

MT. KENYA TIMES

WEEKEND ePAPER

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President Ruto Presides Over World MSME Day

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

President William Ruto on Friday graced the World MSME Day at KICC in Nairobi. Small enterprises are the engines of our economic growth. They not only drive innovation, but also support livelihoods. So immense is the sector's potential that it creates the largest number of jobs and generates earnings for our young people and women. The Head of State noted that his administration was focused on unlocking its full capacity through modern infrastructure, progressive policies and access to affordable credit so as to accelerate inclusive and sustainable transformation. At the same time, he said, "For the criminal elements bent on destruction of lives and businesses, we are unequivocal in our determination to deal with the thuggery they have disguised peaceful protest."



Editor's Desk



The Mt. Kenya Times

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IN BUSINESS



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Nominated Senator Veronica Maina on Friday gifted Kiharu constituency's Gaturi and Kimathi area residents with food supplies. Ms Maina reached out to over 4,000 vulnerable people of the area who she offered relief food worth thousands of shillings. The first phase of the distribution took place at the ACC's office in Kimathi Division, with the area ACC, Senior Chief, Assistant Chiefs, and local leaders witnessing her kind gesture. The second phase was held at Gaturi Primary School, where a similar team administrators and leaders joined her. The UDA Senator said she will be extending a similar gesture to concerned residents in the county.



One of the leading Sacco in the country, Tower Sacco, on Friday sponsored a Business Financial Education Forum for stakeholders in Nanyuki town, Laikipia County. The Sacco's team led by Ms Jacinta Maina, who is the Head of Marketing, enlightened the business community on their various products. The forum that was attended by dozens of Nanyuki residents was also graced by the Sacco's area branch manager, Ms Jacinta Nyaga, who was also accompanied by some of her staff members. The Ol-Kalou head-quartered Sacco has been taking business financial education forums to different areas across the country in a bid to woo more customers.



The national government, through the Kerio Valley Development Authority (KVDA), has launched the rehabilitation of Chemeron Dam in Baringo County at a cost of Sh400 million, targeting 50,000 residents and over 120,000 livestock. ASALs and Regional Development Principal Secretary Kello Harsama said the project—originally built in 1986—will be restored in phases, with the first Sh100 million phase set to desilt a quarter of the dam. The dam, once complete, will hold up to 25 million litres of water, supporting irrigation on 6,000 acres and boosting food security in the arid region. Baringo Governor Benjamin Cheboi urged farmers to embrace best agricultural practices, while area MP Charles Kamuren encouraged youth to consider agribusiness. KVDA also distributed 20,000 mango seedlings, with plans to rehabilitate other nearby dams. KVDA Chair Mark Chesergon assured timely completion to transform livelihoods in ASAL regions.



In the wake of Wednesday's protest that saw lives and property belonging to members of the Agĩkũyũ community lost, the community's patron Dr Thuo Mathenge is proposing a day be set aside for their special prayers. On Thursday, Dr Mathenge visited the community's original home, the Mũkũrwe wa Nyagathanga shrine for prayers and to initiate unity talks among Kikuyu leaders. After the visit, he disclosed that a major prayer meeting would be held soon, to pray for the community's unity saying it was sad and unfortunate that members of the same tribe were turning against each other as other communities watched. Dr. Thuo emphasized the urgent need for unity, love, and collective healing within the community as he proposed that the mega prayer day should bring all Kikuyus together for a reflection and hope of a better future.



The long-stalled Githunguri Fire Station is now 90 per cent complete, offering hope to residents who have endured years without timely emergency response. Located in the town's Central Business District, the project had stalled since 2018 due to funding and logistical setbacks. Its revival under Governor Kimani Wamatangi's administration has been hailed as a crucial step toward enhancing public safety. The County Service Delivery Unit, led by Principal ICT Officer Kenneth Karanja, conducted a recent inspection confirming the structure is in its final stages, with roofing, tiling, lighting, and compound works already completed.



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- LET'S MAKE NAIROBI WORK -

EPK Hosts Its 13th Bi-Annual Farmers Day, Providing Training In Quality And Sustainable Tea Production

By: Stephen Mwendwa
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- This event will encourage farmers to safeguard against the impacts of climate change and poor agricultural practices, which continue to cause a decline in tea quality and price realisation. Currently, according to the Tea Board of Kenya, smallholder farmers lose Ksh 53 billion annually due to these challenges.

- Speaking during the event, EPK Company Director Leah Kibii Chirchir called for a collaborative approach to empower farmers through innovative farming practices and packaging methods. She noted this approach will bolster diversification and compliance with export standards.

Eastern Produce Kenya (EPK) hosted over 1,000 farmers to demonstrate comprehensive tea husbandry, climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, and the use of modern technology during its 13th Farmers Field Day held at Kipsitoi Tea Primary School in Sitoi Estate.

Themed “Cultivating quality tea through sustainable community partnerships”, the event brought together smallholder farmers from across Nandi County, financial institutions, government agencies and exhibitors that provided a comprehensive platform to share with farmers best agricultural practices. The training covered: field preparation and planting, weed and pest management, plucking, pruning, and record-keeping.

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“The future of the Kenyan Tea sector lies in diversification, value addition, and the production of high quality products. This demands a collective effort in empowering farmers to adopt innovative and sustainable practices that produce quality leaf and buttress Kenya’s position as a global leader in

tea production,” Ms Chirchir said.

She added, “I urge farmers to diversify into dairy farming, coffee, vegetables, beans, bananas and potatoes to mitigate the risks of relying on a single crop for income as well as ensuring food security. This approach will promote resilience, competitiveness, and consistent income for our tea growers”.

EPK also recognised the top 42 farmers for their exemplary efforts in crop husbandry, food security, and environmental conservation. They were feted with farm support inputs, including chain link and barbed wire, wheelbarrows, jembes, and quality tea leaves, in recognition of their pivotal role in driving the growth of sustainable agriculture.

The biannual Farmer’s Field Day is part of EPK’s commitment to equip smallholder farmers with practical skills that empower them to enhance productivity. It provides a platform for agribusiness players to engage with experts, enhance access to new agricultural technologies, and share knowledge to strengthen the value chain.

This event was attended by stakeholders from the county government of Nandi, financial and learning institutions, environmental conservation CBO’s, farm equipment, and agro-chemical industries.



Emmanuel Tarbei, Extension Officer at Sireet Outgrowers Empowerment Project, holds a coffee seedling during the EPK’s biannual Farmer’s Field Day to illustrate the journey from seedling to final product. Experts encouraged farmers to embrace coffee as part of a broader crop diversification strategy.



From Right, Lindah Oluoch- CEO Kenya Tea Growers Association, Noel Lindsay-Smith-Operations Director Eastern Produce, and Leah Kibii-Company Director-Eastern Produce Kenya during the EPK’s biannual Farmer’s Field Day. This day provided a platform for agribusiness players to engage with experts, enhance access to new agricultural technologies, and share knowledge to strengthen the value chain. .

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Abandoned Infant Rescued From Thicket In Tharaka Nithi As Officials Raise Alarm Over Rising Cases

By: Stanley Mmasi and Benson Maina
 @themkenyatimes

An infant who had been abandoned in a thicket in Wiru, Maara Constituency, was rescued on Tuesday night after a concerned resident heard the baby crying and raised the alarm.

According to Karimi Rwigy, the Chief Officer for Children and Gender in Tharaka-Nithi County, the baby was discovered by a passerby who immediately informed the area chief. The chief, in turn, alerted the Officer Commanding Station (OCS), and a rescue operation was swiftly coordinated.

The baby was taken to a nearby hospital where medics confirmed the infant to be in stable condition.

“This child was left helpless in a bush, exposed to danger and the elements. Were it not for the quick action of a vigilant resident, the situation could have ended tragically,” said Ms. Rwigy during a press briefing at the hospital.

She further revealed that this is not an isolated incident. In the past two months alone, the county has recorded at least seven cases of abandoned infants, with only two of them found alive.

“This is the third reported case in

recent weeks. Just last week, another child was recovered in Chuka under similar circumstances,” Ms. Rwigy said. “This alarming trend is deeply disturbing, and we are taking it very seriously.”

The Department of Children and Gender in Tharaka-Nithi County is now calling on residents to help stem the rising tide of child abandonment by remaining vigilant and reporting any suspicious cases.

Ms. Rwigy noted that some of the cases appear to involve mothers who hide pregnancies and then dispose of the newborns soon after delivery.

“If you know of someone who was recently pregnant and now there’s no sign of the baby, please come forward. We have a confidential hotline where you can report such matters,” she urged.

Ms. Rwigy was also quick to defend the reputation of Tharaka-Nithi County, emphasizing that such acts go against the values and spirit of the region.

“Tharaka-Nithi is known for peace, community development, and strong family values. It is unacceptable for our county to be associated with child abandonment or infanticide. We must work together as a community to stop this from becoming a norm,” she emphasized.

Authorities say investigations are underway to trace the mother of the



Tharaka Nithi County Children and Gender Chief Officer Ms Karimi Rwigy holds a baby found abandoned in a thicket. A total of seven infants have been found abandoned in the county in the last two months. Photo/Alex Njeru.

rescued infant. If found, she may face legal consequences under child protection laws.

Meanwhile, the rescued baby remains under medical observation and

will be handed over to the children’s department for further care and placement.

Residents are encouraged to report any cases of child abuse, neglect,

or abandonment by contacting the Department of Children and Gender through the county hotline.

Kagwe Warns Vandalism Of NCPB Depots Threatens Food Security

By: Laban Wanambisi
 @themkenyatimes

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe has described the attack on the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) depot in Maua, Meru County, as “a direct assault on Kenya’s food security.”

Kagwe noted that looters made away with bags of fertilizer intended to support farmers during the current planting season.

He stated that the reckless act jeopardizes the ability of farmers to grow food, feed their families, and contribute to the national economy.

“This fertilizer is a vital input for farmers across the region. Its loss threatens to trigger a catastrophic crisis for both food crop and cash crop

production,” Kagwe said.

Preliminary assessments indicate that over 7,354 bags of fertilizer—each weighing 50kg and valued at more than 29.5 million shillings—were looted from the depot.

He cautioned the country’s youth against confusing the exercise of their constitutional rights with acts of anarchy.

Kagwe regretted that what began as peaceful demonstrations had been hijacked by criminal elements.

“Those who rob, destroy, and loot critical public installations such as the NCPB are not demonstrators; they are criminals and anarchists, and they must be treated as such,” he stated.

The CS urged the National Police Service to act swiftly in apprehending those responsible for the looting and vandalism, recovering the stolen fertilizer, and ensuring the perpetra-



tors are prosecuted in accordance with the law.

“Such actions undermine the legitimacy of peaceful protest and abuse

our democratic space. Just as brutality and loss of life are unacceptable, so too is the wanton destruction of public property and the theft of crit-

ical agricultural inputs. Let us protect our democracy by ensuring it never deteriorates into anarchy,” Kagwe emphasized.

Murkomen Under Fire Over Controversial 'Shoot On Sight' Order

By: Emmanuel Too
@themkenyatimes

The Law Society of Kenya has slammed Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen over his "shoot on sight" order to police against civilians who attack police stations.

The LSK has termed the statement reckless, warning it could fuel more extrajudicial killings. Murkomen has since clarified that police are well aware of their limits in the use of force.

"Na tumeambia polisi mtu yeyote atakaribia police station piga yeye risasi," Murkomen said.

It is an order that was instantly rejected by the public.

As the CS Murkomen gave a green light for the police to shoot on sight any aggressors who approach police stations with criminal intent. His voice was drowned out by jeers from the residents of Kikuyu Constituency, Kiambu County, who had assembled at the Deputy County Commissioner's office.

"Mtu mwenye anaenda kuiba bunduki, abembelezwe?" Murkomen posed.

"Shika yeye," wananchi replied.

"Bunduki sio mandazi!" Murkomen retorted.

The sentiments attracted wide criticism both online and offline, with the Law Society of Kenya leading the offensive against the order.

In a strongly worded statement, LSK President Faith Odhiambo began by dismissing the authority of the CS to issue such operational directives to the police, stating:

"The Cabinet Secretary has no authority under the law to issue such an order," she noted.

The lawyers' body issued a stern warning to police officers against misusing their firearms, adding: "Any unjustified act of aggression, disproportionate use of force, or extrajudicial killing carried out under such illegal directives will be deemed a premeditated crime."

The LSK concluded by cautioning the police against complying with the unlawful directive issued by the CS on Thursday evening.

"We sound our unequivocal warning



Interior CS Kipchumba Murkomen

to the National Police Service, that they are legally prohibited from acting upon and complying with the ultra vires, illegal, and unconstitutional shoot-to-kill order."

Following the backlash online, the CS, who was attending a graduation ceremony at the Border Police

Training Campus in Kanyonyo, Kitui County, clarified that security agencies are well-trained and aware not to misuse their authority.

"Hatujasema itumiwe kiholela. Ile tunajaribu kuetetea ni polisi mwenye maisha yake iko hatarini na anaambiwa ukitumia utashtakiwa," Mur-

komen remarked.

The sixth schedule of the National Police Service Act outlines strict conditions on the use of firearms, stating they should only be used when all other means are inadequate.

Maraga Writes To Police IG, Murkomen After Security Withdrawn

By: Olive Burrows
@themkenyatimes

Chief Justice Emeritus David Maraga has raised the alarm over the withdrawal of his security.

Maraga has written to the security chiefs demanding the return of his bodyguards as required by law.

He has accused the state of attempting to intimidate him for joining protesters in a march on Wednesday that was held in remembrance of those killed by police in last year's anti-finance bill protests.

Not one to hold his tongue in the face of an injustice, Maraga on Friday accused the state of seeking to intimidate him by withdrawing his security.

Speaking to Citizen TV and in letters posted to his social media, Maraga flagged the withdrawal of his security on Wednesday and Thursday.

Coinciding with his participation in

a march held in the city centre in remembrance of those killed in anti-finance bill protests last year.

"His participation in protests that later degenerated into looting and lawlessness not only undermined his dignity but also sent the wrong message to a generation looking up to him for guidance and inspiration," National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetangula noted.

Maraga, who has expressed interest in contesting the presidency in 2027, has read mischief into the developments coming soon after he expressed solidarity with the youth against police brutality, going so far as to call for the resignation, arrest and prosecution of police chiefs following the death of Albert Ojwang in police custody.

In letters to the Inspector General of Police Douglas Kanja and the Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen, Maraga states that he has been stripped of two bodyguards and a driver.

One of the two bodyguards was ad-



File image of Former Chief Justice David Maraga.

vised not to report for duty by Maraga's side on Wednesday and later sent for training, while the other two, Maraga states, were withdrawn the following day.

Maraga, who states the three have been attached to him for almost five years following his retirement in January of 2021, has demanded that his security be restored in keeping with

the provisions of the Retirement Benefits Act.

Meru Teaching And Referral Hospital To Be Upgraded

By: Dennis Dibondo
@themtkenyatimes

Meru Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) will be upgraded to improve its service delivery.

Ministry of Defence Principal Secretary Patrick Mariru said the initiative started after Meru governor Mutuma M'ethingia lobbied for upgrading of the hospital from President William Ruto.

"The governor sought National government support to build a new block within the hospital through the Kenya Defence Forces. So I want to assure residents that the hospital will start construction in two weeks," he said.

Mariru who spoke on Friday at the hospital said the contractor is on site and the work will be done in seven months.

Meru Deputy Governor Linda Kiome said the twin tower, five storey building will have a bed capacity of 552 .

"We appreciate that the President promised our county that he was going to help us for the benefit of the people of this county and now that promise has been fulfilled today," she said.

"The hospital serves many people and patients are even received from other counties like Isiolo, Tharaka Nithi and others, so increasing the bed capacity is a good thing," Kiome added.

Kiome said once completed the hospital will have 900 patients beds.

Kiome said the new building will have Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and High Dependency Unit (HDU, Surgical theatres and a maternity wing.

The deputy governor said the Kenya Defence Forces will only oversee the construction of the hospital but all the workers will be sourced from within the county.



Defence PS Patrick Mariru (in light blue coat) is shown a design of the buildings that will be put up in Meru Teaching and Referral Hospital. Photo/Dennis Dibondo.

The Mt. Kenya Times



Unite Or Perish, Former Freedom Fighters Urged

By: MKT Correspondents

@themtkenyatimes

Various groups championing for the interest of former freedom fighters have been challenged to unite so that they can collectively seek compensation.

By uniting, it will be easier for the thousands of the former freedom fighters and their descendants to have a common agenda and singularly make demands.

According to one of the groups, Mau Mau War Veterans Association (MMWVA) Director General, James Njuguna Mahuria, various groups have been claiming to agitate for their former fighters rights but they have not made any headway.

“There are uncountable groups, all claiming yo belong to Mau Mau members of their descendants. But, they have nothing to show, decades after the country gained independence,” Mahuria noted.

He added, “The way things are, it is either they unite or they perish.”

He said compensation from either the former colonial or the Kenya government cannot be easily achieved when they are divided.

Since last year, Mahuria has been calling on the more than 20 groups to join hands in their bid to demand compensation for the atrocities meted against those who were opposed to the colonial rule.

Some groups have come together and established the MMWVA where he was elected the Director General.

Mahuria expressed concern that some officials of affiliated groups are reported to have defected from the umbrella organization to push for the long overdue compenastion on their own, a move he described as misguided. “United we stand, divided we fall. We are just about there, yet some people seem to be out to ruin the progress we have achieved so far, which is very unfortunate,” Mahuria noted.

He claimed that intense research, networking, lobbying and diplomatic approach have yielded positive results, with probable release of substantial amount of money said to be in the pipeline.

In an interview with Mount Kenya Times, Mahuria disclosed that through MMWVA officials in all counties across the country, they were identifying and registering former freedom fighters and descendants, in cases where the former fighters are deceased ahead of planned compensation.

Mahuria noted that unlike misconception that the freedom war was a Mt Kenya region affair, those who contributed in driving the colonialist away were also from Rift Valley, Nyanza, Coast, Ukambani, western and other parts of the country and thus the reason MMWVA had recruited officials from all counties.

He said that research in different mase-ums in the country and interpersonal interviews had revealed details of many victims of the liberation war.

“We are aware that there has been

a number of cases in British courts in connection with compensation for Mau Mau war, and also that there was once an out of court settlement. But only a small fraction of would be beneficiaries was reached,” he said, adding, “During the post Independence settlement schemes, again only an insignificant number of beneficiaries got lands.”

When Kenya gained Independence from British, most of the former Mau Mau fighters continued to live in deplorable conditions with dying poor and being survived by even poorer children and grandchildren, majority of whom were even unable to access basic education.

He said that during a four day visit of King Charles and his wife Camilla to Kenya in 2023, the King had acknowledged painful aspects of the United Kingdom’s colonial past.

More than 10.000 people were killed and thouands more others tortured during the brutal suppression of the Mau Mau uprising in the 1950s, which is describes as one of the British Empire’s bloodiest insurgencies.

In 2013 the UK expressed regret and paid KSh340,000 each to 5,228 former freedom fighters who had filed a case.

The Mau Mau outfit remained banned and categorised as a terrorist group until 2003 when then President Mwai Kibaki lifted the ban.

Most children and grandchildren of the former freedom fighters have no idea about the roots of the country’s suffering that gave birth to an Independence.

He added that many young people hardly know about the detention and torture of the fighters. But now, they are among the groups advocating for compensation, said Mahuria, adding the projected compensation is in the tunu of KSh21 trillion.

He called on the former freedom fighters to join the MMWVA and register with officials from their home counties as they await compensation.

The proposal was supported by a peace lobby group that has also been in the limelight championing for the rights of the former freedom fighters.

The group, Amani Kwa Wote Association through its chairman Paul Julius Kariuki Mwati in a recent interview said his group support the compensation initiative, both in cash and land.



MMWVA Director General James Njuguna Mahuria addressing former freedom fighters and their descendants in Nyeri town last year. File photo.



A former freedom fighter addressing journalists.



Freedom fighters hero, Dedan Kimathi

Worth Noting:

- Mahuria expressed concern that some officials of affiliated groups are reported to have defected from the umbrella organization to push for the long overdue compensation on their own, a move he described as misguided. “United we stand, divided we fall. We are just about there, yet some people seem to be out to ruin the progress we have achieved so far, which is very unfortunate,” Mahuria noted.
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Government Trains Social Workers In Preparations For Street families' Census

By: Esther Mwangi and Dennis Rasto

[@themtkenyatimes](#)

Worth Noting:

- Ms Wambui said the census aims to obtain segregated data to help in conducting rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of street families and would help in obtaining an actual street population for planning on how to zero rate street families.
- She said the census was also aimed at providing appropriate living conditions and identifying the best method of reintegrating street individuals into society.
- “We are undertaking a census so that we can have a breakdown not only of identifying which ones are Kenyans and those who are not but also where they come from in Kenya,” she said.
- The chairperson spoke in Nakuru when she inaugurated a five-day induction programme for over 300 social workers drawn from all the 47 counties who will be enumerators in the third national census for street families that kicks off on Monday and ends on July.

The government through the State Department for Social Protection has commenced training of over 300 social workers drawn from all the 47 counties who will be enumerators in the up-coming national census of street families even as preparations for the exercise gets on top gear.

Chairperson of Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund (SFRTF) Ms Mary Wambui explained that the national census of street families that will be conducted countrywide will be carried out by the State Department for Social Protection in collaboration with Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and with the support of United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF).

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The chairperson spoke in Nakuru when she inaugurated a five-day induction programme for over 300 social workers drawn from all the 47 counties who will be enumerators in the third national census for street families that kicks off on Monday and ends on July.

The first national census of street families in the country was held in 2018 by the State Department for Social Protection in partnership with Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Ms Wambui at the same time, said the government in collaboration with Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund (SFRTF) was providing persons living on the streets with practical training in various trades, enabling them to secure employment or become entrepreneurs.

Ms Wambui disclosed that the Fund had acquired a 20-acre parcel of land in Mavoko within Machakos County where it planned to construct a Vocational Training Centre exclusively targeting persons living on the streets aged 14 years and over, adding that the programme will involve partnerships with existing Technical Vocational Training Institutions and other stakeholders to offer relevant skills



Ms Mary Wambui addressing journalists in Nakuru

training and support.

She indicated that the government through Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund (SFRTF) recognises the vulnerability of street families and is taking steps to address their needs through skills development to empower street families across all the 47 counties with the skills and resources they need to become self-reliant and improve their living conditions.

Ms Wambui pointed out that SFRTF was promoting rescue, reintegration and re-socialisation of the street families into community care as this was solving the problem which occurs when those placed in the homes attain 18 years.

She added that SFRTF through the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection was working with partner institutions including rehabilitation centres, religious institutions and children's homes to holistically address the problem of street families.

“The government alone cannot solve the issue, and individuals as well as the church, should come on board. Each family is unique and one approach cannot solve the issue. Some of them are addicts and others do not have homes or ran away from home or they were just kicked out,” the chairperson elaborated.

She went on to say that giving the families a house was not enough, as they also needed psycho-social support, income generating activities and

education to help them stay off the streets.

The Chairperson termed the issue of street families as multi-faceted and needed to be addressed from the root causes including poverty, rural-urban migration, broken societal and domestic violence.

Ms Wambui added that people had become too individualistic, another issue that was driving some to the streets because they are not able to share the things afflicting them.

Kenya has a total of 46,639 people living on the streets, out of which 72.4 per cent are male, according to the 2018 National Census of Street Families Report.

The counties with the highest concentrations of street persons are Nairobi with 15,337, Mombasa 7529, Kisumu 2,746, Uasin Gishu 2,147 and Nakuru 2,005.

Most of the street persons were males at 72.4 per cent and females at 27.6 per cent, the majority being the youth at 45.3 per cent followed by children at 33.8 per cent and the older persons at 2.4 per cent.

The second census revealed that reasons for going to the streets were varied which included fear of being reprimanded, corporal punishment, lack of school fees, mistreatment by relatives and mental illness. Others include death of parents, domestic violence, peer influence and being born on the streets.

Majority of the children who lived on the streets with parents were below 10 years of age while 24 percent were orphans. 20 percent of the street persons did not know the whereabouts of their parents.

The Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund was established in 2003 but became operational in 2019.

SFRTF Board Member Ms Nancy Oranga said they would be conducting an audit of institutions that had received monies from the Fund towards rehabilitating and reintegrating street families into the community.

She said the census would inform the Fund's future strategies and programmes towards reintegrating street families into the society.

Ms Oranga stated that SFRTF through Public-Private partnerships was working to reintegrate the street persons back to the community by addressing discrimination and stigma, rejection and exclusion from the mainstream society.

“Even after rehabilitation, street children continue to feel excluded from society and mistreated, despite the fact that all they want is to fit in and live normal lives,” added the Board Member.

Ms Oranga disclosed that the census will capture data on various aspects of street families, including the socio-economic and political factors behind their circumstances.

DCJ Urges Heads Of Stations To Enhance Supervision Of Registry Operations

By: Patrick Nyakundi
 @themtkenyatimes

Deputy Chief Justice (DCJ) Philomena Mwilu has called on Heads of Court Stations to strengthen the supervision of registry operations to boost court efficiency and service delivery.

Mwilu said this during the closing ceremony of the 12th Annual Heads of Station Forum held in a hotel in Wote town in Makueni County where she stressed that the productivity of any court is closely tied to the efficiency of its registry.

“No matter how competent and industrious a judge or judicial officer may be, if the registry is inefficient for whatever reason, that court will also be unproductive,” Mwilu stated.

She commended this year’s forum for focusing on registry operations, describing it as a critical area in the administration of justice.

“It is imperative that we get things right at our registries,” she emphasized.

The Deputy Chief Justice urged heads of station to actively supervise registry staff, particularly to ensure that

court fees are correctly assessed—especially before decrees are issued.

She warned that errors or omissions at this stage can prejudice parties and erode public confidence in the judicial process.

Justice Mwilu also emphasized the importance of preventing the loss or misplacement of case files, directing station heads to consistently use file movement registers to track all files entering or leaving the registry.

“Record keeping and the effective management of registers remains a challenge in our registries. How long must we continue assessing courts to ensure registers are properly maintained? These are critical tools that support efficiency, accountability, and transparency,” said the DCJ.

She further directed that all files be returned to the registry immediately after judgments and rulings are delivered, to ensure proper order, facilitate appeals, and prevent misplacement.

In addition, justice Mwilu called for timely processing of cash bail and deposit refunds, as well as the return of securities upon request.

“Holding on to these beyond reasonable timelines is unjust and reflects poorly on our service delivery,” she noted.



Deputy Chief Justice Philomena Mwilu

Also, Mwilu urged judicial leaders to eliminate the culture of “facilitation” for services that should be freely provided, emphasizing the need to restore integrity to court registries.

“As Heads of Station, you are not just administrators—you are the face

of the Judiciary at the grassroots. The tone, discipline, efficiency, and fairness of your station begins and ends with your leadership. Let us lead with accountability, urgency, and a deep sense of service to the people we serve,” she concluded.

The forum, themed “Enhancing Access to Justice through Efficient and Sustainable Registry Operations,” brought together Heads of Station from 143 Magistrates’ Courts and 14 stand-alone Kadhi’s Courts.

MP Wainaina: Goons Who Caused Mayhem In Othaya Were Not From The Area

By: MKT Correspondent
 @themtkenyatimes

Othaya constituency Member of Parliament Wambugu Wainaina alias Kirima on Friday hit put at a section of people from Nyeri County for bankrolling goons to cause havoc in his area.

Wainaina claimed that he had information that plans to send goons in Othaya were made in a hotel owned by a former parastatal chairman.

He said an individual aspiring to replace him as Othaya MP was in the planning meeting and the same person coordinated the attacks from a hotel at Giakanja township in Tetu constituency.

The same person, he added, was among individuals behind inciting Othaya residents over water tariffs, an issue that saw part of the com-

modity provider’s offices torched early this year.

Further, he noted, the same person had joined the bandwagon of condemning the incident.

He said the goons were transported from other areas with instructions to cause mayhem in the always quiet constituency as he wondered why no shops or property were destroyed in the neighbouring Mukurweini and Tetu constituencies.

In a press briefing at his residence near Othaya town, the lawmaker called on the government to reign on individuals behind the mayhem that saw some government vehicles burnt, property looted and one of the residents, a young man shot dead.

On the shooting, he said the youth was not part of the goons but unfortunate person who was passing near the local police station when the goons were confronting the security officers whose eventual was shooting with a bullet hitting him.



Othaya MP Wambugu Wainaina during the press briefing on Friday.

Wainaina said he would assist the family in burial preparations.

He called on IPOA to speedily investigate the incident and bring jus-

tice to the deceased and his family.

Digital Natives



Digital natives are we
With all technologies from birth
Experiencing all boon from the cradle
Blessed are we to have all facilities
Varieties of mobiles Computers of new version
T.V, cars and iPods, home appliances,
A.C for cozy sleep Geyser for warm bath
Oven for quick food
Tablet for easy carrying book

All classrooms digitally equipped
Feather touch mobiles
All time listening music in iPods
Theatres in home

Fruits in bottles Geo location, navigators
Technology serving man
All boon is only one side of the coin
The other side is like the moon's other side.

Mrs. Brinda. D
CREATIVE WRITERS
GRADUATE TEACHER,
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPAKKAM
CUDDALORE,
Tamilnadu India

Plastic's The Monster



Choking our oceans, and polluting the land
It eats away slowly, in clusters
A threat to our future
Let's reduce, reuse, recycle with all our might
And defeat the plastic monster, in the morning
light.

M. Rineethaa,
L.K.G,
JOHNBOSCO MATRICULATION HIGHER
SECONDARY SCHOOL,
KOVILPATTI.

mom....



My world is filled with your love, Mom

No wealth can compare to me
If you are with me again
I don't know if it's pain or sadness
If you give me your love, Mom

I will lay my head at your feet
If necessary, I will give my life
I will bow to you forever
Whenever you are with me, Mom

Author: Umida Odinaeva

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Dehkanabad district
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School 85

Shakhrisabz State Pedagogical Institute
Uzbek language and literature major
3-24 groups
1st year student

You have won my heart day and night
Your face is like the moon, your cheeks
are like roses
There is no star in the sky that can
compare to you
The world is amazed by your beauty,
Mom

My forehead is beautiful, given to me
by fate
My heart is filled with gold
My palace is like Mecca made of gold

A Wish For Shahrizoda



Fill your soul with wisdom's song,
The kind that helps us journey long.
Begin again your tale today—
"Life" shall be your bright new way.

Beneath the stars, the willows stand—
As loyal friends, they'll hold your hand.
Their hearts, like ours, bear sorrow's flame,
Regret and hope—they feel the same.
Your patience, strength—so rare to find,
They blaze through many hearts and minds.
These virtues you so truly own
Will set lost souls in dark unknown.

Don't say goodbye—just wait and dream,
The willows will not lose their gleam.
Tell new tales with voices bold,
Let moon and stars your stories hold.
Still the flute will play its cry
Beneath the vast and listening sky.
Let joy resound and sorrows fade,
As evening's music gently plays.

At dusk begins a mournful tune...

Gulmira Ravshonbekova

Ravshonbekova Gulmira Ruslanbek qizi was born on August 29, 2005, in the city of Khiva, located in the Khorezm region. She graduated from the Ogahiy School of Creativity under the Agency of Presidential Educational Institutions. Currently, she is a second-year student at Urgench State University named after Abu Rayhan Beruni. She is a recipient of the prestigious "Ogahiy Scholarship" and the "Governor's Scholarship." Her first poetry collections, "Sohir so'zga muhabbat" ("Love for Magical Words") and "Izhori dil" ("Heart's Confession"), as well as a prose collection, have been published. She is the winner of numerous international, national, and regional olympiads and competitions. She is also a member and certificate holder of the Writers and Poets Foundation of Kyrgyzstan.

Ravshonbekova is the country representative of the international organization called the "National Human Rights and Humanitarian Federation." Her scientific and creative works have been published in journals and anthologies from several countries, including Germany, the USA, Turkey, Canada, India, and Poland.

At dusk begins a mournful tune,
The willows bow beneath the moon,
Your sorrow echoes soft and deep
Within the flute I gently keep.
Nights once bright with heart's delight—
O, Shahrizoda, gleaming light!
Your beauty left my eyes amazed,
In dreams, its brilliance ever stays.

You wrote of love, like lovers do,
To willows mad in longing true.
Do not weep, nor break apart—
This world's a tavern of the heart.
Let not your hopes fade or go,
Don't drown in grief and sorrow's flow.
Though pain it brings, this world we bear
With love's own fire burning there.

Life rebelled, struck deep your soul,
But find the light that makes you whole.
Friend, still the sun of joy can shine—
Just turn and trace your path, divine.
The willows still remember you,
And dream of days when love was true.
So lift your heart, don't mourn alone,
Don't wound yourself with grief unknown.

Why cast your tears to river's tide?
Let not your lashes be so wide.
This ancient world—just look and see—
Lights beacons far across the sea.
Now you have turned the willows' pain
Into a mystic, whispered name.
They long to share with you today
Old truths that time can't wash away.

Go, gather flowers spring has spun,
And fill your apron, one by one.
Name yourself with joy anew—
Plant happiness that once you knew.

Muttering Of Her Eyes



where the world weaves, preeminence peeps into
transparency
Speak through the sage, her eyes— an innocent
accuracy

Truths dwell into, unwritten bells turn blue,
she, where through, the windowsills unfurl the
hue
Ineffable, they are—strength, sensitivity, and
spark, high and huge
motivation they wink, a long river where the
emotions sink—breathfully blinks, drinks the blues

Murmur compassion, whisper attention—
embroidered lashes, peeping pearls—light flashes;
that dress for dazzling delights, chosen charm
and tranquility that warms
Yes, Athena of the modern Odyssey, they
murmur.

—Tajalla Qureshi

The Eyes,
Blossoming brown, speaking signs—profound
where often ocean slides and slips aside—a bit
loud
be pleased with the fishes fluttering inside—
unbound
lugging truths—unheard, untold for a long ahead
Darning her dynamic delight—herself, an unveiled
image
Wanderingly wonder the multi-magnetic voyages
and visages

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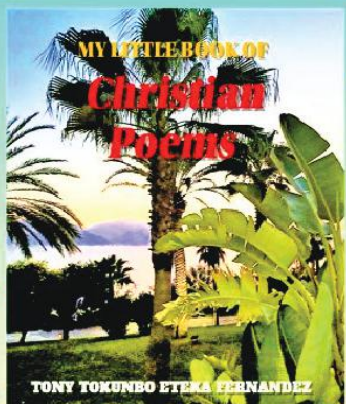
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POLITICS

Rigathi Gachagua's Bold Stand Exposes Kenya's Deepening Political Fault Lines

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
@themtkenyatimes

Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua's powerful condemnation of the violent crackdown on Gen-Z protesters and his direct accusations against President William Ruto's regime for orchestrating chaos lay bare the deepening political and social tensions gripping Kenya. His statement resonates amid a backdrop of escalating youth unrest, widespread police brutality, and growing public mistrust in government institutions—a crisis that has been unfolding over the past year with alarming intensity.

The Gen-Z protests, which began as a response to the controversial 2024 Finance Bill's tax hikes, have since evolved into a broad-based movement demanding accountability, justice, and meaningful economic opportunities for Kenya's youth. The brutal killing of blogger Albert Ojwang while in police custody, alongside the shooting of street vendor Boniface Kariuki, has further inflamed public outrage and exposed systemic failures in governance, law enforcement, and respect for human rights. These tragic incidents have become rallying points for a generation that feels increasingly marginalized and betrayed by unfulfilled government promises.

Kenya's youth constitute over 60% of the population, yet they remain disproportionately affected by unemployment, underemployment, and economic exclusion. Despite President Ruto's 2022 campaign promises of economic liberation and job creation, tangible improvements remain elusive for many young Kenyans. The Gen-Z protests are not merely about tax hikes or isolated incidents of police violence; they represent a collective cry against structural inequalities, corruption, and a governance model that seems indifferent to the plight of the majority.

The youth's use of social media and digital platforms to organize and amplify their message has been unprecedented in Kenya's political history. Their activism transcends ethnic and regional lines, challenging traditional political patronage systems and demanding a new social contract. This shift threatens entrenched political elites who have long relied on ethnic mobilization and clientelism to maintain power.

Gachagua's allegations that the government deliberately orchestrated violence through state-sponsored goons, allowed looting under police



Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

protection, and suppressed media coverage by shutting down TV signals are deeply troubling. If accurate, these tactics reveal a government more interested in preserving power than addressing the legitimate grievances of its citizens.

The use of live ammunition against peaceful protesters is a grave violation of human rights and international norms. It reflects a dangerous slide towards authoritarianism and a police state mentality that undermines Kenya's democratic foundations. The targeting of businesses belonging to specific communities, as alleged, risks inflaming ethnic tensions and social divisions, further destabilizing an already fragile national cohesion.

Moreover, Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen's framing of the protests as a "Kikuyu uprising" is a reckless mischaracterization that threatens to deepen ethnic fault lines. Such ethnic profiling distracts from the real issues at hand—corruption, police brutality, and economic disenfranchisement—and fuels narratives that could lead to violence and polarization.

Gachagua's statement serves as a stark reminder that Kenya's political leadership stands at a crossroads. The legacy of this era will be shaped by how leaders respond to the youth's demands and the broader calls for justice and reform. History teaches us that repression only breeds resistance, and ignoring the voices of the young risks long-term instability.

The postponement of his public engagements in Embu County in soli-

arity with victims of the crackdown signals a leadership style that values empathy and accountability. It contrasts sharply with the government's approach, which has largely been characterized by denial, deflection, and heavy-handed security measures.

The persistence of Gen-Z protests highlights the urgent need for genuine dialogue between the government and youth representatives. This dialogue must go beyond superficial consultations and address core issues such as police reforms, job creation, access to education, and the fight against corruption.

Reforming the police service to ensure accountability and respect for human rights is paramount. The Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) must be empowered to investigate abuses without political interference. Additionally, the government should consider establishing a truth and reconciliation commission to address past and ongoing injustices against protesters.

Economic reforms should prioritize youth entrepreneurship, skills development, and access to affordable credit. Programs like financial inclusion initiatives and mentorship platforms, which have shown promise in various Kenyan counties, need scaling and sustained support.

Kenya's vibrant civil society and independent media have played critical roles in exposing abuses and amplifying the voices of the marginalized. However, the government's attempts to censor and intimidate media outlets threaten freedom of expression and the public's right to information.

Protecting journalists and ensuring media independence is essential for a healthy democracy. The international community and local stakeholders must remain vigilant and support efforts to uphold these freedoms.

Kenya is at a pivotal moment. The youth-led Gen-Z protests are a manifestation of deep-seated frustrations that cannot be ignored or suppressed indefinitely. Rigathi Gachagua's bold stance challenges the government to reconsider its approach and engage constructively with the demands for justice, dignity, and economic opportunity.

The future of Kenya's democracy depends on leaders choosing reform over repression, dialogue over division, and inclusion over exclusion. The legacy of this era will not only be written in political history but in the lives of millions of young Kenyans who yearn for a country that truly belongs to them.

Ignoring these calls risks not only political fallout but the very fabric of Kenya's social cohesion and democratic progress. It is time for all stakeholders—government, opposition, civil society, and the youth—to come together and chart a path toward a more just, equitable, and peaceful Kenya.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication practitioner.

Worth Noting:

Kenya's youth constitute over 60% of the population, yet they remain disproportionately affected by unemployment, underemployment, and economic exclusion. Despite President Ruto's 2022 campaign promises of economic liberation and job creation, tangible improvements remain elusive for many young Kenyans. The Gen-Z protests are not merely about tax hikes or isolated incidents of police violence; they represent a collective cry against structural inequalities, corruption, and a governance model that seems indifferent to the plight of the majority.

The youth's use of social media and digital platforms to organize and amplify their message has been unprecedented in Kenya's political history. Their activism transcends ethnic and regional lines, challenging traditional political patronage systems and demanding a new social contract.

Land Verification And Validation Underway In Nakuru County

By: Jane Ngugi
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Mr Kihagi indicated that the verification process seeks to confirm the physical location and allotments of Bahati and Dundori plots to ensure accuracy and legitimacy in title deed issuance, a move expected to spur economic growth in Bahati Sub-County.
- “The verification process entails the substantiation of ownership documents by technical officers. These activities are vital for preparing precise and validated documentation that will be submitted to the Survey of Kenya,” noted the CECM.
- Spatial Milestone Kenya, has been contracted by the county government to undertake the final phase of technical verification and mapping of the two trading centres.

A land verification and validation exercise has begun in Bahati and Dundori Trading Centres, to authenticate land ownership and facilitate the issuance of title deeds.

The exercise is part of tenure regularisation process and is being overseen by the County Government of Nakuru’s Department of Lands, Physical Planning, Housing, and Urban Development. Once completed, over 1,000 plot owners will be issued with title deeds.

County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Lands, Physical Planning, Housing, and Urban Development John Kihagi said the initiative aims to enhance land digitalization and streamline land registration processes.

He added that was a critical step in resolving long-standing land ownership issues in the two centres.

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Spatial Milestone Kenya, has been contracted by the county government to undertake the final phase of technical verification and mapping of the two trading centres.

Mr Kihagi emphasised that beyond securing land rights and preventing future disputes, the issuance of titles would serve as a foundation for economic empowerment, enabling access to credit, attracting investment, and facilitating development projects.

He underscored the importance of land ownership in securing property rights, enhancing value, and ensuring legal recognition.

The CECM reiterated Governor Susan Kihika’s administration commitment to issuing title deeds to all residents.

“Under the leadership of Susan Kihika and in collaboration with other government agencies, the county administration is dedicated to facilitating title deed acquisition for squatters and settlers across Nakuru,” Mr Kihagi stated.

He urged residents to take advantage of the exercise to verify their land records, noting that the initiative aims to address long-standing land ownership disputes in the county.

Mr Kihagi said he was optimistic that title deeds will now help check land grabbing and end land disputes.

He said land security will be ensured and disputes drastically reduced since owners will now have title deeds.

He appealed to residents who will get the documents to keep them in safe custody.

“To ensure transparency and thoroughness, committees representing each of the two trading centres have been formed to work alongside government officials in verifying land claims and protecting residents’ rights. This effort includes identify-

ing and securing essential amenities, such as schools and markets, to benefit the entire community,” Mr Kihagi elaborated.

The CECM indicated that the initiative, spearheaded by Governor Kihika’s administration in collaboration with the National Government, is focused on expediting land settlement while safeguarding essential public utilities within communities.

Mr Kihagi noted that the families from the two trading centres have suffered as they have been unable to access financial loans to develop their land since the 1980s due to lack of collateral.

“A title deed is not only proof of ownership but also a catalyst to economic empowerment as it can be used to get loans,” noted Mr Kihagi.

He said issuance of titles will offer security of land tenure that is pivotal in opening up the area for commercial ventures and precisely in real estate.

The CECM noted that the area has lagged behind owing to informal occupation of land by locals as they could not leverage on economic growth due to lack of relevant papers.

The region has turned into a slum due to the semi-permanent houses built there as the owners cannot construct permanent ones due to lack of ownership documents.

Nakuru hosts numerous settlement schemes established shortly after independence. Until the late 1990s, a majority of the beneficiaries only held allotment letters.

Prolonged disputes and lack of proper organisational structure has remained a major challenge on the

resident’s clamour for the legal documents that have the potential of transforming lives. A team of officials from the county’s Lands Department and the National Lands Commission (NLC) has been formed to expedite the processing of the title deeds.

“There is a growing concern over the lack of security of tenure from residents. We are racing against time to unlock the backlog in title deeds issuance,” said the CECM

Mr Kihagi indicated that due to many land cases pending in courts, the County government had trained mediators to help resolve the disputes and hasten the issuance of title deeds to residents.

He said most land cases can be solved through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms as opposed to filing court cases. This, he said, will ensure the ongoing titling programme benefits more residents.

Statistics from the courts in the region indicate that at least 50 percent of cases involve land.

Chief Officer for Lands and Physical Planning, Ms Stella Mwaura reiterated that this was the final verification stage before the issuance of title deeds.

She expressed appreciation to the County administration for allocating the necessary resources to resolve the long-standing land challenges affecting residents of both trading centres.

Ms Mwaura also appealed to all plot owners to take advantage of this final opportunity to verify their documents, stressing that no additional verification rounds will be conducted.

Corporate Insolvency In Kenya: Legal Framework And Provisions



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themkenyatimes

Corporate insolvency in Kenya represents a critical area of law that addresses the financial distress of companies unable to meet their obligations. Governed primarily by the Insolvency Act, 2015 (No. 18 of 2015), Kenya's insolvency regime has shifted from a liquidation-centric approach to one emphasizing corporate rescue and restructuring. This transformation reflects a global trend toward viewing insolvency as an economic challenge rather than a moral failing, aiming to balance the interests of creditors, shareholders, and the company itself. The Act consolidates laws relating to the insolvency of both natural persons and incorporated or unincorporated entities, providing a harmonized framework for managing financial distress.

The Insolvency Act, 2015 defines insolvency under Section 384, stating that a company is insolvent if it cannot pay debts of at least KES 100,000 within 21 days of a written demand, if a court execution remains unsatisfied, or if the company's liabilities exceed its assets. This provision establishes clear criteria for determining insolvency, enabling creditors, directors, or other stakeholders to initiate proceedings. The Act's focus on early intervention encourages companies to address financial difficulties proactively, avoiding terminal liquidation where possible. This shift aligns with modern insolvency practices that prioritize business continuity over dissolution.

One of the key mechanisms under the Insolvency Act, 2015 is administration, outlined in Part VIII. Administration allows an insolvent company to be managed by a qualified insolvency practitioner, known as an administrator, with the goal of rescuing the business as a going concern or achieving a better outcome for creditors than liquidation would offer. The administrator takes control of the company's affairs, suspending the powers of directors (Section 522), and works to restructure operations or negotiate with creditors. Notable cases, such as Athi River Mining (ARM) Cement, demonstrate administration's potential to maintain operations, though outcomes vary depending on the company's financial state.

Another significant provision is the Company Voluntary Arrangement (CVA) under Part IX of the Insolvency Act, 2015. A CVA enables a company to propose a debt repayment plan to creditors, overseen by an insolvency practitioner acting as a provisional supervisor. The proposal requires approval by a majority



of creditors and company members (Section 625). If approved, it binds all creditors, providing a flexible alternative to liquidation. The process is private and avoids the publicity of bankruptcy, making it attractive for companies like Nakumatt Holdings, which attempted a recovery strategy under this framework.

Liquidation, while a last resort, remains a core component of Kenya's insolvency framework, governed by Part VII of the Insolvency Act, 2015. Liquidation can be voluntary (members' or creditors' voluntary liquidation) or court-ordered (compulsory liquidation). Section 395 mandates that a special resolution be passed and published in the Kenya Gazette and newspapers for voluntary liquidation, after which the company ceases trading except for liquidation purposes. The High Court retains jurisdiction over compulsory liquidation, with applications permitted from creditors, directors, or the Attorney General (Section 424). Liquidation results in the company's dissolution after asset distribution (Section 432).

The introduction of a pre-insolvency moratorium under the Business Laws (Amendment) (No. 2) Act, 2021 amending the Insolvency Act, 2015 marks a progressive step. Section 694A allows financially distressed companies to apply for a 30-day moratorium (extendable by another 30 days), during which creditors cannot enforce claims. This provision, overseen by a licensed insolvency prac-

itioner (the monitor), encourages restructuring discussions without immediate creditor pressure. However, companies already in administration or liquidation are ineligible (Section 694B). This mechanism supports early intervention, enhancing Kenya's business-friendly environment.

Insolvency practitioners play a pivotal role in Kenya's insolvency regime, as outlined in Section 9 of the Insolvency Act, 2015. Practitioners, including liquidators, administrators, and bankruptcy trustees, must be authorized by the Official Receiver and meet educational and professional qualifications (Insolvency Regulations, 2016). Their role involves managing assets, ensuring fair creditor distributions, and facilitating rescue strategies. The Act's emphasis on qualified professionals ensures accountability and expertise, though challenges remain due to unpublished regulations on practitioner qualifications.

Creditors' rights are safeguarded under the Insolvency Act, 2015, particularly through provisions like Section 226 and Section 228, which outline options for secured creditors, such as surrendering their security or proving the balance after asset valuation. The Act also introduced the "prescribed part" under Section 422, reserving 20% of proceeds from floating charge assets for unsecured creditors, enhancing their recovery prospects. These measures balance the interests of secured and unsecured creditors,

addressing historical inequities where unsecured creditors often recovered little.

Cross-border insolvency is addressed in the Fifth Schedule of the Insolvency Act, 2015, aligning with international best practices. It allows recognition of foreign insolvency proceedings, as seen in the case of Zarara Oil and Gas Company, where the Kenyan High Court recognized a Mauritian liquidator's appointment. However, foreign liquidators must comply with local requirements, and asset transfers out of Kenya require court approval (Section 704). This framework supports global trade and investment while protecting local creditors.

Despite its advancements, Kenya's insolvency regime faces challenges, including delays in litigation and gaps in regulation, such as the absence of pre-pack sale provisions. The Insolvency Act, 2015 has modernized corporate insolvency by prioritizing rescue over liquidation, but ongoing reforms are needed to address these gaps. Proposed amendments, stalled by the COVID-19 pandemic, aim to further align Kenya's laws with global standards, enhancing its attractiveness for investment. As businesses navigate economic uncertainties, the Act provides a robust framework for managing insolvency while fostering corporate recovery.

The writer is a legal researcher and lawyer

Worth Noting:

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Uraibu Wa Mpemba Originali Wa Kusikiliza Taarabu Ulitanua Mawanda Yake Ya Kujikuza Kisanaa



By: Alfred Lobawoi

@themkenyatimes

1. Tueleze kwa kifupi Fatma Ali Mohamed ni nani?

Fatma Ali Mohamed ni Mtanzania aliyezaliwa Pemba katika wilaya ya Micheweni Mkoa wa Kaskazini Pemba. Kwa sasa ni mwalimu wa skuli ya Sekondari Limbani

2. Msukumo wako wa kutunga mashairi ulitoka wapi?

Msukumo wangu wa kutunga mashairi niliupata kwa kusikiliza taarabu. Hususan burudani la mwambao kipindi ambacho kilikuwa kinaendeshwa nchini Kenya. Niliwapenda sana waimbaji wa Kenya hususan Juma Balo. Kwa Zanzibar waimbaji walionivutia sana na kuni-fanya nipende mashairi na nitunge pia ni Fatma Issa. Bakari Abeid na Sabaha Salum. Kwa kweli waimbaji hawa wamechangia sana katika utunzi wangu wa mashairi.

3. Je, mazingira uliyomo yalikuchochea vipi katika utunzi?

Katika mazingira ambayo naishi yalinichochea sana katika utunzi. Hii ni kwa sababu madras ambayo nilikuwa nasoma tulikuwa tunaadhimisha siku ya kuzaliwa kwa Mtume Muhammad (S.A.W) kwa kutunga kaswida na tenzi mbalimbali za kumsifu yeye hivyo yalinisaidia sana katika utunzi wangu. Vilevile tunatunga mashairi na tenzi za kuwafunza wari wanaotaka kuolewa ili wakaishi vyema na waume zao. Vilevile tunatunga mashairi, tenzi, nyimbo kwa ajili ya kushiriki Tamasha la Elimu Bila Malipo linaloadhimishwa mwezi wa tisa kila mwaka. Mazingira haya yamenisaidia kiasi.

4. Ni matukio yapi ambayo unayakumbuka katika safari yako ya utunzi?

Kuna matukio mbalimbali ya kukatishwa tamaa na kuvunjwa moyo ambayo yalinifanya nitamauke kutunga ushairi. Unaweza kutunga shairi lako zuri, siku hiyo umejikaza katika utunzi. Ukatuma kwenye makundi ya ushairi, wakazuka baadhi ya watu wakakuponda hadharani, hii inavunja moyo kwa kweli.

Vilevile unatunga shairi lako zuri lenye kutumia jazanda kwa ajili ya mashindano ya Elimu Bila Malipo na mghani akalighani vizuri tu lakini kwa utashi wa majaji ukakoseshwa ushindi na kupewa mtu mwengine kisa kijuana. Hii inatamausha sana.

5. Kando na utunzi, wajishughuli-



Fatma Ali Mohamed

na nini kingine?

Kando na utunzi mimi ni mwalimu ambae nimeajiriwa na Serikali Ya Mapinduzi Zanzibar. Nafundisha katika Skuli ya Limbani Sekondari. Vilevile tumeanzisha kikundi cha kutoa mafunzo na kuwaombea dua watoto wetu ambao wanataka kuolewa.

6. Ushairi unakufaidi vipi wewe kama mtunzi?

Ama kwa upande wa faida kwenye utunzi wa ushairi si kubwa wala si nyingi. Ila kwa vile ushairi umo kwenye nafusi zetu tunatunga ili nyoyo ziburudike. Baadhi ya faida nilizopata katika utunzi wa mashairi ni kuwa jaji/mwamuzi wa sanaa katika mashindano ya Elimu Bila Malipo Zanzibar, kuanzia ngazi ya Kanda, wilaya mkoa hadi taifa. Hivyo kunakuwa na posho tunalipwa. Vilevile mimi ni Katibu wa michezo

na sanaa katika Kanda ya mjini pia ni mjumbe wa baraza la michezo na sanaa la mkoa. Katika mkoa wetu wa Kaskazini Pemba. Hivyo tunakuwa tunapata posho tunapodesha shughuli zetu. Pia huwa napata tenda za kutunga tenzi na mashairi katika shughuli mbalimbali kama vile za mapinduzi, shughuli za mwenge wa uhuru, kwa hio kupitia tenda hizo napata hela si haba. Pia katika diwani yangu niliyoitowa hivi karibuni nimeanza kuvuna kazi ya mikono yangu alhamdulillah.

7. Ni changamoto zipi ambazo umekumbana nazo katika utunzi?

Changamoto nilizokumbana nazo katika utunzi wa mashairi ni kukatishwa tamaa na watu wanaojuwa ushairi. Baada ya kukuelekeza basi wao wanakubomoa.

8. Unawashauri vipi watunzi wa-

naoibukia katika ulingo wa ushairi?

Watunzi wanaoibukia katika ulingo wa ushairi, kwanza nawashauri wasome sana kazi za magwiji wa ushairi watapata kuujuwa mengi. Vilevile wanapokatishwa tamaa basi wasitamauke, waendeleo kutunga na iko siku watatoboa tu, pia wasikasirike wakati wanaporekebishwa, kwani anayekufunza anakutaka na wewe ujuwe.

9. Anayetaka kufaidi kazi zako atazipataje?

Anaetaka kufaidi kazi zangu basi anuwe diwani yangu ya kwanza ya UHONDO WA NGOMA humo atapata faida nyingi. Vilevile atafaidi kupitia makundi mbali mbali ya ushairi.

Worth Noting:

“Msukumo wangu wa kutunga mashairi niliupata kwa kusikiliza taarabu. Hususan burudani la mwambao kipindi ambacho kilikuwa kinaendeshwa nchini Kenya. Niliwapenda sana waimbaji wa Kenya hususan Juma Balo. Kwa Zanzibar waimbaji walionivutia sana na kuni-fanya nipende mashairi na nitunge pia ni Fatma Issa. Baadhi ya faida nilizopata katika utunzi wa mashairi ni kuwa jaji/mwamuzi wa sanaa katika mashindano ya Elimu Bila Malipo Zanzibar, kuanzia ngazi ya Kanda, wilaya mkoa hadi taifa. Hivyo kunakuwa na posho tunalipwa. Watunzi wanaoibukia katika ulingo wa ushairi, kwanza nawashauri wasome sana kazi za magwiji wa ushairi watapata kuujuwa mengi.”

The Resonant Rhythm Of Provision: A Woodpecker's Echo In The Man Heart



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Apart from Warrent Officer Andrew Andrew Nghiyolwa's remarkable metaphor of a man as a head of the house and a wood pecker, many presenters shared exciting and soul-touching aspects revolving around a man.
- The Conference provided a platform for insightful and diverse perspectives, leaving attendees greatly impressed by the caliber of the presenters. Dr. Andrew Basiime, the Senior Medical Officer in Eenhana State Hospital, captivated the audience with his expertise on "Men and Health," offering crucial medical insights and practical advice aimed at promoting holistic well-being, including the prostate cancer. His presentation underscored the importance of proactive health management and seeking timely medical attention, resonating deeply with the men eager to prioritize their physical and mental vitality.

Introduction

The forest often holds secrets, but some of its most profound lessons are offered in plain sight, or rather, in clear sound. Listen closely, and you'll hear it: the insistent, rhythmic drumming of a woodpecker, a sound that vibrates with unwavering purpose. This isn't just a bird foraging for a meal; it's an architect, a provider, a tireless worker driven by an ancient, primal need. When we observe this diligent creature, a curious echo resonates within us, drawing an unexpected parallel to the enduring spirit of a man – or indeed, any human – committed to building a life, providing for loved ones, and forging a home.

The air at Eenhana State Hospital in Namibia's Ohangwena Region buzzed with reflection and insight during the recent Men's Mental Health Conference held on June 25, 2025. Amidst vital discussions on well-being and responsibility, Warrent Officer Andrew Nghiyolwa of the Namibian Police offered a particularly striking and memorable metaphor. He deliberately turned our gaze to the seemingly simple, yet profoundly diligent, woodpecker. With each resonant tap against a tree trunk, this unassuming bird, Nghiyolwa posited, embodies the very essence of what it means for a man to provide, build a home, and stand as a responsible father, not just with physical strength, but with a healthy body and mind. It was a call to consider the primal yet powerful connection between the woodpecker's tireless drive and the multifaceted responsibilities embraced by men in their families and communities.

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Dr. Andrew Basiime, the Senior Medical Officer in Eenhana State Hospital, captivated the audience with his expertise on "Men and Health," offering crucial medical insights and practical advice aimed at promoting holistic well-being, including the prostate cancer. His presentation underscored the importance of proactive health management and seeking timely medical

attention, resonating deeply with the men eager to prioritize their physical and mental vitality.

Reverend Laban Mwashekele, a renounced spiritual leader and law scholar, provided a spiritual anchor to the conference with his talk on "Men and Hope." He offered uplifting perspectives and guidance on finding resilience and purpose through faith, reminding the attendees that hope is a powerful tool in navigating life's challenges and maintaining a positive outlook amidst adversity. He also advised men to be "men of substance" and be leaders of their households and families. He also advised men to have broader knowledge of the law governing the country, spritual knowledge as well as cultural knowledge, for them to be able to make a balance in their leadership.

Mr. Helmut Neema, a Business Analyst from FNB, addressed the critical topic of "Men and Finance," providing valuable financial literacy and planning strategies. His presentation highlighted the significance of sound financial management in reducing stress and building a stable future, empowering men with the knowledge to make informed economic decisions for themselves and their families.

Finally, Mr. Junias Ernastu, a renowned young Motivational Speaker, energized the conference with his inspiring session on "Be You." His powerful message encouraged men to embrace their authentic selves, cultivate self-acceptance, and unlock their full potential, fostering a sense of confidence and self-worth essential for positive mental health and personal growth.

The Metaphorical Parallels Between a Woodpecker and a Man The Architect of the Canopy: Home and Hearth

Consider the sheer effort involved in a woodpecker's pursuit of a home. With specialized tools – a chisel-like beak and a shock-absorbing skull – it embarks on a monumental task. Inch by painstaking inch, it hollows out a cavity in the sturdy trunk of a tree, often deadwood, ensuring the space is just right: deep enough for security, wide enough for comfort, and protected from the elements. This isn't a quick undertaking; it demands days, sometimes weeks, of relentless drilling, each tap a testament to its singular focus on creating a safe haven for its future brood. The completed nest isn't just a hole;



Warrent Officer Andrew Nghiyolwa

it's a meticulously crafted nursery, a fortress against predators, and the very foundation of its family's survival.

This instinctual drive to build finds a profound echo in the human heart, according to Nghiyolwa. For a man, the concept of creating a home transcends the mere erection of walls and a roof. It embodies the deep-seated desire to establish a sanctuary, a place of warmth, safety, and belonging for his family. This endeavor involves more than just physical labor; it demands foresight, planning, and often significant sacrifice. He might work extra hours, save diligently, or spend weekends on different projects, all driven by the vision of a secure space where children can grow, memories can be forged, and loved ones can find solace. Like the woodpecker's carefully carved cavity, Nghiyolwa indicated that the human home is a testament to dedication, a physical manifestation of love and the commitment to nurture and protect just like a home for a wood pecker. It's the grounding point from which a



Woodpecker

family ventures out into the world and to which they always return.

The Resonant Rhythm Of Provision: A Woodpecker's Echo In The Man Heart

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The Relentless Drill: The Ethic of Hard Work

Beyond creating a dwelling, Ngyhiyolwa told the audience that the woodpecker's life is defined by an unending pursuit of provision. That persistent drumming isn't just about building; it's often the sound of a daily grind, as the bird tirelessly probes bark and wood for insects, larvae, and sap – the sustenance that keeps it and its family alive. Its long, barbed tongue acts as a specialized tool, expertly extracting hidden morsels.

There's no pause for discouragement when prey is scarce, no giving up when the wood proves tough. The tapping continues, relentless and resolute, a pure embodiment of hard work for the sake of survival and the nourishment of its young and he whole family.

According to Ngyhiyolwa, this unwavering diligence mirrors a fundamental aspect of the human condition. Throughout history and across cultures, men have been archetypal figures of hard work, provision and protection. Whether toiling in fields under the sun, operating machinery in a factory, navigating complex markets in an office, or pouring creative energy into an artistic pursuit, the driving force is often the same: to provide for the family. This labor is not always glamorous, nor is it always easy. It demands discipline, perseverance, and resilience in the face of setbacks. Just as the woodpecker's life depends on its daily taps, a family's well-being often hinges on the consistent effort and dedication of its providers. This ethic of hard work isn't just about accumulating resources; it's about dignity, self-reliance, and the profound satisfaction that comes from knowing one's efforts directly contribute to the security and happiness of those one holds dear.

Adapting and Enduring: Resilience in Life's Forest

The woodpecker's ability to survive and thrive is also a lesson in adaptation and resilience. Ngyhiyolwa observed that wood pecker's physical makeup, from its robust neck muscles to the unique structure of its skull that prevents brain damage from constant impact, speaks volumes about its evolutionary preparedness for a demanding life. It finds food where others might not, carves shelter in places others overlook, and endures the rigors of its



Mr. Junias Ernastu



Worth Noting:

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environment through specialized tools and an unyielding spirit - and that how a real man should navigate through his life in terms of protection, provision and providing home and shelter for the family and the loved ones.. It's a creature perfectly honed for its specific, challenging purpose.

Similarly, the journey of building a home and providing for a family is rarely without its challenges. Like the vast, unpredictable forest, life presents obstacles: economic downturns, health issues, personal setbacks. Yet, the human spirit, much like the woodpecker, demonstrates remarkable resilience. We adapt, learn new skills, innovate, and find new pathways when old ones are blocked. This adaptability, coupled with an inherent drive to protect and uplift loved ones, empowers individuals to navigate complex landscapes and overcome adversity, much like the woodpecker persistently finds sustenance even in the leanest times.

Beyond Instinct: The Human Dimension

While these parallels are compelling, it's crucial to acknowledge the profound distinction. The woodpecker's actions are largely driven by instinct, a biological imperative honed over millennia. For humans, while primal needs exist, our efforts are imbued with layers of consciousness, complex emotions, cultural narratives, and abstract thought. When a man builds a home or works tirelessly, it's not merely for survival; it's often an act of love, a pursuit of meaning, a realization of aspirations, and a conscious decision to create a legacy and create a lasting name for himself. The human experience extends beyond the immediate, encompassing dreams, values, and the profound connections that bind us.

Conclusion

So, the next time you hear the rhythmic drumming of a woodpecker, pause and reflect. In its tireless dedication to carving a home and diligently searching for provision, we find a simple yet profound meta-

phor. It reminds us of the universal, enduring drives that resonate deeply within the human spirit: the primal urge to build, to provide, to work hard, and to endure for the sake of those we cherish. The woodpecker, in its small, persistent way, offers a timeless echo of the fundamental strengths that continue to shape and define the human journey. These echoes are reflections of calls, calling a man to be a man enough. Calls calling a man to speak out during difficult times and to prioritize their social, physical and mental health to be able to be heads of their families and provide for them. These rhythmic drumming echoes of a woodpecker creating home for loved ones are echoes calling men to make calculations that make an equation to balance. These are the echoes that call a man to bring in chemistry of love, not only in their own homes but also in the communities in which they live.

SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *Three-time Olympic champion Faith Kipyegon says she will dust herself off and keep her head up after failing in her first bid to become the first woman to run a mile in under four minutes on Thursday.

'It's Not If But When,' Kipyegon Promises Mythical 4-Min Mile Barrier Will Fall



Kenya's Faith Kipyegon (C) reacts at the end of her race after taking part in the "Breaking4" event, in an attempt to become the first woman to run a mile in under four minutes, at Stade Charlety on June 26, 2025 in Paris. Triple Olympic champion Faith Kipyegon of Kenya fell well short in her bid to become the first woman to run a sub-four minute mile on June 26. Aided by wavelength technology and 13 pacers, 11 male and two women, Kipyegon clocked 4min 06.42sec over 1.6km in perfect conditions. (Photo by EMMA DA SILVA / AFP).

Three-time Olympic champion Faith Kipyegon says she will dust herself off and keep her head up after failing in her first bid to become the first woman to run a mile in under four minutes on Thursday.

The four-time world champion said the Nike-sponsored Breaking4 event "was for all the young girls and women out there to show that you have to believe in yourself in everything you do."

Kipyegon clocked in at 4:06.42 at the Stade Charlety in Paris, missing out on the fabled mark by 06.42 seconds but beating

her own world record of 4:07.64 over the distance, which will not be recognised as a new mark due to the event's non-compliance with standard competition rules.

To achieve the feat, Kipyegon would have needed to run each of her four laps an average of about two seconds faster, but despite failing in her attempt, the track legend says "it's not if, it's when" before the barrier is broken.

"Breaking4 was about showing the world that we have to push ourselves," she said on her social media platforms hours after the

race.

"I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all the support I've received. From my whole team, Nike, the pacemakers, the organisers, and fans from all around the world. It's not if, it's when."

The event was inspired by former world marathon record holder Eliud Kipchoge, who shattered the two-hour barrier in the marathon with a similar experiment, known as Ineos 1:59 Challenge, in Vienna in 2019.

The marathon legend was there in France to support, alongside

Team GB star Georgia Hunter Bell, who won bronze at the Paris Olympics in the same race that saw Kipyegon storm to gold at the Stade de France.

It was more than 71 years ago when British runner Roger Bannister became the first man to eclipse four minutes in 3:59.4.

Kipyegon set the women's mile world record nearly two years ago during a Diamond League meet in Monaco.

Citizen Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Brentford have appointed former set-piece coach Keith Andrews as their new manager to replace Thomas Frank, according to reports on Friday.

Brentford Appoint Andrews As Frank's Successor



Ireland manager Stephen Kenny and Keith Andrews before the FIFA World Cup 2022, Qualifiers Group A football match between Republic of Ireland and Portugal on November 11, 2021 at Aviva Stadium in Dublin, Republic of Ireland - Photo Ben Whitley / ProSportsImages / DPPI (Photo by Ben Whitley / ProSportsImages / DPPI via AFP)

Brentford have appointed former set-piece coach Keith Andrews as their new manager to replace Thomas Frank, according to reports on Friday. Frank was appointed as Tottenham boss earlier this month after guiding Brentford to a 10th-place finish in the Premier League last season.

Andrews, a former Irish international, had joined Brentford's backroom staff in 2024 to work as their set-piece expert. The 44-year-old has previously held assistant coaching roles with Sheffield United, MK Dons and Ireland. Frank lead Brentford back to the top-flight in 2021 after an absence

of 74 years and has established the west London club in the Premier League. The club's first league game of the new season is at Nottingham Forest on August 17.

AFP

SPORTS NEWS



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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



The Mt Kenya Times



An Angel Sent By God



By: Anila Bukhari

@themtkenyetimes

Worth Noting:

- Dr. Shirley's books serve as a beacon of hope, encouraging others to embrace their potential and contribute to positive change in their communities. As a public and motivational speaker, Dr. Shirley captivates audiences with her compelling stories and the transformative message of resilience. She has traveled extensively, sharing her journey and inspiring women around the globe.
- Her speaking engagements empower individuals to become catalysts for change, reinforcing her belief that everyone has the potential to make a difference. Through her powerful narratives, she emphasizes that actions, no matter how small, can lead to significant impact. Dr. Shirley is also committed to coaching and mentoring women from diverse backgrounds, guiding them toward discovering their strengths and capabilities.

Dr. Onika L. Shirley is a dynamic advocate for children and women, renowned for her commitment to fostering, education, and humanitarian work. With over 18 years of experience in the manufacturing sector, Onika has seamlessly blended her professional endeavors with her passion for social change.

As a therapeutic foster parent since 2008, Dr. Shirley has opened her heart and home to vulnerable children, providing them with the stability and support they desperately need. In her quest to create meaningful change, Dr. Shirley established the "Action Speaks Volumes" brand, a testament to her belief that tangible actions speak louder than words.

Through this initiative, she highlights the importance of advocacy, empowerment, and community engagement in driving social progress. Her work emphasizes that true change comes from taking action and inspiring others to do the same. As a prolific author, Dr. Shirley has published several works that reflect her insights and experiences, conveying her unwavering dedication to promoting education and empowerment, particularly for women and children.

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Her mentorship programs focus on practical skills, self-advocacy, and fostering supportive networks. She believes that when women unite and uplift one another, they can over-

come barriers and ignite change within their experiences.

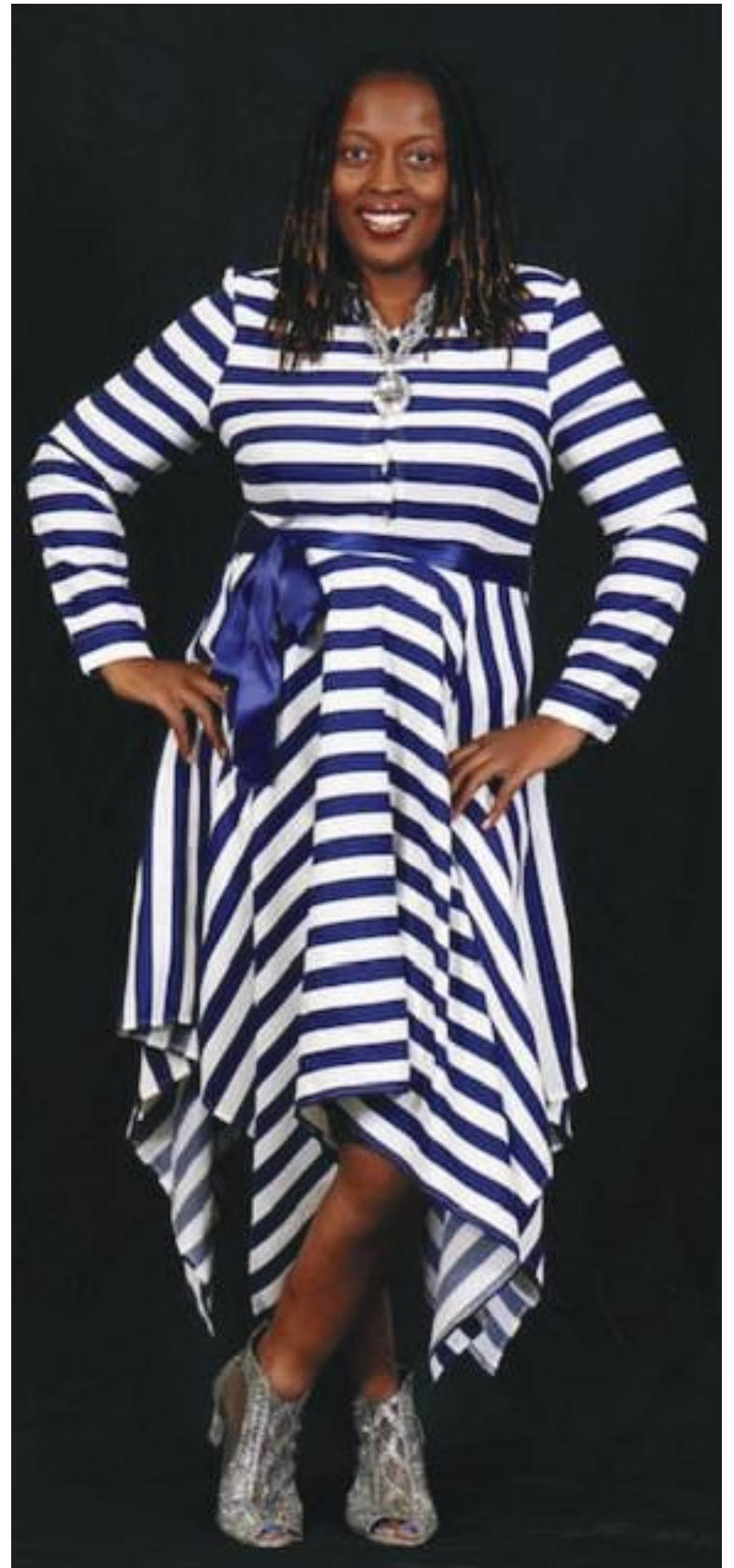
In response to the glaring need for social support, Dr. Shirley founded a children's home and has successfully managed orphanages and feeding centers in Pakistan and India. These initiatives provide food, shelter, and education to underprivileged children, giving them the necessary resources to build brighter futures.

Dr. Onika Shirley's unwavering commitment to humanitarian work has earned her recognition as a leading voice in the realms of children's and women's rights. Her extensive experiences, both domestically and internationally, have positively impacted countless lives. Dr. Shirley is frequently invited to participate in panel discussions, workshops, and conferences where she shares her wisdom, inspiring action and collaboration among stakeholders in the fields of education and social justice.

Throughout her journey, Dr. Shirley has faced challenges that have only fueled her resolve. She understands the importance of resilience and determination, qualities that she actively instills in those she mentors. Her personal experiences have shaped her understanding of leadership and advocacy, driving her belief that setbacks often serve as invaluable lessons and opportunities for growth.

With a vision that extends beyond her immediate efforts, Dr. Onika L. Shirley aims to inspire a global movement focused on education, health, and well-being for all children, as well as a robust support system for women. Through her ongoing efforts, she seeks to turn this vision into reality—one action at a time.

In her multifaceted roles as a foster parent, author, public speaker, and advocate, Dr. Onika L. Shirley exemplifies the spirit of compassion and leadership. Her dedication to fostering hope, resilience, and empowerment continues to inspire countless individuals around the globe. Dr. Shirley remains a beacon of inspiration, reminding us all that our actions can create ripples of change in the world.



Dr. Onika L. Shirley .