and dislikes,
My ways you all know better,
Today a new revelation I make.

Forget the me you knew,
Everything is now changed,

I am no longer the me you knew,
We are now worlds so apart.

I am no longer the smiling machine,
Nothing is Funny anymore,
I now glow with pain,
In pain I will grow.

If you see me quiet,
Please interrupt me not,
Allow me have my time,
Ask me no questions at all.

Alone I prefer to be,
Don't push to be in my space,
Kindly maintain your lane,
On that we won't cause any traffic.
To Earth's End.

By Cathren Gathoni

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IPOA Summons DIG Lagat Over Albert Ojwang's Death

By: Prudence Wanza
@themkenyaintimes

The Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) has summoned Deputy Inspector General of Police Eliud Lagat to record a statement as part of ongoing investigations into the death of teacher and blogger Albert Ojwang' while in police custody.

In a statement issued yesterday, IPOA disclosed that it has sought mobile phone data from service providers for individuals of interest in the case.

"Having found basis, IPOA has issued summons to the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Eliud Lagat, to appear before the Authority's investigations team to record a statement," IPOA Chairperson Ahmed Issack Hassan stated.

Hassan added that the Authority has seized digital video footage from Central Police Station, where

Ojwang' was held, and submitted biological samples to the Government Chemist for analysis.

IPOA said it is working closely with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and expects to finalise the case file by early next week, complete with recommendations to charge several suspects.

So far, 20 police officers including the Central Police Station Deputy OCS, IP Samuel Ng'ang'a have recorded statements with IPOA, with two of them, Central Police Station OCS CI Samson Talaam, and PC James Mukhwana having been arraigned before court.

Civilians implicated in the matter, including Kelvin Mutisya Mutava, who allegedly interfered with CCTV footage, and three inmates who were present at the station during the incident have also been presented in court.

"The Authority appeals for calm and assures Kenyans that in the quest for justice in this matter, there will be no sacred cows. Anyone found culpable will be prosecuted," Hassan stated.

At the same time, IPOA condemned



DIG Eliud Lagat PHOTO/Courtesy.

the excessive use of police force during Tuesday's protests demanding justice for Ojwang', which it says left at least 13 people injured.

Among them was Boniface Mwangi Kariuki, who was shot and is now hospitalised under intensive care.

"Besides the unfortunate death of

Mr. Ojwang', there have been many deaths attributed to police action and in police custody. Yesterday's point-blank shooting of Mr. Kariuki highlights the professional policing gaps that have to be bridged in public order management and adherence to the rights of arrested persons," the

Authority said.

IPOA called on the Inspector General of Police to ensure full compliance with all legislative frameworks in place to restore public confidence and trust in the Police Service.

The Rising Voice Of Gen-Z Against Police Brutality In Kenya

By: David Nyaga
@themkenyaintimes

In recent times, Kenya has witnessed a surge of youth-led demonstrations primarily championed by Generation Z calling for accountability, justice, and better governance. These peaceful movements have often been met with undue force by law enforcement, triggering nationwide concern over escalating police brutality.

Peaceful protesters, many of them unarmed and exercising their constitutional right to assemble, have faced harassment, beatings, and even fatal shootings. Videos circulating online show young people being dragged, tear-gassed, or brutalized simply for voicing their dissent. In some tragic cases, families have lost loved ones, youths who were only fighting for a better Kenya.

While it's true that in every crowd there may be elements that engage in criminal activities such as looting

or violence, this does not justify indiscriminate use of force on all demonstrators. Law enforcement officers are trained to differentiate between lawbreakers and peaceful protesters, and to act with restraint and within the law.

Kenya's Gen Z has also redefined activism using digital platforms to mobilize, share real-time information, and hold those in power accountable. They are informed, fearless, and united in purpose. Their voices reflect deep-rooted frustrations over joblessness, inequality, corruption, and a lack of opportunities.

Suppressing these voices through brutality only fuels the fire. What Kenya needs is dialogue, reforms, and a responsive government that listens rather than silences. The nation must rise to protect its future generation and not violate it. Peaceful protest is not a crime. It is a constitutional right. It is time for justice, not violence.





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The Caprivi Strip: A Detailed Historical, Political, And Geopolitical Analysis Of Namibia's Sovereignty



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande
@themkenyatimes

Introduction

The Caprivi Strip, a slender and strategically vital panhandle in northeastern Namibia, stands as a testament to the intricate and often arbitrary nature of colonial cartography. Its unique geographical configuration has profoundly shaped its history, rendering it a recurring focal point in discussions surrounding Namibian sovereignty. While firmly integrated into the Namibian state since independence, the region has been sporadically challenged by secessionist aspirations, most notably those championed by figures like Mishake Muyongo. This comprehensive analysis delves into the multifaceted dimensions of the Caprivi Strip's identity, meticulously tracing its historical origins, dissecting the claims made by secessionist movements, exploring the potential undercurrents of support for such movements, and finally, evaluating the profound political and geopolitical implications that these dynamics hold for Namibia and the broader Southern African region.

Who is Mishake Muyongo?

Mishake Muyongo is a Namibian politician who is a long-standing advocate for the independence of the Caprivi Strip (now Zambezi region). Key points about him:

- He was a prominent figure in Namibian politics before and after independence.
- He was a member of the Constituent Assembly that drafted Namibia's constitution (1989-1990) and served in the National Assembly (1990-1999).
- He ran as a presidential candidate in the 1994 general elections, placing second.
- He co-founded the Caprivi African National Union (CANU) in 1962 and later became Vice President of SWAPO (1970-1980).
- He founded the United Democratic Party (UDP) in 1985 and was its president, whose activities are today banned in Namibia.
- He also served as President of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA) from 1991 to 1999.
- He is known for orchestrating a military rebellion in 1999 under the Caprivi Liberation Army (CLA) in an attempt to secede the

Caprivi Strip from Namibia.

- The Namibian government swiftly quelled the insurrection.

- Mishake Muyongo is currently living in exile in Denmark. He was granted political asylum there after fleeing Namibia via Botswana in the aftermath of the failed Caprivi secessionist attempt in 1999.

- From Denmark, he continues to advocate for the independence of the Caprivi Strip (now Zambezi region). He has been described as an outspoken critic of the Namibian government and has in the past issued statements calling for the "liberation" of the Caprivi region. His political activities are primarily focused on maintaining the narrative of a separate Caprivian identity and the right to self-determination for the people of the region.

Historical Context: The Genesis of the Caprivi Strip

The peculiar inclusion of the Caprivi Strip within Namibia's borders is a direct consequence of the scramble for Africa and the subsequent colonial negotiations among European powers. The pivotal agreement that carved out this distinctive territory was the 1890 Heligoland-Zanzibar Treaty between the German Empire and Great Britain. This treaty, primarily concerned with colonial possessions in East Africa, also served to delineate spheres of influence in Southern Africa. In exchange for certain territorial concessions elsewhere, Germany was granted control over this narrow strip of land, strategically designed to provide German South West Africa (Deutsch-Südwestafrika), its primary colony in the region, with access to the Zambezi River. This access was envisioned to facilitate trade and potentially provide a navigable route to the East African coast, though the rapids of the Zambezi ultimately limited its utility.

Following Germany's defeat in World War I, the League of Nations stripped Germany of its colonial possessions. German South West Africa was subsequently placed under the mandate of South Africa, which administered the territory as if it were an integral part of its own. Crucially, during this period, the territorial integrity of German South West Africa, including the Caprivi Strip, was meticulously maintained. The Caprivi was administered as an integral part of the mandate, reinforcing its perceived status as an inseparable component of the larger territory.

The long and arduous struggle for Namibia's independence culminated in 1990. Upon achieving self-governance, Namibia, as a newly sovereign state, inherited all colonial territories and administrative units that constituted German South West Africa. This inheritance explicitly

included the Caprivi Strip, which was seamlessly incorporated into the independent Republic of Namibia's constitutional and administrative framework. From that point onward, the Caprivi has been consistently administered as one of Namibia's thirteen (now fourteen) regions, with its governance structures, legal frameworks, and citizen rights fully aligned with those of the Namibian state. This uninterrupted administrative and legal integration further solidifies its status as an inalienable part of the nation.

Mishake Muyongo's Secessionist Claims and the Failed Military Attempt

The most prominent figure advocating for the Caprivi Strip's independence has been Mishake Muyongo. A former politician who once held a significant position within Namibia's political landscape, Muyongo has persistently articulated a narrative of distinct "Caprivian" identity, asserting that the inhabitants of the Caprivi Strip are ethnically and historically separate from other Namibian groups. His arguments often hinge on a perceived historical marginalization and a romanticized notion of a pre-colonial "Caprivian kingdom."

Muyongo's secessionist movement reached its zenith in the late 1990s, culminating in a dramatic and ill-fated military rebellion. Under the banner of the Caprivi Liberation Army (CLA), Muyongo orchestrated an armed insurgency aimed at forcibly seceding the Caprivi Strip

from Namibia. On August 2, 1999, CLA militants launched coordinated attacks on government installations in Katima Mulilo, the regional capital. However, the Namibian government, under the leadership of then-President Sam Nujoma, responded with overwhelming force and swift efficiency. The Namibian Defence Force (NDF) quickly quelled the insurrection, demonstrating the state's resolute commitment to maintaining its territorial integrity. The failed rebellion resulted in numerous casualties, arrests, and a significant displacement of people, leaving a lasting scar on the region.

Muyongo's arguments, while emotionally charged, are largely predicated on a selective interpretation of history and an overemphasis on ethnic distinctions. This narrative often conveniently overlooks centuries of inter-communal interaction, shared cultural practices, and, crucially, the continuous administrative and political integration of the Caprivi within the larger entity that became Namibia. His perspective, when scrutinized through a broader historical lens, appears to be a distorted view that fundamentally undermines Namibia's territorial integrity and its constitutional law, which explicitly defines the nation's borders and the rights of all its citizens.

Who Might Be Behind Muyongo's Movement?

While Mishake Muyongo undoubtedly serves as the public face and ideological leader of the Caprivian secessionist movement, it is plausible

that various other actors, with diverse motivations, may have provided support, influence, or even tacit encouragement. Understanding these potential external and internal factors is crucial for a comprehensive analysis of the movement's persistence.

Diaspora Networks: A significant number of Namibian exiles, particularly those who fled the country following the 1999 insurrection or those with long-standing grievances against the Namibian government, have gravitated towards Caprivi separatist sentiments. These diaspora networks often operate from neighboring countries or further afield, utilizing international platforms to disseminate their ideology, raise awareness for their cause, and potentially solicit financial or logistical assistance. While their direct impact on the ground within Namibia may be limited due to government surveillance and control, they play a crucial role in maintaining the narrative of a separate Caprivian identity and lobbying international bodies.

Regional Interests: Speculation has long circulated regarding the potential involvement of foreign actors with vested interests in destabilizing Namibia's territorial unity. Such interests could be driven by a range of motives, including:

1. Economic Exploitation: The



Mishake Muyongo is a Namibian politician who is a long-standing advocate for the independence of the Caprivi Strip

The Caprivi Strip: A Detailed Historical, Political, And Geopolitical Analysis Of Namibia's Sovereignty

Contd from page 20

Caprivi Strip's strategic location, bordering four other countries (Angola, Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe), makes it a crucial transit corridor for trade and a potential hub for various economic activities. External actors seeking to gain preferential access to resources, trade routes, or specific economic concessions might view a destabilized or independent Caprivi as an opportunity to further their own agendas.

2. Strategic Advantage: In the complex geopolitical landscape of Southern Africa, any disruption to existing borders could have ripple effects, potentially altering regional power dynamics. Certain states or non-state actors might perceive strategic advantages in fostering instability or supporting secessionist movements to weaken a particular government or to create a new, potentially more pliable, political entity.

3. Resource Control: While not extensively proven, rumors have occasionally surfaced regarding the potential for undisclosed natural resources within the Caprivi Strip that could attract external interest.

4. Local Dissidents and Grievances: While the 1999 rebellion was definitively crushed, it does not mean that all separatist sentiments within the Caprivi Strip have vanished. Movements such as the Caprivi Concerned Group (CCG), along with various localized protests and expressions of discontent, demonstrate that some segments of the local population continue to harbor grievances or identify with separatist aspirations. These sentiments can stem from a variety of factors, including:

5. Perceived Marginalization: Some inhabitants of the Caprivi Strip may feel economically or politically marginalized within the broader Namibian state, leading to a sense of resentment and a desire for greater autonomy.

6. Cultural and Linguistic Differences: The Caprivi is home to several distinct ethnic groups with their own languages and cultural practices, which some believe are not sufficiently recognized or respected within the national framework.

7. Historical Narratives: The enduring narratives propagated by figures like Muiyongo, even if historically questionable, can resonate with individuals who feel a strong sense of local identity and a connection to a perceived pre-colonial past.

Despite these potential influences and ongoing pockets of dissent, it is crucial to re-emphasize that the Namibian government maintains firm and undisputed control over the

Caprivi Strip. Its security forces are actively present, and its administrative structures are fully functional, ensuring the region's continued integration and reinforcing its status as an undeniable part of sovereign Namibia.

Political Impact on Namibia

Even in its weakened state, the secessionist movement in the Caprivi Strip continues to present several significant challenges to the Namibian state, necessitating ongoing vigilance and strategic responses.

National Unity and Cohesion: The persistence of Caprivian separatist claims, even if largely contained, can strain ethnic cohesion within Namibia. Such movements can foster a "us vs. them" mentality, potentially eroding public confidence in the state's ability to govern fairly and inclusively across all ethnic and regional divides. This can lead to internal divisions, suspicion, and a weakening of the national identity that the Namibian government has diligently worked to forge since independence.

*** Security Measures and Resource Diversion:** The 1999 insurgency clearly demonstrated the state's willingness to employ force to defend its territorial integrity. However, this commitment comes at a cost. The need to maintain a robust security presence in the Caprivi region, to prevent a resurgence of armed separatism, and to conduct intelligence gathering, diverts substantial national resources – both financial and human – that could otherwise be allocated to socio-economic development, education, healthcare, or other pressing national priorities. This continuous allocation of resources to security in one specific region can indirectly impact the overall development trajectory of the nation.

Legal and Diplomatic Efforts: Namibia has consistently engaged in a two-pronged approach to affirm its territorial integrity:

Domestic Legal Processes: The Namibian legal system has been instrumental in prosecuting individuals involved in the 1999 rebellion and other secessionist activities. This demonstrates the state's commitment to upholding its laws and discouraging future attempts at armed insurrection. The trials of alleged secessionists have been lengthy and complex, highlighting the intricate legal challenges involved.

Regional and International Diplomacy: Namibia has also actively engaged in regional diplomacy, particularly through organizations like the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Union (AU), to garner support for its position. Furthermore, Namibia consistently emphasizes its adherence to the principles of international law,



particularly those concerning state sovereignty and the inviolability of colonial-era borders (*uti possidetis juris*), which are cornerstones of African interstate relations. This diplomatic offensive aims to secure international recognition and discourage any external support for secessionist movements.

Geopolitical Implications

The Caprivi secessionist movement, despite its localized origins, carries broader geopolitical consequences that extend beyond Namibia's borders, impacting regional stability and international legal norms.

Regional Stability and the "Uti Possidetis Juris" Principle: Any successful secession attempt in the Caprivi Strip would send a dangerous precedent across the African continent. The principle of *uti possidetis juris*, which dictates that newly independent states should inherit the colonial administrative borders, is a cornerstone of African interstate relations. It was adopted by the Organization of African Unity (now the African Union) to prevent widespread territorial disputes and conflicts following decolonization. A successful Caprivi secession could ignite similar territorial claims in other African nations, potentially triggering a cascade of border disputes, ethnic conflicts, and regional instability, unraveling decades of efforts to maintain peace and order.

International Law and Recognition: Namibia's sovereignty over the Caprivi Strip is firmly supported by fundamental principles of international law. The 1890 Heligoland-Zanzibar Treaty, while a colonial construct, established the original legal basis for the territory's inclusion. Furthermore, Namibia's independence in 1990 was recog-

nized by the United Nations and the international community as a whole, with its declared borders including the Caprivi Strip. Any attempt to alter these internationally recognized borders without the consent of the sovereign state would be a direct challenge to established international legal norms and could lead to significant diplomatic ramifications.

Economic Considerations and Regional Connectivity: The Caprivi Strip is not merely a geographical appendage; it serves as a vital strategic corridor for trade and regional connectivity. Its unique position as a gateway to Zambia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe, and potentially further into Central and East Africa, makes it an indispensable component of Namibia's broader economic strategy. The Trans-Caprivi Highway, part of the Walvis Bay Corridor, is a crucial artery for trade, linking landlocked Southern African countries to Namibia's Atlantic port. Any instability or a successful secession in the Caprivi Strip would severely disrupt these vital trade routes, undermine regional economic integration, and negatively impact the economic growth and development of not only Namibia but also its landlocked neighbors. Maintaining stability and security in the Caprivi is therefore paramount for regional economic prosperity.

Conclusion

In summation, the Caprivi Strip stands as an undeniable and integral part of the Republic of Namibia, grounded in a robust framework of historical precedent, legal legitimacy, and consistent national governance. While the persistent efforts of Muiyongo and his dwindling number of supporters continue to advocate for separatism, their claims demonstrably lack both legal

and historical legitimacy when subjected to rigorous scrutiny. The narrative of a distinct Caprivian nation, while appealing to some, overlooks the centuries of shared history and the continuous integration of the region within the evolving political entity that became Namibia.

Namibia's sovereignty over the Caprivi Strip is unequivocally reinforced by a confluence of factors: international recognition of its post-independence borders, the historical treaties that shaped its current configuration, and the unwavering application of national law and administration. The Namibian government's resolute response to the 1999 insurgency and its ongoing commitment to maintaining peace and order in the region underscore its determination to safeguard its territorial integrity.

Moving forward, addressing the lingering secessionist rhetoric requires a multi-pronged approach. This includes not only robust security measures to deter any future armed attempts but also sustained efforts in public education to counter historical distortions and promote a shared national identity. Furthermore, continued engagement in regional and international diplomacy remains crucial to solidify international support for Namibia's sovereignty and to discourage any external interference. By upholding its legal and historical claims, fostering national unity, and ensuring the continued development and prosperity of the Caprivi region, Namibia will undoubtedly ensure that its territorial integrity remains unquestioned and fully respected in the complex and interconnected geopolitical landscape of Southern Africa and beyond.

Food Security (On A Global Scale)

By: Shomardonova Shoxinur

@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Climate change is one of the greatest threats to food security. Its negative effects, such as droughts, declining water resources, and extreme weather events (floods, storms), decrease agricultural output. Additionally, the depletion of natural resources - land, water, and other natural wealth - directly affects food security. As the global population increases, competition over resources intensifies, making food production and supply more challenging.
- Food waste is another important aspect of global food security. Millions of tons of food are wasted globally each year, which negatively affects efforts to ensure food security. Reducing waste and managing resources effectively are among the most important ways to enhance food security.

Abstract

This article analyzes the issue of food security on a global scale. The global food security problem poses a significant threat to the provision of nutrition, health, and economic development for the population worldwide. The article discusses the social, economic, and environmental factors necessary to ensure food security, as well as challenges such as global climate change, natural resource scarcity, and economic inequality. It also provides recommendations on the implementation of international and national approaches and strategies necessary to ensure food security.

Keywords

Food security, global supply chain, climate change, food waste, sustainable development, international cooperation, resource management.

Main Discussion

Food security is currently one of the major global issues. Every person has the right to a healthy life and adequate nutrition. Food security is crucial not only for health but also for economic and social stability. However, ensuring this right remains a significant challenge worldwide. On a global level, food security is affected by multiple issues including climate change, declining resources, reduced agricultural productivity, food waste, economic inequality, and disruptions in food supply.

Key factors necessary to ensure food security include sustainable agricultural systems, effective resource management, socio-economic approaches, and international cooperation. Although various approaches, strategies, and technologies have been developed to enhance the effectiveness of food security implementation globally, existing systems are not yet sufficiently effective.

The urgency of food security has increased due to persistent challenges like climate change, resource depletion, and economic crises. In certain parts of the world, food price inflation, changing climates, worsening environmental conditions, and economic disparities make food security a critical issue. To address these problems, comprehensive cooperation among governments, international organizations, and local governance systems is essential.

Additionally, several external and internal factors threaten food security. Primarily, economic inequality limits access to food. Poverty and economic vulnerability increase risks regarding the availability and quality of food.



For economically disadvantaged populations, rising food prices and poor quality of available food lead to violations of food security. Moreover, the interdependence between economic and political factors also poses a serious obstacle to food security. Economic crises and political instability reduce food reserves and weaken production.

Climate change is one of the greatest threats to food security. Its negative effects, such as droughts, declining water resources, and extreme weather events (floods, storms), decrease agricultural output. Additionally, the depletion of natural resources - land, water, and other natural wealth - directly affects food security. As the global population increases, competition over resources intensifies, making food production and supply more challenging.

Food waste is another important aspect of global food security. Millions of tons of food are wasted globally each year, which negatively affects efforts to ensure food security. Reducing waste and managing resources effectively are among the most

important ways to enhance food security.

International cooperation plays a key role in ensuring food security. Organizations such as the United Nations, World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the European Union (EU) are developing clear strategies to address this issue. Cooperation and knowledge sharing among these institutions contribute to the improvement of food security on a global scale.

Furthermore, achieving sustainable development goals requires the implementation of strategies that promote food security. Sustainable agricultural practices, innovative technologies, and eco-friendly production methods can serve as effective tools for ensuring food security. To achieve this, economic stability must be maintained, and the continuous production and distribution of food must be guaranteed.

Conclusion

Food security requires serious attention as a global issue. Since existing systems and approaches are not suf-

ficiently effective, new innovative strategies, international cooperation, and efficient use of resources are essential. Ensuring food security enables progress in health and economic development. Future research in this area should be expanded to achieve more precise and positive outcomes.

Shomardonova Shoxinur was born on October 17, 1998, in Parkent district, Tashkent region. She graduated from Secondary School No. 11 with excellent grades. She continued her education at the Chirchiq Medical College, where she achieved honorable placements in several academic olympiads.

From 2019 to 2023, she worked at Med Standart Glass and VERTEX LLC. Since 2023, she has been a second-year student at the Termez State University of Engineering and Agrotechnology, majoring in Food Technology.

Shomardonova is fluent in Uzbek and Turkish. She is an active member of the university's "Zakovat" intellectual game team.



The Problem Of Over-The-Counter Drug Sales In Pharmacies



By: Aliyeva Farangiz
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Today, anyone who walks into a pharmacy can easily purchase a wide range of medications — from antibiotics to strong painkillers — without being asked for a prescription. Taking medication without a doctor’s supervision might seem like a harmless act, but in reality, it poses a serious threat to one’s health. Despite the existence of a pharmaceutical control system, many pharmacies openly sell prescription-only drugs without any documentation. On the one hand, this may seem convenient for people needing quick access to

medications, but on the other, it can seriously harm public health.

Self-medication Is Dangerous

Among young people, a trend known as “treating with Google” — where individuals read symptoms online and prescribe medication to themselves — is becoming increasingly common. This practice, especially concerning antibiotics, contributes to a global issue: resistance. This refers to the emergence of microorganisms that are no longer affected by the drugs designed to kill them. When inappropriate antibiotics are used to treat a simple cold, they not only fail to help, but also make it more difficult or even impossible to treat future infections effectively.

Solutions to This Problem

Stronger Regulation Is Necessary. There must be effective control mechanisms in place to ensure that medications requiring a prescription



are not sold without one.

Public Awareness Must Be Raised. Widespread educational efforts are needed to inform the public about the harmful consequences of self-medicating.

Pharmacists Must Act Responsibly. Every pharmacist who hands out strong medication without a prescription must feel not only legal responsibility, but also moral obli-

gation.

Conclusion

Pharmacies are not merely retail outlets — they are centers of responsibility for public health. Behind every medicine lies a person’s well-being, and sometimes even their life. Over-the-counter drugs may seem like an easy solution, but time will

tell how far down the wrong path that easy road may lead. One thing is certain — we must not take chances with our health.

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Effectiveness Of Influenza Vaccination Among Children



By: Urolova Nigina O'tkir
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Annotation

This article analyzes the effectiveness of influenza vaccination among children and its preventive and epidemiological significance. Based on modern studies, it discusses the safety of vaccination, the formation of an immune response, and its role in preventing severe disease progression.

Keywords:

Influenza, children, vaccination, immunization, vaccine effectiveness, prevention

Introduction

Influenza is a highly contagious re-

spiratory illness caused by viruses of types A, B, and C, and it is especially widespread among children. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), influenza causes 3–5 million severe cases and about 290,000–650,000 deaths worldwide every year. Children belong to a high-risk group because their immune system is not yet fully developed. Therefore, influenza vaccination is recognized as an important preventive measure.

Main Part

Types of influenza vaccines

Influenza vaccines are mainly divided into two types: inactivated influenza vaccines (IIV) and live attenuated influenza vaccines (LAIV). In children, inactivated vaccines are mostly used. LAIV is recommended for healthy children over two years old.

Effectiveness of vaccination

Studies show that influenza vaccination prevents illness in 60–70% of cases among children. The incidence of influenza is significantly lower in vaccinated children compared to unvaccinated ones. Moreover, vaccina-

tion leads to:

reduced severity of the disease,
lower incidence of complications such as pneumonia and otitis,
up to 50% lower hospitalization rates.

Formation of the immune response

Primary vaccination in children is done with two doses. An immune response usually develops within 10–14 days. Revaccination is carried out annually because the influenza virus mutates rapidly.

Safety and side effects

The vaccine is generally well tolerated. The most common side effects include:

pain and redness at the injection site,
mild fever or fatigue,
rare allergic reactions.

Influenza vaccination practice in Uzbekistan

In Uzbekistan, influenza vaccination is recommended by the Ministry of Health but is not included in the list of mandatory vaccinations. Therefore, annual vaccination cov-



erage remains low. It is necessary to strengthen activities to include the influenza vaccine in preventive immunization programs.

Conclusion

Influenza vaccination is a reliable and safe method to prevent influenza among children. It reduces not only the incidence but also the burden on the healthcare system. Children

at high risk, especially those under five years old, must be vaccinated. Strengthening vaccination policies and raising public awareness are key factors in combating influenza.

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Sports >> *Sports Principal Secretary Elijah Mwangi has said his ministry is working to streamline operations of sports federations to ensure accountability and transparency.

Sports PS Calls For Accountability And Transparency Among Federations

By Bernard Munyao and Purity Mugo

Sports Principal Secretary Elijah Mwangi has said his ministry is working to streamline operations of sports federations to ensure accountability and transparency.

The federations, he noted, are entrusted to support sporting activities at grassroots but regretted that some funds channelled through the federations are misappropriated.

Speaking during a public participation forum on the proposed Sports Act and Policy that brought together stakeholders from Murang'a, Nyeri and Kirinyaga counties, the PS outlined the government's commitment to funding local sports development and called for strict accountability among those managing the funds.

Mwangi noted that the government is actively channelling funds to community-based sports groups to support the organization of tournaments and the purchase of essential playing equipment.

He made it clear that the funds given through federations must be used responsibly and only for their intended purposes.

"We are giving money through federations across the country. This money must be used for the right purpose which is to organize structured tournaments and to buy proper playing equipment," Mwangi noted.

He warned against mismanagement of the funds, urging those in charge to embrace transparency.

"We will not tolerate misuse of public funds meant to empower the youth. Everyone handling these funds must be accountable to the people," He added.

The PS also emphasized the importance of order and structure in organizing sports activities at the grassroots.

He pointed out that as the Ministry they expect well-coordinated and scheduled competitions that can help scout talent and support



Sports Principal Secretary Elijah Mwangi addressing the meeting..

discipline in the sports sector.

"We want organized games with clear schedules, not just casual gatherings. We need to track progress, scout talent and reward discipline." He remarked.

Mwangi went on to announce that the government is in the process of establishing sports academies in each constituency as part of a national plan to nurture sports talent across the country.

These academies will be equipped with standard fields for athletics and football, and will also support rugby, netball, and hockey, among other indoor sports.

"Each constituency will soon have a sports academy equipped with a standard athletics field and football pitches. These will also serve other sports like rugby, hockey, netball and more," he said.

Specifically, he revealed that construction of two sports academies will soon begin in Murang'a County: one located in Makenji, Kandara constituency and Mirira area of Kiharu Constituency.

"Already the construction of 37 sports academies is under way. These facilities would significantly boost talent development and provide a platform for young people to explore their potential in sports.

In addition to the academies,

Mwangi reported that the government is currently building 52 new stadiums across the country to improve the quality of training and competition venues.

"We are not only focusing on talent but also on where the talent is developed. Quality infrastructure is key to building successful athletes and teams," he noted.

The public forum in Murang'a is part of a broader effort by the Ministry of Sports to involve citizens in the review and development of a new National Sports Policy.

Mwangi encouraged residents and stakeholders to participate actively in shaping the policy, which is expected to transform Kenya's sports governance, improve athlete welfare, and enhance equitable distribution of sports resources.

Rachel Osendo, a member of the taskforce tasked to review the Kenya Sports Act, said the team is evaluating the ecosystem around sports.

"We want to look at policy issues, legislative issues, and administrative issues, as well as institutional issues," she said.

Osendo underscored the need for updated policies and a legal framework that takes into account modern and emerging issues in sports noting that the existing sports policy was passed in 2002, while the sports act was

enacted in 2013.

"We are interested in looking at the legislative framework and how it works, especially with the interface between the national and county governments and what their roles are," she said.

She said the taskforce was also interested in the agencies established under the law to establish whether they are working optimally and representing the interests of the sportspeople.

The Chief Executive Committee Member (CECM) in charge of Youth and Sports in Murang'a County, Noah Gachucha, on his part highlighted the county's commitment toward supporting sports.

"As a county we recently passed the Murang'a County Sports and Talents Bill and it has already been signed into an Act by the governor," He said.

"We are waiting for funds from the national government to implement this act that will make it mandatory for the county to set aside funds for sports and talents every financial year."

The bill allocated KSh1 million for sports and talent to each of the 35 wards in the county.

The CECM celebrated the move by the Ministry of Sports to upgrade Mumbi grounds within Murang'a town into a stadium.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Approximately 200 golfers are expected to take part in this weekend's Kakamega Sports Club golf tournament honouring the service of outgoing lady Captain Beatrice Otieno.

Golf: Over 200 Enlist For This Weekend's Kakamega Sports Club Lady Captain Tourney



Approximately 200 golfers are expected to take part in this weekend's Kakamega Sports Club golf tournament honouring the service of outgoing lady Captain Beatrice Otieno.

The four-day event which is headlined by lady captain Otieno, has drawn entries from top amateurs, club golfers, rising juniors, and

corporate golf players drawn from several golf clubs in the country.

The organisers are beaming with confidence, expressing their determination to host a colourful event. "This tournament is not just a celebration of my captaincy, but a celebration of the sport we love, the friendships we have built, and the bright future of golf in our region. I am truly humbled by the

incredible support from the golfing community. The course is in pristine condition and we cannot wait to hit the fairways," said Lady Captain Beatrice Otieno.

The main 18-hole stroke play event tees off Saturday morning at 6:30 am, with golfers competing in various categories including men's, ladies', juniors, and invited guests.

Winners will walk away with exciting prizes.

KBC

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Brinda Selected For The Prestigious Shiksha Ratna Award

D. Brinda, a dedicated teacher, has been selected for the prestigious Shiksha Ratna Award for Innovative Education, presented by Navachari Gatividhiyan Samuh. The Rashtriya Navachari Shiksha Ratna Samman 2024-25 recognizes her outstanding contributions to the field of education.

Brinda expressed her immense joy and pleasure upon receiving the award, feeling truly honored by the esteemed organization. "This award motivates me to continue striving for excellence and inspires me to create meaningful learning experiences for my students," she said.

The Shiksha Ratna Award acknowledges the efforts of innovative teachers like Brinda, encouraging them to excel further. Brinda's goal is to nurture many more authors and writers among school children, and she credits her students for inspiring her daily.

Receiving the award has brought Brinda not only joy but also a sense of responsibility to serve her students holistically. She views the recognition as a testament to the collaborative spirit and supportive environment that fosters educational excellence.

Brinda D, is an English teacher from Government High School

Melpattampakkam. She always had a passion for creative writing, expressing her thoughts and emotions in her free time. Her writings were published in national and international journals, magazines, and newspapers, which motivated her to share this joy with her students.

As a teacher, she encouraged her students to think creatively and write freely, without worrying about mistakes and inhibitions. She provided simple topics like sun, mother, friend, teacher, rain, and God, and guided them to express themselves. Their progress was remarkable, and she compiled their poems into books. She published their work in different journals, magazine, news paper.

To further nurture their talent, she started the "Creative Writers" WhatsApp group in 2020 during the Covid pandemic. Initially with hand full of members, it grew to 500 members from across the country, including students and teachers. They conduct online poetry competitions, open mic sessions, annual anthology and they publish a bi-monthly e-magazine too with creative content.

They have published eight anthologies featuring student writers' photos and biography. To encourage them, they honor regular writers with gifts

and organize get-togethers.

On May 24th, 113 members released their solo books in a celebration of creativity and talent.

Through this journey, they have witnessed students and teachers from government and private schools come together, share their passion for writing, and grow as creative individuals.

More than 1000 budding poets are created in this way.. Around 400 members have published their own book.

MRS. BRINDA.D
CREATIVE WRITERS
GRADUATE TEACHER,
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPAKKAM
CUDDALORE,
Tamilnadu, India



young Authors of Govt High school Melpattampakkam

