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NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE, 10TH ANNIVERSARY ROADSHOW

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News >> DP Kindiki Calls For Respect For IEBC, Courts

P. 8. Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has called for respect for the freshly reconstituted Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, saying the electoral body should be allowed to discharge its duties without frustrations and false branding.



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P. 12. Edward Mwangi, a farmer from Kangema Constituency in Murang'a County, is quietly leading a green energy revolution—one bucket of cow dung at a time.

IEBC Condemns Claims Of Election Rigging

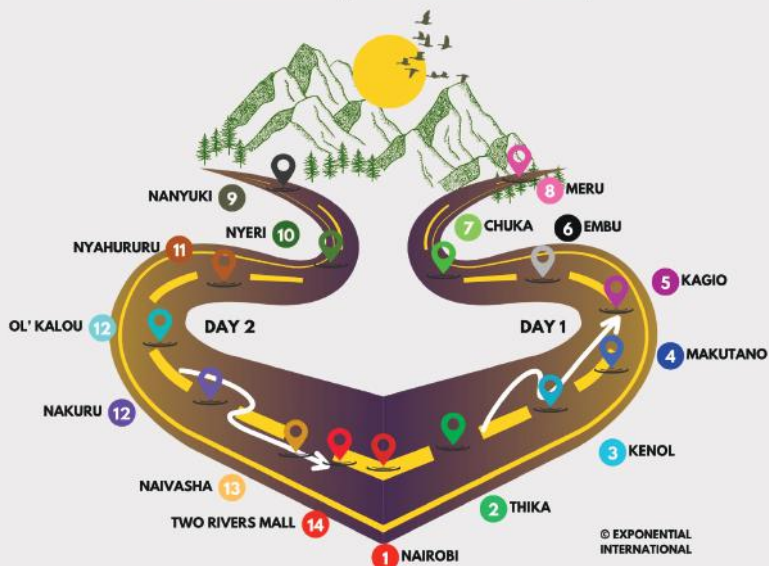
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IEBC Chairman Edung Etheke

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NAIROBI - MT KENYA CIRCUIT ROADSHOW ROADMAP (17-18 SEPT 2025)



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NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE, 10TH ANNIVERSARY ROADSHOW

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DP Kithure Kindiki Weekend's Economic Empowerment Programme In Four Constituencies

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki over the weekend visited four Constituencies where, alongside hosts leaders and various guests, he donated various machines, equipment and tools worth millions of shillings to dozens of groups. He covered Kisii East Constituency in Kisii County, Emurua Diki-ri in Narok as well as Ruiru and Kiambaa in Kiambu County. Apart from Ruiru Constituency where goons are said to have made away with some of the goodies, the rest, just like in dozens of other constituencies that the DP has visited in various parts of the country, it was all smooth without any ugly incident.



Editor's Desk

The Mt Kenya Times is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by **Exponential International Limited**, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



President William Ruto chats with Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge (in suit) during the launching of the 9th edition of the Kaptagat Integrated Conservation Programme, Simotwo, Elgeyo Marakwet County on Saturday. The President noted that the country was on course to planting 15 billion trees by 2032 in the initiative that is projected to protect the environment and support livelihoods. The ongoing 10-year Kaptagat Restoration and Livelihoods Programme; built on the “One Km - One Acre - One Cow” model has already restored 2,765 hectares and distributed 300,000 avocado seedlings. The event was attended by several senior government officials led by Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen (interior) and his Environment counterpart Deborah Barasa.



The Kenya Sugar Board CEO Jude Chesire has urged farmers to support the planned three-month temporary closure of sugar factories, assuring them of significant financial gains. Chesire noted that allowing sugarcane to fully mature during the break could increase yields by up to four tonnes per acre and raise sucrose content, translating to an income boost of more than Ksh 72,000 per acre. He further added that Kenya enjoys protection against sugar imports though the COMESA safeguards that were negotiated and extended to November 2025. Chesire emphasized that millers will also benefit from the move, as they will need less raw cane to produce a tonne of sugar, thanks to the higher sucrose content.



A team of detectives from the operation support unit yesterday arrested Tim Orai Shikalo, a key suspect who has long been on the police radar for his role in a sophisticated gold scam that defrauded a foreign investor of KSh38 million. His arrest marks a significant breakthrough in the ongoing investigation, following the earlier apprehension of Steve Okoth Odek alias David Bett on 7th December 2024, who was arraigned and charged in connection with the same fraudulent scheme. The scam involved fake gold purchase contracts totaling over 1,080 kilograms, with false promises of secure delivery, guaranteed collateral, and fraudulent legal facilitation. Investigations have since revealed that the purported gold was nothing more than a mixture of copper, zinc, and tin, with no trace of any precious metals.



Cabinet Secretary for Cooperatives, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Wycliffe Oparanya has expressed the government’s commitment to introducing coffee farming in more regions across the country to revive Kenya’s coffee sector, pledging billions in funding and reforms. He noted that the government was focusing on not only reviving but also introducing it in new counties that have been declared favourable to grow coffee. The CS spoke at Kinamba Trading Centre in Laikipia County during a sensitization meeting on the revival of coffee production, where he was accompanied by the Laikipia Governor Joshua Irungu, the New Kenya Planters Cooperative Union Managing Director Timothy Mirugi and a host of other leaders. Oparanya noted that this is a three-year programme meant to revive the once-thriving subsector, noting that when the country’s coffee production went down, Kenya was being overtaken by countries such as Ethiopia, Uganda, Côte d’Ivoire and Tanzania. Oparanya noted that with the emerging technologies, there is room to increase production and farmers were poised to reap big, especially in new areas introducing the crop.



KTDA region 6 Factories won 14 trophies in the Southern Nyanza ASK Kisii Show. The factories attained 1st position in the following categories; Best local stand-in Strategies of International Trade and Export, Best Local Manufacturers’ stand - consumables, Best Micro-Financial Institution stand, Best display and presentation on Insurance Services stand, Best stand exhibiting Agricultural and Earth Moving Equipment, Best display in Data and Mobile Services and Best Agro-processing stand. Further, they attained 2nd position in the categories; Best Large Trade stand (commercial and industrial), Most Striking Display (demonstration of locally manufactured products), Best Cooperative Movement and/or Sacco stand, Best Organization/Association that supports/promotes Community Projects or services, Best stand embracing Information Technology and Communication Systems, and Best stand demonstrating the application of Environmental Quality Standards. Moreso, the Zone 10 and 11 factories attained 3rd position in the category; Best stand that interprets current Show Theme-Agricultural based. The Southern Nyanza ASK Kisii Show ran from Thursday last week to yesterday.



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- LET'S MAKE NAIROBI WORK -

Catholic Diocese Of Murang'a Inaugurates Yearly Scholarship Kitty As It Marks Education Day 2025

By: Florence Kinyua
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The event brought together thousands of learners, educators and school representatives from Kirinyaga and Murang'a counties to celebrate the holistic, academic and extracurricular achievements made over the past year.
- Speaking during the event, the apostolic nuncio called on all the education stakeholders to strive to offer holistic education and formation and give every child a chance to get education.

The Catholic diocese of Murang'a has inaugurated the CDM education office scholarship fund to support academically gifted but financially disadvantaged learners in the diocese.

The fund was inaugurated with a seed amount of KSh2.3 million.

The diocese marked its Education Day 2025 at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Cathedral grounds in a colorful event that was presided over by Bishop James Maria Wainaina and graced by the Apostolic Nuncio to Kenya, the Most Rev. Hubertus Matheus Van Megan.

The event brought together thousands of learners, educators and school representatives from Kirinyaga and Murang'a counties to celebrate the holistic, academic and extracurricular achievements made over the past year.

Speaking during the event, the apostolic nuncio called on all the education stakeholders to strive to offer holistic education and formation and give every child a chance to get education.

"Rich or poor, everyone should be welcome in our schools to gain both intellectual and physical values and as the Catholic Church, we will support our institutions as they strive to offer competence-based education," he said.

The Nuncio called on educators to teach the truth just like Jesus taught in the scriptures.

"Let us teach them the truth and bring up men and women of great value and contribution to the world through education, arts, music, theater or even dancing, as we all know one may not be a good professor but may be an exceptional plumber or artist," he added.

On his part, Bishop Wainaina noted that in order to ensure that all learners



Apostolic Nuncio to Kenya, the Most Rev. Hubertus Matheus Van Megan with Murang'a Catholic Diocese Bishop James Maria Wainaina and stakeholders during the launch of the scholarship kitty last week.

get a chance to pursue education, the diocese had decided to open a scholarship kitty that will be funded by the education walks that take place annually.

"We want to give back the benefits from the annual walk to the society by supporting the needy participants through education, and we will do so every year starting today with a kitty of Sh2.3 million," he said.

He urged the young people to seek to improve the quality of their life as that was the very essence of getting an education.

"You are the hope of our future; seek to improve your life as well; do not just wait to receive from your teachers," he said.

The diocesan education secretary, Rev Fr Stephen Kara, observed that the scholarship kitty that is drawn from the annual charity walks will en-

able the bright but needy students to remain in school.

"We want our schools to become beacons of hope for our young people because they are the joy and the hope of the church and the society and that is why we emphasize on quality education for all," he noted.

The TSC Director of the central region, Elijah Omwega, lauded the teachers from the region for the commendable work they are doing of shaping the future of the learners.

He also called on them to ensure they develop mentorship programs that will take care of learner's self-esteem without puncturing their confidence.

"Remember that these learners are abled differently; there is a musician and an entrepreneur in that class, so let us avoid abuse or humiliation but encourage them so as to build a confident generation."

Kirinyaga County Director of Education Lydia Mutegi, also present, urged all the education stakeholders to work together so as to build a great future and a habitable society.

She lauded the leadership of the diocese for investing heavily in education and subsequently playing a role in shaping the lives of the learners.

The education day 2025 celebration was held under the theme ;Learning institutions: centers of hope, faith and formation " a hope that does not disappoint" A theme inspired by the Jubilee year of hope.

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DP Kindiki Calls For Respect For IEBC, Courts

By: DPCS
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The Deputy President spoke on Saturday at Gokeharaka in Kuria East, Migori County during Economic Empowerment for women and small-scale traders.
- He said the ruling administration is focused on delivering its national development agenda and will not be seeking favours from IEBC or anyone because wananchi fully support them.
- “Those attacking IEBC are wasting their time, it is an arbiter in our elections and if you dispute their decision, you go to court. For us we are focused on building Kenya and account for our time in office when the time comes,” DP added.

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has called for respect for the freshly reconstituted Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, saying the electoral body should be allowed to discharge its duties without frustrations and false branding.

Prof. Kindiki said the independence of the election’s agency is guarded by the Constitution and should be appreciated by all parties.

“This a national electoral body. It is independent and has been empowered by the constitution to work without being influenced by anyone,” he stated.

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“Those attacking IEBC are wasting their time, it is an arbiter in our elections and if you dispute their decision, you go to court. For us we are focused on building Kenya and account for our time in office when the time comes,” DP added.

“We do not have any problem with the IEBC. They should work independently. We do not want to be favoured because we are focused and working hard serving the people and they will vote us back,” DP assured.

Those who are already poking holes in the impartiality of the commission, the DP declared, have sensed defeat and ought not to

They have started attacking the referee because they have sensed defeat. Anyone doing that is a weak player not ready for tough competition. Stop attacking independent institutions. Respect the courts, IEBC and all of our independent and constitutional institutions,” he noted.

The second-in-command asked those interested in leading the country to wait for the coming 2027 elections warning against any attempts to destabilize the government in order to use unconstitutional means to grab power.

“There is no short cut to power. Those talking of short cuts are looking to destabilize the nation and we will not allow that. We are in government constitutionally. They should wait for the coming elections,” noted DP.

The DP said the next polls will be about national development against pursuit for personal aggrandizement and tribal politics.

He outlined new modern markets



DP Kithure Kindiki addressing the meeting on Saturday.

ongoing in Kuria and other areas in Migori County aimed at improving the business environment for mama mboga and micro and small scale businesspeople.

In Kuria, new markets in Mabera, Isebania, Ntimaru, Gokeharaka and Gekonga will be completed before the end of the year.

Further, Sh1.6 billion has been allocated for the connection of 17000 new households in Migori County with Kuria East receiving Sh311 million.

The government has also allocated

Sh330m for tarmacking of Taranganya-Ntimaru-Nyamtiro-Loliondo Road which links Kenya to Tanzania.

Affordable housing projects are also at an advanced stage in the county.

“We are saying two terms of absolute development. Not just mere talk. We have a comprehensive program for job creation, electricity connection, affordable housing and registering all Kenyans under SHA. We have not sought excuses like our opponents who are ideless,” he assured.

Additionally, he asked Kenyans not to be lied into not registering for SHA

saying it is working and aims to cover costs of treatment for all in spite of their economic status in society.

“It is every Kenyan’s right to have access to health coverage. We had Linda Mama lakini sasa ni Linda Jamii-Linda baba, linda mama, linda mtoto

Half of Kenyans have registered. We want all Kenyans to register. We don’t want them to be left at the whims of witchdoctors and other undesirable options,” DP indicated.



Leaders join DP Kithure Kindiki for a jig.

IEBC Condemns Claims Of Election Rigging Terming Them “Unacceptable And Reckless”

By: Correspondent

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) has pledged to engage stakeholders in discussions aimed at restoring public confidence in Kenya’s electoral processes, even as it denounced premature campaigns and utterances alleging election malpractices.

In a press statement issued yesterday, the Commission condemned what it termed as “unacceptable and reckless” claims of election rigging, warning that such remarks erode democratic values and public trust. IEBC urged all Kenyans to disregard such statements and called on political leaders to exercise restraint.

“The Commission urges all stakeholders, particularly those in the political arena, to refrain from acts including speeches likely to erode trust and confidence in our electoral processes, and instead work with us to reinforce and strengthen that trust and confidence,” the statement read. IEBC clarified that no elections have

been declared or gazetted, and as such, the country is not in a campaign period.

It cited a 2022 Supreme Court ruling in petition E026, which restricts the jurisdiction of the Electoral Code of Conduct Enforcement Committee to the official election period.

The newly reconstituted electoral body issued the statement two days after Edung Ethekeon was sworn in as the new Chairperson of the Commission. The Commission subsequently elected Fahima Abdallah as Vice Chairperson.

Others are Ann Njeri Nderitu, Moses Alutalala Mukhwana, Mary Karen Sorobit, Hassan Noor Hassan and Francis Odhiambo Aduol.

National security

During the inauguration ceremony held at the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Martha Koome warned of the consequences of disputed elections, urging the new commissioners to uphold the law and safeguard the country’s democratic future.

“Elections are matters of national security. We must learn from our history and avoid the cycles of violence



IEBC Chairman Edung Ethekeon

and instability that have followed disputed polls,” Koome said, emphasizing the need for credibility and transparency in all IEBC operations.

With its full composition now in place, the Commission says it will begin consultations with political parties and leaders to identify practical ways of rebuilding trust in Kenya’s electoral system.

IEBC further reaffirmed its commitment to impartiality and adherence to constitutional and legal provisions, assuring the public of its resolve to conduct free, fair, and credible elections.

“The Commission remains steadfast in its commitment to strengthening Kenya’s democracy,” it stated.

The press statement was issued following a public outcry by a section of leaders who condemned a claim by Wajir County Women Rep. Fatuma Jemow who claimed that in her County, they will steal votes for President Ruto to ensure he got the second term.

MP Who Called Ruto ‘Mad’ Summoned By DCI Over Incitement

By: Correspondent

The Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) has summoned Naivasha lawmaker Jayne Kihara over alleged remarks deemed to undermine the authority of an unnamed public officer.

In a notice signed by Assistant Inspector General George Lenny Kisaka, the agency directed Kihara to appear at DCI headquarters along Kiambu Road in Nairobi today at 10.30 am.

The summons, served on Friday, follow investigations into the alleged dissemination of “inciteful or disruptive content,” believed to contravene Section 132 of the Penal Code, which criminalizes undermining the authority of a public officer.

“I hereby compel you, Hon. Jayne Njeri Wanjiku Kihara, MP for Naiva-

sha Constituency... to appear before me... without fail,” the notice shared by the MP yesterday reads in part.

“Failure to comply with the requisition constitutes an offence liable to prosecution.”

Kihara, a vocal ally of former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, has been an outspoken critic of President William Ruto’s administration.

She recently described the President as “mad” for instructing police officers to immobilise violent protesters by shooting the leg.

Reacting to the summons, Kihara termed the move political persecution aimed at silencing critics of the government.

“The days of intimidating leaders using the criminal justice system are long gone. Summoning me to DCI headquarters tomorrow will not change Kenyans’ resolve, because this is not about Jayne Kihara but about our country, Kenya,” she posted on Facebook.



Naivasha lawmaker Jayne Kihara

Her comments come amid heightened political tensions following the

recent Saba Saba Day protests, which occurred weeks after the June 25 anniversary of the Gen Z-led anti-tax demonstrations of 2024.

Her comments come amid heightened political tensions following the

Magistrate Calls For Urgent Action As GBV Cases Increase In Machakos County

By: Anne Kangero
 @themtkenyatimes

Gender-Based Violence (GBV), being one of the worst violations of human rights, has robbed respect and a sense of safety from elderly women and teens in Mwala Machakos.

It was for this reason that Wamunyu Senior Resident Magistrate Eugene Pascal called for urgent action from leaders and the authorities.

SM Pascal was speaking in Wamunyu Mwala Sub-County during a stakeholder forum that brought together court users, human rights advocates, survivors and the Women Representative, where he disclosed that there was an increase of rape cases for elderly women over 70 years and teenagers in Mwala.

He pointed out that they have observed that when victims appeared in court, they seemed visibly shaken, distressed, terrified, and traumatized and unable to divulge the details of the abuse, while blaming societal and community pressures that force victims to withdraw the cases and resort to kangaroo courts.

“The number of elderly women getting raped is on the rise and the challenge is community pressure to withdraw the case by shaming and blaming the victim, causing unimaginable emotional damage,” added Pascal.

The Magistrate noted they have also discovered a case of rapists who have defilement cases in different towns, as they specifically target People with disability (PWDs) and teenagers who are not schooling and were always within the villages as easy targets.

Pascal called for statutory amendments at the investigation stage for police to be allowed to take video evidence of victims speaking as they report the assault at the police station. This, he says, would be used in court or hospitals in case the victim is unable to repeat the gruesome details of the assault, which deepens the trauma.

The Magistrate highlighted the challenge of family break-up where the mother relocates with the victim to a remote town and cuts-off communications, making it difficult for justice to be achieved and divulged that there were currently 15 cases of relocated minors in Wamunyu.

He also advocated for more counsel-

ors and psychologists in each hospital to deal with the increasing GBV cases. Edward Nyabala, the Children’s Officer in Mwala Sub-County, said the cases of defilement have to be dealt with by encouraging the teens to speak out without fear or shame.

He added that they were also dealing with the challenge of teenage pregnancy that is affecting the teens in Mwala, where urgent intervention is needed.

Betty Kasiva, a survivor from Matuu in Mwala, noted that she experienced GBV after her husband shot her in the face and after a quick medical intervention, she had to run back to her parents’ house for fear of more violence from her husband. She encouraged women to speak up on GBV.

Another survivor, Jackline Mwendu from Mwala, whose hand was chopped off by her husband, said she had experienced extreme violence in her marriage.

She said that following increased GBV and rape cases in Machakos, she came forward to encourage women to speak up and walk out from abusive marriages.

“I am here to encourage women to speak up and not to feel threatened by



Some of those who attended the Mwala forum. Photo/Courtesy.

their spouses or the community,” said Mwendu.

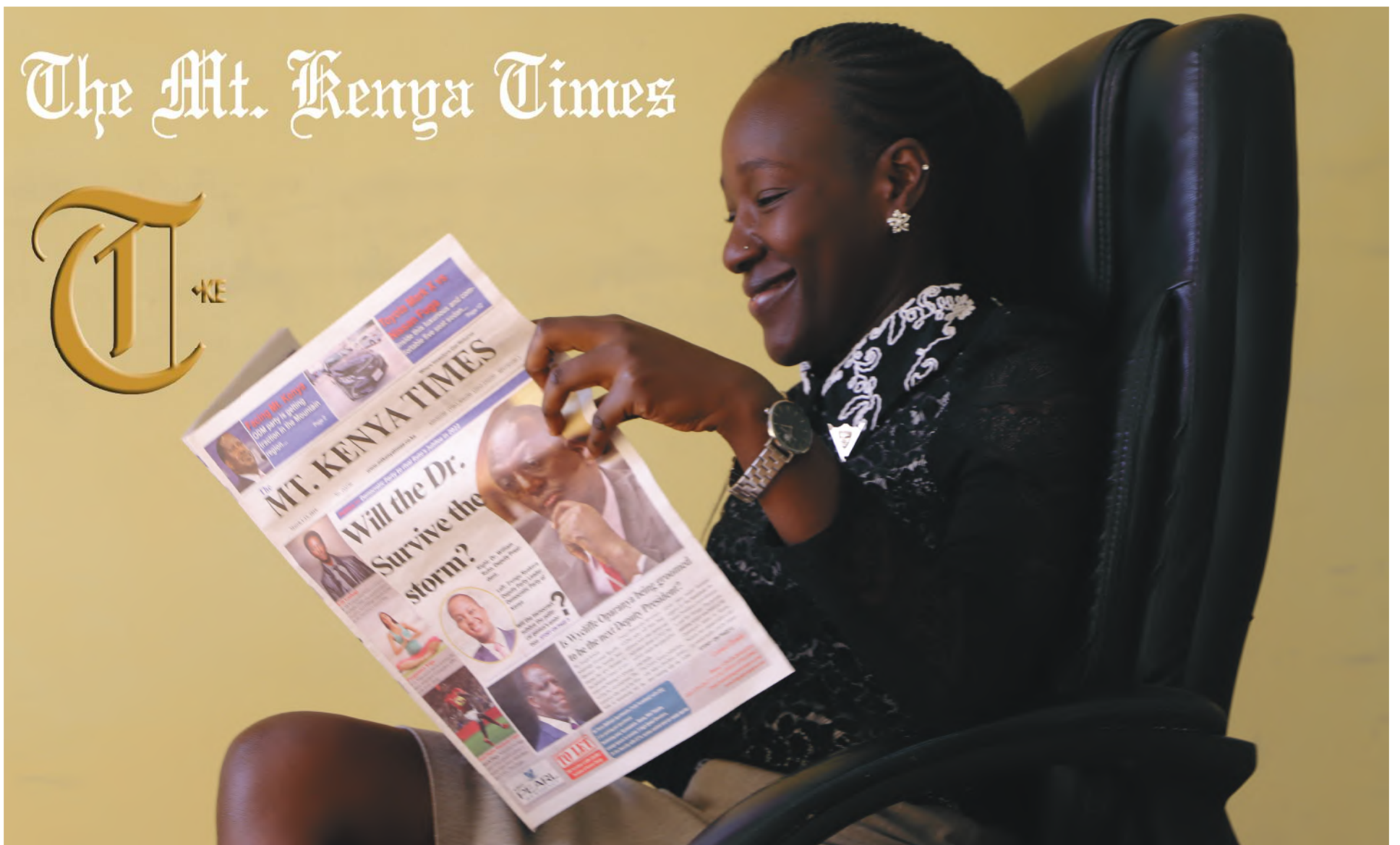
Also present was Machakos Women Representative Kamene Kasimbi, who reminded the participants of a recent case where a form three girl was raped by two men just outside her school gate and no arrests have been made.

She blamed the police for lack of urgency for rape cases, thus delaying the justice process.

“The girl was raped just as she was getting to school. She was taken to hospital but there was no follow-up.

The police who received the report have done nothing about it and that says a lot about the gap in the justice system,” decried Kasimbi

She condemned the increasing number of school dropouts and teenage pregnancies and called for collaboration from different organizations and the government in empowering women to fight against GBV and defilement cases.



Senator Gataya's Crusade For Single Mothers, The Elderly And People Living With Disabilities

By: Alex Njeru
@themtkenyatimes

There exists a silent struggle, one fought daily by single mothers, the elderly, and people living with disabilities (PLWDs) to meet even their basic needs.

These are the unsung heroes of society, often navigating life's toughest challenges with little recognition or support. Their battles, especially in raising and educating children, are marked by financial hardship, social stigma, and systemic neglect. But hope is stirring on the horizon, led by one of their own champions Tharaka Nithi Senator Mwenda Gataya.

Senator Gataya, who has declared his interest in contesting the Tharaka MP seat in the 2027 General Elections, has emerged as a firm and vocal advocate for the most vulnerable members of society. His work, particularly with single mothers, has become a beacon of progressive leadership.

Yesterday, the Senator hosted the Iriani Single Mothers Group in Mukothima ward in a heartfelt and strategic engagement aimed at deepening the ongoing partnership between his office and the community. Far from a mere political gesture, the meeting was a continuation of a long-standing commitment to empower those at the margins of economic and social power.

"These women are the heartbeat of our community," Mr. Gataya said during the gathering. "Their strength, their stories, and their sacrifices must inform our policies. We cannot talk about development while the backbone of our families is left behind."

The stories shared by members of the Iriani group were as inspiring as they were heart-wrenching. Many have had to juggle multiple jobs to keep their children in school, often at the expense of their own health and well-being.

For PWDs, the challenges of multiple access to employment is scarce, infrastructure is unaccommodating, and social inclusion remains a work in progress. The elderly, too, often live in solitude, left to fend for themselves without adequate care or income support.

Education remains one of the thorniest issues. Without consistent income or access to bursaries, many single mothers and families with disabilities are unable to keep their children in school, perpetuating the cycle of poverty. The weight of these responsibilities often falls on women, who are forced to make impossible choices between feeding their children and paying school fees.

This is where Mr. Gataya's initiatives have made a measurable impact. His office has pushed for access to government empowerment programs, lobbied for increased funding toward vocational training, and championed the need for mental health services tailored to single-parent and disability-affected households.

In his own words, Mr. Gataya affirmed, "Economic resilience and social dignity are not gifts, they are rights. We must



Senator Mwenda Gataya interacting with some of the group members.

equip our mothers with the tools to raise educated, confident children. We must not allow disability or age to silence the dreams of those who built this county."

Under his leadership, several women-led microenterprises have received seed funding, and PWD groups have begun to benefit from skill-based training designed to promote independence and self-sustenance. His support has extended to elderly care programs, with plans to lobby for improved healthcare services and social protection measures.

The alliance with the Iriani women is more than a political strategy; it is a movement grounded in compassion, trust, and mutual respect. "We are not just receiving handouts," said Mary Muthoni, a single mother of three and group member. "We are being equipped to stand on our own, and that's the most empowering thing anyone can give us."

As the road to 2027 draws near, Mr. Gataya's track record continues to distinguish him as a leader rooted in service, not self-interest. In a country

yearning for equitable leadership, his inclusive approach to community development offers a powerful template where no mother, no elderly person, and no individual living with disability is left behind.

Tharaka may be rural, but its heart beats with stories of strength—and with leaders like Gataya walking beside its people, the future looks promising.



Some of Iriani Single Mothers Group members. Photos/Alex Njeru.

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Murang'a Farmer Cuts Energy Bills And Emissions With Home-Built Digester

By: KNA
@themkenyetimes



Edward Mwangi, a farmer from Kangema Constituency in Murang'a County, is quietly leading a green energy revolution—one bucket of cow dung at a time.

Frustrated by rising energy costs and the health risks of smoke from open-fire cooking, Mwangi installed a 12-cubic-metre biogas digester two years ago.

“At the time, the price of LPG gas, charcoal and firewood had skyrocketed and as much as I needed to cut costs on that due to hard economic times, I also needed to reduce the respiratory problems caused by smoke emissions from the kitchen,” he says. “Already I had four dairy cows and

therefore knew I had a reliable source of energy to fuel the biogas system,” he noted.

Using cow dung from his four dairy cows, the system now provides clean, smokeless methane gas for cooking, heating water, and soon, powering farm equipment.

“For every three buckets of cow dung, I mix in four of water. That’s more than enough for our daily kitch-

en needs,” says Mwangi.

The shift has slashed the family’s energy expenses—from over Sh6,500 per month on LPG, firewood, and electricity to just Sh500.

It has also drastically improved indoor air quality, eliminating the smoke-related respiratory issues his wife, Gladys Wanja, once suffered.

Beyond fuel savings, the biogas digester produces a nutrient-rich slurry

used as organic fertiliser and chicken feed, boosting crop yields and egg production.

Lush fodder growing on his three-acre farm stands as a testament to the system’s impact.

Though the Sh150,000 investment was significant, Mwangi says the long-term benefits far outweigh the cost.

He now offers training to fellow

farmers, advocating for biogas as a clean, sustainable alternative to firewood and charcoal.

“Biogas has helped us save money, improve our health, and protect the environment,” he said, adding, “I urge more households to embrace this technology and light up rural kitchens the clean way.”

KDF To Supervise Completion Of Kakamega Level VI Hospital

By: Jedidah Mumia and James Ingusu
@themkenyetimes

The Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) will, from this week, camp in Kakamega to supervise the construction of a Level 6 hospital and to complete it within a period of six months.

Kakamega Governor Fernandes Barasa welcomed the National Government’s intervention and collaboration with the County government to complete the Hospital, whose construction stalled three years ago.

Governor Barasa said the County government has allocated Sh300 million to top up the Sh500 million that the National government has committed to complete the facility.

The 750-bed Hospital is expected to provide jobs to 5,000 people, promote medical tourism and provide learning and practical exposure to medical students.

He spoke when he received the Principal Secretary for Medical Services, Ouma Oluga, and his Defence Counterpart, Dr Patrick Mariru, who were on an inspection tour of the facility.

Dr Mariru assured the Governor and the people of Kakamega that KDF will supervise as Kakamega residents take part in the construction works.

“KDF will come to supervise work

at the facility, but those who will provide labour are people from Kakamega. In the next six months, some people will get their daily bread from the construction of the facility,” the PS noted.

Dr Mariru said that although people from Kakamega will greatly benefit from the hospital, it remains an important facility for the whole country.

“I want to confirm the hospital will be done on time, in the required standard and within the set budgets; there will be no jokes around here,” the PS added.

The Principal Secretary (PS) State Department for Medical Services, Ouma Oluga, said that once complete, the government will equip the facility, which will be commissioned by President William Ruto, to start offering health services to the people.

He said equipping the hospital will be done through a programme known as the National Equipment Support programme, under which equipment is provided at no upfront cost to the facility but is paid for by the government each time a patient uses it through a health equipment financing model known as ‘V for Service’

Oluga said that since it is the government that pays for the equipment every time it is used, the role of the patient is to register with the Social Health Authority (SHA) and start



Kakamega County Governor Fernandes Barasa with Principal Secretaries Patrick Mariru (Defence) and Ouma Oluga (Medical Services) alongside other government officials when they toured Kakamega Level VI hospital.

making their contributions.

The PS noted that the government is firm on ensuring that every Kenyan is able to access medical services in any hospital regardless of its level.

“Every single citizen has the right to seek medication in any hospital without being worried about how much money he/she has and that is possible if all of us will register in the social health authority fund,” the PS added.

He noted that the government has set aside Sh21 billion in SHA to cover citizens across the country to access

medication without straining their pockets.

Out of the amount, Sh13 billion will be sent to dispensaries and Level Four hospitals to cover primary healthcare.

The remaining Sh8 billion has been set aside to cover costs of chronic illnesses such as treatment of cancer, surgeries and dialysis.

“Here in Kakamega we are doing well; we are about 48 per cent but there are 52 per cent who are yet to

register with SHA, so if you have not registered with SHA, what are you waiting for? The importance of this fund is to ensure that there is no one who is left behind,” he noted.

The PS also assured residents that they are allowed to make their contributions to SHA through instalments and are not limited to contributing on a yearly basis.

Kang'ata Waives Bills For Injured Saba Saba Protests Victims

By: Purity Mugo and Grace Njumwa

@themtkenyatimes

Murang'a Governor, Irungu Kang'ata, has announced that the county government will waive hospital bills for all casualties of Sabasaba protests receiving treatment in public facilities, ensuring that no one is burdened further following the tragic event.

Kang'ata, who was speaking at Murang'a County Referral Hospital (MCRH), where he visited 22-year-old Kelvin Mwaniki, who is admitted in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), said that the Hospital Bills for patients admitted in county government health facilities with injuries from the protests will be fully waived.

"The county is going to waive all the bills accrued by anyone in hospital as a result of Sabasaba demonstrations," he said.

Kang'ata castigated the police for using excessive force when dealing with protestors, noting that in the past, demonstrations in Murang'a

have been largely peaceful.

"We have never had a lethal confrontation and we have celebrated peaceful demonstrations across Murang'a, which is provided for under the Constitution," he said.

"However, during the Sabasaba demonstrations, things took a negative trajectory because we recorded four fatalities across the County," he added.

He revealed that other than the one person admitted at the MCRH, there are other persons at Kenyatta National Hospital, Githumu AIC Hospital and Aberdare Modern Hospital. Henry Mbote, brother to Kelvin Mwaniki, said his brother, who is a boda boda rider, was shot twice in the abdomen during the protests.

He condemned what he termed as excessive use of force and called upon the police to serve Kenyans by protecting lives and property.

Peter Musyoki, a resident of Kangari, whose brother Julius Muli succumbed to injuries sustained during the Sabasaba protests, called for justice and an end to the use of brutal force during protests.

30-year-old Muli was shot at Kan-



Governor Irungu Kang'ata at Murang'a referral hospital.

gari and he later passed on while receiving treatment at MCRH.

The Governor later visited Kangari Health Centre and Githumu Hospitals, where he met with the injured who are still hospitalised, offering words of encouragement and assurance of the county government's support.

Governor Kang'ata celebrated the County Government Emergency Response team, which rushed to help in the time of crisis.

"The Sabasaba chaos was quite intense at Kangari; were it not for that fast evacuation by the medical staff, more people would have died," he observed.

Meanwhile, the Governor also toured a vandalised supermarket, where shelves were overturned, goods looted and the premises left in disarray.

He urged local residents to embrace dialogue over violence and focus on building a united and progressive County.

Healthcare Facilities And Cardiologists Urged To Embrace Technology For Improved Services

By: Sadik Hassan

@themtkenyatimes

Cardiologists are being encouraged to adopt emerging technologies to enhance efficiency and extend healthcare services to remote and underserved areas, as it emerges that cardiovascular disease accounts for 10 per cent of deaths in the country.

Dr Bernard Samia, President of the Kenya Cardiac Society (KCS), highlighted that the medical profession has struggled with adopting digital solutions, partly because many healthcare workers are accustomed to traditional approaches.

"They need to inculcate these new technologies. The incorporation of these technologies into the existing healthcare system can now be quite robust, where certain hospitals already have a mechanism of how to care for patients," Dr Samia said, on the sidelines of the KCS 42nd Annual

Scientific Congress in Mombasa last week.

"When you add on these new systems that are not necessarily integrated, it's like double work for the healthcare provider," he added.

The society has conducted multiple community surveys to track cardiovascular disease trends and identify optimal management strategies.

The data help pinpoint gaps in diagnostic facilities, medication access, surgeries, and cardiac rehabilitation. The findings are then presented to policymakers.

"It helps in designing treatment algorithms and treatment guidelines that would then detect what kind of diagnostic facilities, clinical staff and support services should be available at every level of our healthcare, depending on the complexity of the disease," Dr Samia explained.

Dr Gladwell Gathecha, Acting Head of Cancer and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), revealed that 10 per cent of the national mortality is attributed to cardiovascular diseases,

the highest burden among NCDs.

"It's for this reason that we have seen it is business as usual. Things have to be done differently," she said, adding that the Ministry of Health has sustained management of the disease at the Primary Health Care level.

The Ministry has also intensified health promotion through the Community Health Promoters (CHPs) and the school curriculum, cessation of smoking and alcohol, maintaining a healthy weight, exercising and eating a healthy diet.

To enable early screening, CHPs have been provided with a sphygmomanometer to check on blood pressure before referring patients with higher readings to health facilities for management.

"We have been able to empower Health Care Workers at Primary Health Care level to be able to manage complicated cases; for example, with hypertension, they can diagnose and they are also able to give the much-needed treatment," stated Dr Gathecha.



President of the Kenya Cardiac Society (KCS) Dr Bernard Samia..

She further revealed that the Ministry is embracing task shifting by capacity building of Clinical Officers to manage cardiovascular.

Through the reforms in the health financing landscape, now cardiovascular patients' medical expenses can be taken care of by the Social Health Authority at a higher reimbursement rate in comparison to NHIF.

"We are doing this so that the patient doesn't have catastrophic expendi-

tures. This is a lifelong disease, and they need to be on medication and constantly follow up. Quite a number of these cardiovascular diseases may end up in surgical care, and there is an improvement in surgical care under SHA."

Every Journey Has Its Own

Beauty, Just Go With The Flow



Water in the stream looks beautiful
 Moves in its way makes it wonderful.
 Blooming flowers seems more
 attractive
 Fallen leaves make the earth skillful.

Ups and downs make a trip enjoy a lot

Rough and glide on roads feel bold.
 Sprout from the seed enjoys it's
 beauty
 Swans in the canal swim happily.

Dawn and sunset make the earth
 beautiful,
 Cloudy and sunny make a day pretty.
 Flying birds through the clouds
 Make the sky proud.

B N Rajesh Kanna

Dear Son



Say no to gangs, say no to guns,
 Say no to danger dressed in fun.
 Those shortcuts lead to hollow ends,
 With no returns, no true friends.

Like weeds that grow in poisoned ground,
 Bad habits choke, they pull you down.
 But dreams, my son, are seeds to sow,
 With time and truth, they bloom and grow.

Dear son, my voice, my name,
 Avoid the thirst for dirty fame.
 Don't trade your future for quick cash,
 It fades like fog, it burns to ash.

Your hands were made for work that builds,
 Your mind – a tool, your heart – your shield.
 Let books be bricks that pave your way,
 And prayers your compass every day.

Dear son, my pride, my seed,
 Listen close, take careful heed.
 Not all that glitters leads to gold,
 Not every hand is warm to hold.

Dear son, my hope, my light,
 Stay away from the streets at night.
 They whisper lies in friendly tones,
 But leave you broken, skin and bones.

The world out there is not a game,
 Fame through crime is fleeting fame.
 They'll cheer today and forget you fast,
 When your name is just a tale of the past.

Dear son, my joy, my flame,
 You're not born to lose or live in shame.
 You're meant for more than fights and fear,
 There's purpose in your steps, my dear.

So walk with wisdom, walk with grace,
 Let honesty light up your face.
 The world may tempt, but choose the right,
 And sleep each night with peace and light.

By Evans Asikoyo – Education Commentator.
 evansasikoyo@gmail.com

Down Memory Lane



Remember a bright day of freshness.
 With smiles within the four walls.
 And dresses multiplied and coloured as
 rainbow.
 Spellbound happiness found in all activities.
 Amidst of all beautiful and handsome faces.
 My eyes wandered for my liking personality.
 And the person imprinted in my mind.
 Dedication and commitment were his dual
 perspective.

Hope and inspiration submerged in his
 character.
 My eyes searched ever nook and corners.
 Never could I find him anywhere.
 With tears inside my mind.
 And heart laden with sorrow.
 Turned back to my home with disappointment.
 But with a convinced thought, you are within
 my mind.
 You are always a beautiful flower in my garden
 heart.
 The deepest sea hold the precious gem.
 In the deeps of my heart, I hold thee a "GEM".

Susi Jean R
 Help Desk Executive
 Thiruvananthapuram
 Kerala

Being A Poet Is A Blessing



Being a poet is a blessing for me
 To pour out hard feelings, and let them out to
 flow
 From the heart spontaneously, it sets us free,
 Makes the burdened heart light, wild, and free.
 It makes contradictions fight, and then subside,
 At least one person is there, to accept us with
 pride.
 Our feelings, thoughts, and emotions, with no
 fuss
 All are considered right, in the poet's sight.
 With words as brushes, we paint on the
 canvas

Others' heavy hearts become weightless, and
 light
 they become pure and bright,
 Only poems can transform one's mind, and
 make it take flight.
 Whether with lies or truth, poetry works
 wonders
 With rich and poor, old and youth, it brings a
 brighter day,
 It's a universal language, that touches every
 soul,
 A blessing to express,
 and make our spirits whole.

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

Well With My Soul



I gaze at my life
 How change changes things
 I can't imagine it is I
 That I am never close to me
 I am far from myself
 What I shall do without me
 The insanity of everything in me is what I
 lack to explain
 The memories of me
 I wonder when things will be well with me
 Or well with myself

In pain I live
 But I cherish the process
 In agony I will weep
 But I will remember the process
 In Loneliness I will live
 And I will always remember my process
 That today it is
 Yet tomorrow it will be
 Well with my soul

I cried, I cry, I will cry
 Tears will never end in my eyes
 Shouts will never end in my mouth
 Today I cry out of agony
 Tomorrow I will cry out of happiness
 Today I shout out of the pain I go
 through
 Tomorrow I will shout being happy for the
 race

Wanjohi P. Mugambi
 The Weeping Onion

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IEBC

We Have Hope In You To Bring Desired Change, Youths Tell New IEBC Team

By: John Kamau
@themtkenyaintimes

Days after the official gazettement of the new Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) team, a group of youth leaders have called on the electoral body to uphold impartiality, transparency, and fairness as the country heads toward the 2027 General Election.

The youths expressed concern over growing public skepticism surrounding the commission's credibility, especially following accusations from a section of political leaders that the appointments were politically skewed.

President William Ruto recently appointed Erastus Edung Etheke as the IEBC Chairperson, alongside six commissioners, following a High Court ruling that nullified earlier appointments made on June 10.

However, the opposition has rejected the new team, citing lack of consultation and violation of constitutional provisions requiring inclusivity in the selection process.

Following this, the youths under the Munyiri Africa Foundation (MAF) urged the newly constituted commission to prioritize neutrality and ensure the electoral process reflects the will of the people.

"We have high hopes that the new team will be impartial and transparent and help bring the leadership change that is being agitated for by the youths and especially the Gen-Z. The position they have assumed is critical for the country and for our social, political and economic stability," said Mary Munyiri, the Foundation's Secretary General.

Speaking during a presser at Glory Outreach Assembly (GOA) Church in Kahawa Wendani, Ruiru constituency yesterday, the youths maintained that the new team has been entrusted with a significant responsibility and would play a key role in shaping the nation's trajectory.

"Now that the Commission has been reconstituted, it's high time that they move with speed to discharge the pending constitutional and administrative tasks and to begin timely preparations for the 2027 General Elections," Ms Munyiri said.

She cited previous election cycles, marked by post-election violence and destruction of property, as compelling reasons to safeguard the integrity of the upcoming polls.

"Our painful history of disputed elections, cycles of violence, and loss of life and property is a stark reminder that elections are not mere political



MAF Founder and the Presiding Bishop of Glory Outreach Assembly (GOA) Church, Bishop David Thagana.

events; they are matters of national security, economic stability, and human rights," she averred.

Similar sentiments were echoed by Joseph Kago who emphasized the urgency of institutional preparedness, stating that the IEBC must move with speed to ensure that all legal and logistical frameworks are in place well ahead of time.

He noted the importance of maintaining the constitutional timelines, adding that Kenya's democracy depends on timely, transparent, and credible elections.

"We want a change of leadership so that we can have individuals who will serve our country's interests and also listen to the young generations and find solutions to all issues they are raising. IEBC will play a pivotal role in ensuring that we get good leaders," Kago said.

Bishop David Thagana, the Founder of MAF, echoed the youth's sentiments, emphasizing the need for objectivity and professionalism in the commission's operations.

The call comes amid a tense political climate, with mounting public demand for reforms, accountability, and inclusion in governance processes.

The Bishop also encouraged youths to register as voters ahead of the next polls saying that it is the only way to arm themselves to bring in the leader-



Munyiri Africa Foundation Secretary General Mary Munyiri speaking during the presser.

ship change they yearn for.

"Enlisting as voters and turning up to cast votes during the election day is the only democratic way to chart the country's leadership trajectory. I call upon all youths and especially

the Gen-Zs to register as voters and be ready to vote in leaders who are aligned with their vision and interests," Bishop Thagana said.

Worth Noting:

Following this, the youths under the Munyiri Africa Foundation (MAF) urged the newly constituted commission to prioritize neutrality and ensure the electoral process reflects the will of the people.

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The Streaming Mirage: How Kenya's Musical Soul Is Being Monetized For Pennies



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themtkenyatimes

Music is the heartbeat of Kenya's cultural identity, pulsing through every corner of society. It serves as both a mirror reflecting our collective experiences and a bridge connecting generations, with genres like Benga, Gengetone, and Afrobeat carrying the stories of our people across digital borders. Yet beneath this rich sound lies a stark economic reality that reveals how the very artists who create this cultural currency are being systematically shortchanged by the digital revolution they helped fuel. While streaming platforms have democratized music distribution and global reach, they have simultaneously created an exploitative ecosystem where Kenyan musicians' intellectual property generates substantial revenue for tech giants while leaving creators with mere digital crumbs.

The brutal mathematics of Kenya's streaming economy tell a story of systematic exploitation disguised as opportunity. Current data from 2023-2024 reveals that Kenyan artists earn approximately \$0.00318 per stream on Spotify, meaning that achieving one million streams a milestone that requires extraordinary marketing and often years of work yields roughly \$3,180 before distributor fees. This figure becomes even more devastating when considering that Kenya's lower subscription rates of \$2.99 monthly, compared to \$9.99 in the United States, further diminish payouts for streams originating domestically. Mdundo, often touted as a pan-African solution, projected record payouts of \$1.2-1.5 million to artists across the continent in 2023-24, with 44% allocated to Kenya's 56,000 active artists. This translates to an average annual earning of less than \$12 per artist, a sum that wouldn't cover a single meal in many Nairobi top restaurants, let alone sustain a creative career.

The intellectual property landscape in Kenya's music industry represents a perfect storm of weak enforcement, inadequate legislation, and artists' limited understanding of their rights. While streaming platforms leverage sophisticated algorithms and data analytics to maximize revenue from musical content, most Kenyan artists remain unaware of how their intellectual property is being monetized across multiple revenue streams including sync licensing, mechanical royalties, and international distribution rights. The country's collective management organizations (CMOs) have been plagued by disputes and inefficiencies, leaving artists without proper representation in royalty col-



lection. This knowledge gap allows platforms to exploit legal loopholes, retain larger portions of revenue, and maintain opaque reporting systems that make it nearly impossible for artists to verify their actual streaming numbers or understand complex royalty calculations.

The stark contrast between American and Kenyan artists' earnings illuminates the global inequities embedded within streaming economics. In 2023, Spotify paid out \$9 billion globally in royalties, with over 1,250 American artists earning more than \$1 million each from streaming and publishing royalties alone. The top-earning American musicians that year included Genesis with \$230 million primarily from catalog sales, while Taylor Swift, Beyoncé, and other chart-toppers each earned tens of millions through strategic combination of streaming, touring, and catalog deals. Meanwhile, Kenya's highest-earning streaming artists rarely breach \$28,000 annually, with exceptional cases like Nikita Kering' reportedly earning Ksh 300,000 (\$2,330) monthly at her peak in 2022. This disparity isn't merely about market size; it reflects systemic inequalities in how streaming platforms value different geographical markets and the devastating impact of pro-rata payment models that favor high-volume streams over diverse cultural content.

The first essential lesson for Kenyan musicians navigating this treacherous landscape is revenue diversification beyond streaming platforms. Successful artists must develop multiple income streams including live performances, brand partnerships, merchandising, licensing deals for film and advertising, and direct fan engagement through platforms like Patreon or localized alternatives.

This approach transforms streaming from a primary revenue source into a marketing tool that builds audience for more lucrative ventures. Artists should also explore opportunities in Kenya's growing digital economy, including collaborations with mobile money platforms, telecommunications companies, and emerging fintech solutions that can create innovative monetization models.

The second crucial strategy involves mastering intellectual property management and understanding the full scope of music rights. Kenyan artists must educate themselves about mechanical rights, performance rights, synchronization rights, and neighboring rights to ensure they're capturing all possible revenue streams from their creative work. This includes proper registration with relevant CMOs, understanding distribution agreements, and maintaining ownership of master recordings whenever possible. Artists should also explore international publishing deals and consider establishing their own publishing companies to retain greater control over their intellectual property and long-term earning potential.

The third lesson centers on strategic platform utilization and audience development across multiple channels. While diversifying across Spotify, Apple Music, Boomplay, Mdundo, YouTube, and Skiza Tunes maximizes reach, artists must also invest in building direct relationships with their audience through social media, email lists, and live engagement. This includes understanding each platform's unique algorithm, optimizing content for playlist placements, and developing content strategies that transcend traditional music releases. Artists should also leverage Kenya's mobile-first digital landscape by creating content optimized for plat-

forms like TikTok, Instagram Reels, and YouTube Shorts that can drive streaming numbers while building brand recognition.

The final essential lesson involves collaborative advocacy and industry organization to address systemic inequities in streaming economics. Kenyan artists must unite to lobby for better royalty rates, transparent reporting mechanisms, and legislative reforms that protect intellectual property rights. This includes supporting initiatives that promote fair trade in digital music, advocating for minimum payout thresholds, and working with tech innovators to develop alternative platforms that offer more equitable revenue sharing models. The future of Kenya's music industry depends not just on individual artists' success, but on collective action that challenges the current extractive model and creates sustainable economic opportunities for the next generation of musicians.

The streaming revolution promised to democratize music and create unprecedented opportunities for artists worldwide. Instead, it has created a new form of digital colonialism where platforms extract enormous value from creative communities while leaving artists struggling for survival. Kenya's musical heritage deserves better than this economic exploitation, it deserves a system that values cultural contribution as much as technological innovation, ensuring that the creators of our most powerful art form can sustain themselves through their craft.

The writer is a legal researcher and lawyer

Worth Noting:

- The intellectual property landscape in Kenya's music industry represents a perfect storm of weak enforcement, inadequate legislation, and artists' limited understanding of their rights.
- While streaming platforms leverage sophisticated algorithms and data analytics to maximize revenue from musical content, most Kenyan artists remain unaware of how their intellectual property is being monetized across multiple revenue streams including sync licensing, mechanical royalties, and international distribution rights. The country's collective management organizations (CMOs) have been plagued by disputes and inefficiencies, leaving artists without proper representation in royalty collection.
- This knowledge gap allows platforms to exploit legal loopholes, retain larger portions of revenue, and maintain opaque reporting systems that make it nearly impossible for artists to verify their actual streaming numbers or understand complex royalty calculations.

Youths Urged To Embrace Entrepreneurship For Economic Growth

By: Sadik Hassan
@themtkenyatimes

Youths in the Coast region have been urged to seize government opportunities and exploit the available local resources to improve their livelihoods in the wake of burgeoning unemployment.

Speaking at the Swahilipot Hub during the launch of the US-KE Coast Chapter Association, the Association's Coast regional lead, Khadija Abdalla, underscored the urgency of addressing youth unemployment, an issue she described as a "ticking time bomb" affecting not only Kenya but nations globally.

"I understand that there is that challenge. Unemployment is not a challenge that is happening in Coast or Kenya alone; it's a global challenge," said Ms Abadalla, urging youth to embrace entrepreneurship.

"We understand the gaps that come along from the government level to the public, but of course, I urge and implore my fellow young people to take advantage of the resources that are within their surroundings."

She noted that entrepreneurship is the panacea of unemployment, albeit there are capital challenges, but that can be addressed through taking ad-

vantage of the various government funding.

"Unemployment challenges do exist, but let us not just sit down and whine. There are myriad opportunities available; let's take charge and grasp them," she challenged the youth.

Ms Abdalla commended the United States of America (USA) for its support in leadership, entrepreneurship, and arts programs through fellowships. She noted that the Coast Chapter of the US-KE Association aims to unify alumni, enhance collaboration, and track regional development.

"One of the major gaps that we saw is that once we come back from those programmes, everyone gets lost or people work in silos. That is why we do not have a comprehensive alumni database in the Coast," she said.

Benson Abila, the President of the US-KE Alumni Association, thanked the United States of America for the exchange programmes that have fostered professional development and cultural exchange.

"The ties keep helping illuminate the impacts within our communities," he said, adding that the Coast Chapter Association will connect alumni.

Amid the shifting in the USA's



Khadija Abdalla speaking on Friday.

foreign diplomacy, he encouraged the alumni to explore cooperation initiatives with the USA government to support community-led programmes.

"Some of our alumni may not be as proactive or may not tap into these opportunities, and that is why we are bringing together these associations so that there is lifelong connection between these alumni," said Abila.

"They can reach out to their peers to discern the priorities of the US government and how young people

in Kenya right now tap into these opportunities to keep improving our communities," he added.

Twahir Zubeir, an architect and entrepreneur from Lamu County, described his experience in the U.S. through the Mandela Washington Fellowship as transformative. He highlighted the untapped potential among young Kenyans to generate income through innovation and entrepreneurship.

Kenneth Ambani, Mombasa County Executive Committee Member for

Youth Affairs and a beneficiary of the American Film Showcase, urged alumni to share their knowledge and experiences with youth at the grassroots level.

He also praised the U.S. Embassy in Kenya for supporting the Mombasa International Film Festival, which he said has played a vital role in promoting creativity within the local film industry.

The Art Of Sculpture And Its Development In Uzbekistan



By: Lolakhon Yusupova
@themtkenyatimes

Sculpture is one of the earliest art forms in the annals of human history. With a piece of stone or wood, people can express ideas, people, animals and plants, or natural and historical occurrences. It is highly valued because it reflects human meaning and spirituality.

What is Sculpture?

Sculpture is the art of transforming

materials (stone, wood, metal, and clay) into three-dimensional representations. Some sculptures serve as monuments, while others are made for beauty. This kind of art grasps the beauty of nature and human emotions and historical events.

Technically, sculpture includes many methods:

Carving: Use a piece of wood or stone.

Casting: Pour molten metal into molds.

Modeling: Use soft substances, such as clay.

Main Types of Sculpture

Sculpture in the Round: Sculptures viewable from all sides, usually monuments.

Bas-Relief: Sculptures attached to a surface; visible from the front only.

Abstract Sculpture: Gives great relief (from the concrete) to contemplation. Often called miniature sculptures, these works of art range

from 2 cm to 15 cm. They have a short memory and are bright in color. In many cases, they are made by street artists in Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva.

Development of Sculpture in Uzbekistan

Sculpture has a long history in Uzbekistan. Old Buddhist sculptures unearthed in Termez, Bukhara, and Samarkand give the art a deep historical root. Although sculpture slackened off slightly in the Islamic period, it was given a considerable rebirth after independence and monuments sprang up everywhere in the cities.

Famous Uzbek Sculptors

Jaloliddin Umarbekov: People's Artist and famous sculptor of Uzbekistan, author of many monumental works.

Ilhom Jabborov: Designer of, among others, the "Flag of Uzbeki-

stan" monument.

Shirinbek Mirzayev: Prominent representative of both national and modern sculpture.

Notable Sculptures and Monuments in Uzbekistan

Amir Temur Monument (Tashkent): An equestrian statue in Amir Temur Square, now the symbol of Uzbekistan.

Independence Monument (Tashkent): A mother and child symbolizing Uzbekistan's independence.

Alisher Navoi Monument (Tashkent, Navoi): A tribute to the great poet and thinker.

Babur Monument (Andijan): To commemorate the great military leader and man of letters.

Jaloliddin Manguberdi Monument (Khorezm): Created to honor the spirit of the national hero.

Sculpture, then, embodies a profound expression of human sentiment, taste, and revival. Although

studying medicine, I am also active as a sculptor, particularly after anatomy lessons. I have found that understanding the proportions of the human body greatly enhances the quality of my sculptures. What is more, sculpture also promotes brainpower as well as small-operating skills. Therefore, many school organizations like it in youth creativity centers and better music schools, achieving considerable success.

Uzbek sculptors continue to reflect national morals, tributes to historical heroes, and the beauty that is their homeland through artistic creations of unique splendor. Today, Uzbek sculpture is known not only nationally but internationally.

Tashkent Medical Academy, Urgench Branch Faculty of General Medicine, Group 104-B Student: Lolakhon Yusupova

The Role Of Family In The Process Of Upbringing

Upbringing for us is a matter of life or death, salvation or destruction, prosperity or ruin. — Abdulla Avloniy



By: Shomurotova Sevinchoy
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- The most powerful tool of upbringing is the example set by the parents. Children pay more attention to actions than to words. Therefore, the true lesson a child receives comes not from what parents say, but from how they live, how they interact with others, and how they approach challenges. For instance, a child who sees honesty, hard work, patience, and mutual respect in their parents will strive to emulate those values. Such qualities begin to take shape from a very young age and gradually become part of the child's lifestyle.
- I can confidently say that my opportunity to pursue higher education and the achievements I have gained are all the result of the upbringing I received from my parents and the personal example they set for me.

The foundation of human perfection is upbringing. Upbringing is not merely a matter of school, textbooks, or pedagogical activity—it is a continuous and holistic process that begins within the environment of life itself, especially in the embrace of the family. A person's character, worldview, and moral principles are primarily shaped during the earliest stages of life—and it is within the family that these qualities take root. Therefore, the role of the family in the process of upbringing is truly invaluable.

The family is the cradle of a child's upbringing. Every person is born into a family and gains their first social experiences in that environment. The family serves as the child's first school of upbringing, and the parents are their first educators. The kind of environment a child grows up in directly influences their personality, thinking style, worldview, character, and attitude towards life. A child raised in a loving, respectful, and morally sound family will inevitably embody these same values.

The effectiveness of upbringing is closely tied to the sense of responsibility parents possess. Parents not

only give life to their children physically, but also serve as the foundational builders of their child's spiritual and moral world. Children take every word, behavior, and attitude of their parents as an example. Thus, upbringing is not limited to verbal advice—personal example is of utmost importance. A parent's fairness, diligence, patience, honesty, and decency provide the foundation for these same qualities to develop in a child.

The most powerful tool of upbringing is the example set by the parents. Children pay more attention to actions than to words. Therefore, the true lesson a child receives comes not from what parents say, but from how they live, how they interact with others, and how they approach challenges. For instance, a child who sees honesty, hard work, patience, and mutual respect in their parents will strive to emulate those values. Such qualities begin to take shape from a very young age and gradually become part of the child's lifestyle.

I can confidently say that my opportunity to pursue higher education and the achievements I have gained

are all the result of the upbringing I received from my parents and the personal example they set for me. Upbringing is not only about showing the right path, but also about instilling in a child a sense of national pride, traditions, customs, historical memory, and spiritual values. The family is the main medium through which this is conveyed. If every family raises their child to be loyal to their homeland, beneficial to their nation, and faithful to their people, then society will flourish with stability, progress, and prosperity.

Today's rapidly evolving world—with its overwhelming information flow and deeply integrated technologies—strongly influences the minds of children. The internet, social media, and popular culture are having significant impacts on their consciousness. In such circumstances, the role of parents becomes even more vital. Parents are expected to be more knowledgeable, attentive, and wise, and most importantly, to dedicate sufficient time to their children. Modern parenting requires being in friendly and open communication with the child, trying to understand their inner world, and

supporting their emotional development.

In conclusion, upbringing is the most sacred process that teaches humanity. Its foundation lies in the family and in the hearts of the parents. As the family is, so is society. Therefore, every parent's most noble duty is to raise their child with love, instilling values of kindness, honesty, justice, patriotism, and humanism. A healthy upbringing that begins within the family is the most reliable guarantee of societal stability and development.

Shomurotova Sevinchoy
Urgench State Pedagogical Institute
Primary Education Faculty
4th-Year Student

Nature



By: Yusupova Farangiz
@themtkenyatimes

Nature is the most beautiful and priceless gift that the Creator has given to humanity. Nature is the heart of life, nature is the embodiment of tranquility, beauty and harmony. It always amazes us with its wonders. From dawn to sunset, every moment, every sight, every sound is the unique music of nature, its inexhaustible rhythm of life. The beauty that a person sees with his eyes, hears with his ears, and feels with his heart is one of the magical gifts of the natural world. No artist on earth can paint a picture as perfect as nature. Tulips blooming in spring, swallows flying, springs gushing from the foothills, trees covered in golden clothes in autumn - each of these awakens a love for life.

A person who observes nature finds peace of mind, feels like an integral part of this world.

Nature is not just beauty for a person - it is his source of life. The water we drink every day, the air we breathe, the bread we eat - all come from nature. If there are no trees, the air will not be clean. If the land is polluted, crops will not grow on it. If the rivers dry up, life will also die out. Therefore, preserving nature means preserving man.

Nature is like a kind mother to man. She does not ask for anything, she only gives: she gives air, fruits, medicinal herbs, peace and quiet. But what, unfortunately, does man do in response to this generosity? Industrial waste is being dumped into rivers, forests are being cut down, the land is being poisoned, the atmosphere is being filled with harmful gases. Man sees nature as a force that has taken possession of him, but in fact man is a part of nature, a being dependent on it.

Today, global climate change is intensifying in the world. The air temperature is increasing year by year, drought areas are expanding, strong



storms and hurricanes, floods are increasing. All this is a consequence of human activity. Mountains of garbage are forming around cities, millions of tons of plastic are entering the seas every year, thousands of animal species are on the verge of extinction.

Nature is giving us an "answer" for this attitude - but this "answer" is becoming bitter, painful. Every evil we

do to nature will eventually return to us. No clean air - which means health will weaken. No clean water - which means life is in danger. Therefore, each of us must approach this issue responsibly.

But it is not too late. Man can still change everything. If each of us plants trees, keeps the environment clean, uses water sparingly, and reduces plastic use, this will lead to ma-

major positive changes. If environmental education is strengthened in the family, school, and neighborhood, the attitude towards nature in society will change.

We must not forget: love for nature is love for ourselves. Because nature is our future, the air our children breathe, the water they drink, and the world they live in.

Scientific Potential of Nizami Tashkent State Pedagogical University

By: Yunusov Baxtiyor Panji
@themtkenyatimes

Abstract: Nizami Tashkent State Pedagogical University (NTSPU) stands as one of Uzbekistan's leading institutions for teacher education and pedagogical research. With a rich historical background and a strong emphasis on academic excellence, the university continues to develop its scientific potential across various fields of education and social sciences.

Main Points:

1. Academic Staff and Degrees

As of recent data, NTSPU employs over 800 faculty members, among whom more than 50 are Doctors of Sciences (DSc), and over 250 hold the title of Candidate of Sciences (PhD equivalent). These experts contribute to a wide range of scientific research in pedagogy, psychology, linguistics, and methodology.

2. Research Fields and Priorities

The university focuses on strategic

research in educational innovations, inclusive education, digital pedagogy, language teaching methods, and psychological support in the learning process. Priority is given to interdisciplinary and practical studies that contribute to national educational reforms.

3. Doctoral Programs and Research Councils

NTSPU offers doctoral studies (PhD and DSc) in multiple specialties. It hosts specialized academic councils authorized to award scientific degrees in education, psychology, philology, and historical sciences.

4. Publications and Conferences

The university publishes several peer-reviewed journals such as Pedagogical Sciences, Young Scientist, and Modern Education Issues. It also organizes international and national scientific conferences to foster academic exchange and collaboration.

5. International Collaboration

NTSPU actively partners with institutions from Russia, Germany, South Korea, and Turkey. These collaborations support joint research, academic mobility, and exchange programs



for researchers and doctoral students.

6. Innovation and Grants

The university regularly wins state and international grants in the field of education reform, digital learning tools, and psychological resilience in students. Young researchers and graduate students are encouraged to participate in innovation contests and

startup incubation programs.

Conclusion:

Nizami Tashkent State Pedagogical University is not only a center for teacher preparation but also a hub for scientific research and innovation in Uzbekistan. Its growing scientific potential plays a key role in shaping the

future of national education policy and pedagogy.

4th year student of the Nizami National Pedagogical University of Uzbekistan

*Yunusov Baxtiyor Panji-o'g'li
Uzbekistan, Tashkent.*

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Sports >> *The rout began with a sweep of a cultured left foot, and continued with a crippling counterattack. It was complete before halftime here at the 2025 Club World Cup final between Paris Saint-Germain and Chelsea.

Chelsea Routs PSG In Stunning Club World Cup Final, Wins First Edition Of Expanded Global Tournament

By: Henry Bushnell

The rout began with a sweep of a cultured left foot, and continued with a crippling counterattack. It was complete before halftime here at the 2025 Club World Cup final between Paris Saint-Germain and Chelsea. One side exploded up and down the field, and out to a 3-0 lead, while the other staggered, as if exhausted, disrupted and dumbstruck.

It was everything that everybody expected PSG to do Sunday at MetLife Stadium.

But, remarkably, it was Chelsea doing it.

The Blues, who were +370 underdogs to win in regulation, only needed 43 minutes to race past PSG. They beat the European champions, 3-0, and won the first edition of this expanded, lucrative, spectacular yet controversial tournament.

Cole Palmer, who'd been freezing cold from January through June, sank the favorites with two goals inside the first half hour, then an exquisite assist before halftime.

Palmer's stealthy assault on the PSG goal began 22 minutes after the soccer began, after a pre-match show filled with Americana, after Michael Buffer boomed to a sold-out crowd: "Let's get ready to rumblllllleee!"

The first 21 minutes had been relatively even. But then a long ball boinked off the head of PSG fullback Nuno Mendes, into the path of a suddenly free Malo Gusto. Moments later, it was on Palmer's left foot at the top of the box, and then curling into the bottom corner.

The sequence was slightly fluky. But the lead was arguably deserved. Chelsea started strong, stronger than anybody else had against PSG in months. And eight minutes later, Palmer made it 2-0.

This time, the 23-year-old Englishman made his own space at the top of the box. After Reece James blocked an Ousmane



Chelsea celebrates victory

Dembélé pass, and Levi Colwill launched a counter, Palmer sensed João Pedro steaming forward on an overlapping run. Palmer, with a subtle fake, sent PSG midfielder Vitinha retreating toward Pedro, away from the ball. Palmer carried on into the box, sat down another PSG defender with a hesitation, and found the same bottom left corner.

To chase the game, from then on, PSG continued to commit numbers forward. Chelsea handled the pressure, and punished the Parisians for all the space they left gaping.

At one end, goalkeeper Robert Sanchez was flawless, darting off his line to punch away crosses, scrambling across his goal to claw away would-be PSG goals.

At the other end, in the 43rd minute, Palmer slipped a clever through-ball into Pedro, who dinked a cute finish over PSG keeper Gianluigi Donnarumma.

Chelsea fans, packed behind the far goal, erupted. Bodies leapt,

and limbs punched the air.

And PSG never recovered.

For much of the 2024-25 season, and never more so than in Wednesday's semifinal stomping of Real Madrid, the Parisians looked like a generational team. After that 4-0 win over Madrid — which followed a 5-0 destruction of Inter Milan in the Champions League final, a 4-0 takedown of Atlético Madrid on the second day of the Club World Cup, and a 4-0 beatdown of Inter Miami — Spanish reporters began to toss around a weighty word: "imbatable," unbeatable.

But that, of course, was an exaggeration. No team is perfect. In soccer, no result is preordained, no conclusion foregone.

And on Sunday, Chelsea drove home that point.

By the latter half of the second half, PSG resorted to frustration fouls. João Neves was sent off for pulling Marc Cucurella's hair.

Chelsea, meanwhile, bubbled with joy, and celebrated an un-

likely title.

The Blues, for most of the month, felt like outsiders. They'd qualified for this Club World Cup via their win in the 2021 Champions League final, a match in which only one current player appeared. They arrived in the United States having finished fourth in the English Premier League, and having rolled through a third-tier continental competition, the UEFA Conference League. They were not favorites to win this tournament. Their only superlative was chief complainers. When they lost to Flamengo in the group stage, frankly, they didn't seem like they were all that thrilled to be here.

But they grew into the knockout stages. They took advantage of a relatively soft half of the bracket, beating Benfica, Palmeiras and Fluminense.

And then, in the final, they did what nobody thought anybody could.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Athletics Kenya (AK) have assured there is no case of age cheating in the national team to compete at this year's Africa Under 18 and 20 Championships in Nigeria.

No Age Issues In Junior Team To Africa Under 18/20 Athletics Champs



The Kenyan team to the Africa Under 18 and Under 20 Championships pose for a photo after receiving their kits. PHOTO/ATHLETICS KENYA.

Athletics Kenya (AK) have assured there is no case of age cheating in the national team to compete at this year's Africa Under 18 and 20 Championships in Nigeria. AK's director of youth development, Barnaba Korir, said they have scrutinised the documents of all athletes in the team to ascertain their correct ages. "We do not expect any issues as concerns the age. We have done a very good job as a federation to make sure those who are going to compete are with the right ages. There will not be any issues," Korir said. Age cheating has been identified as a growing problem within athletics circles in the country.

In July last year, AK president Jack Tuwei announced a war against the vice, noting that it was stealthily creeping into the sport even as the federation battles against the doping menace. AK have for the past one year undertaken a registration of all athletes, in which all of them are expected to provide identification documents, such as birth certificates. This is aimed at ensuring that they do not present overage athletes at age-grade competitions such as the Africa Under 18 and Under 20 Championships. The Abeokuta-bound team have been putting in the yards at Kasarani Stadium and are expected to

depart the country on Monday. Korir says all the necessary equipment have been provided to empower the athletes to success in West Africa. "The equipment were brought yesterday (Saturday) from the United States, including the spikes. Everything that they require they will be receiving today (Sunday). Allowances have already been given by Athletics Kenya and foreign allowances will be given by the government. Everything is already in place and I am very happy that the federation has been able to plan and programme things as they are supposed to be," he said. At the last edition of the compe-

tion in Ndola, Zambia in 2023, Team Kenya came away with 33 medals. These include 14 (six gold, two silver and six bronze) by the Under 20s and 19 (six gold, seven silver and six bronze) by the Under 18s. *Capital Sport*

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Oghuz And Seljuks In Central Asia



By: Qobulova Gulzoda
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Worth Noting:

- Tugrulbek entered Baghdad in 1055 and received the title of Sultan from the Abbasid Caliph. During the Seljuk period, a strong centralized state was formed in Central Asia, Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Asia Minor. The Seljuks were distinguished not only by their military achievements, but also by their reforms in the cultural, scientific and administrative spheres.
- Nizam al-Mulk introduced a systematic administration, and in his work Siyosatnama he outlined the rules of state administration. Madrasahs and libraries were built in cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, Isfahan, and Nishapur. Scholars such as Omar Khayyam and Al-Ghazali lived and worked during the Seljuk period. Architectural monuments such as the Jameh Mosque in Isfahan and the Ince Minaret Mosque in Konya were built.

Central Asia is one of the historical centers of the Turkic peoples, where many states and dynasties arose. In particular, the Oghuz and the Seljuk state formed on their basis had a profound impact on the history of the region and the entire Middle East in the Middle Ages.

The Oghuz are a union of Turkic tribes, the first mention of which dates back to the 6th-7th centuries. The Oghuz were initially part of the Western Turkic Khaganate, and later became an independent political force. The Oghuz lived mainly along the Syr Darya and Amu Darya rivers, as well as around the Aral Sea and the Caspian Sea. They were engaged in nomadic cattle breeding, but also developed trade and crafts. At first, they supported pantheism and shamanism, and then converted to Islam. In the 10th century, the Oghuz tribes united and acquired a strong political system. In the 11th century, some of them began to move towards the Middle East under the leadership of the Seljuks. The Seljuk state was founded by Saljuqbek, a descendant of the Qiniq tribe of the Oghuz, and his descendants. The Seljuq leader of the Oghuz, he seized power in the Aral Sea region. Seljuq's grandsons, Tugrulbek and Chagribek, organized campaigns in Khorezm and Maveronnahr in 1035 and defeated the Ghaznavids at the Battle of Dandanokon in 1040.

Tugrulbek entered Baghdad in 1055 and received the title of Sultan from the Abbasid Caliph. During the Seljuk period, a strong centralized state was formed in Central Asia, Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Asia Minor. The Seljuks were distinguished not only by their military achievements, but also by their reforms in the cultural, scientific and administrative spheres.

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han and the Ince Minaret Mosque in Konya were built.

While the Oghuz played an important role in the political and cultural life of Central Asia, the Seljuks were responsible for the expansion of the region and its transformation into a powerful empire in the Middle East. Their legacy served as a model not only for their own time, but also for the subsequent Ottoman and other Turkic states.

An ancient people shone from the bosom of the high mountains, Enlightenment and heart woke up in the ancient deserts.

Pride in the hearts of the Oghuz, wisdom in their language, intelligence and deeds,

Every step they took was adorned with honor, honor, goodness, and perfection.

Not with the sword, but with knowledge, the door of victory was opened,

Every action was recorded in history, the pride of the people.

Oghuz Oghlan - a man who taught the century in virtue and patience,

He gave his life for the country, but his name is indelible in every journey.

Strength and faith manifested in the form of a tribe,

Virtue, courage and loyalty - their most beautiful symbol.

Those who did not bow to the oppressor, who followed the right path, These ancestors live forever in the epics of history.

The Seljuks are the crown jewel of the era, the love of civilization, the leader,

The empire adorned with science and justice is a great landslide.

In consultation with scholars, in line with the wise,

The banner of Hilpirar is in the dream of Islam, truth, and justice.

Nishapur, Ray, Herat - they became the fortress of science,

The land rose with schools, libraries, and dialogue.

In politics, not only power, but also insight was a must,

They were a constant party loyal to the truth in history.

Peace, patience, honesty are the strength and foundation of this people,

Although they stand against the oppressor, the light of faith in their hearts.

The empire, relying on the Quran, rose with science,

Old Asia stood on a par with the world in pain and hardship.

The Oghuz lineage is the ancestral root, The Seljuk trace is the glorious land,

From them we learned truth, respect, attention, and security.

Memories are an example, speaking in the language of history,

History is our ambassador - the past is a lesson, tomorrows intention is in its star.

QOBULOVA GULZODA MAK-SUDOVNA

Qobulova Gulzoda Maksudovna was born on October 20, 1993 in the Khanka district of the Khorezm region into a family of teachers.

In 2012-2016, she studied at the Urgench State University named after Al-Khorezmiy, specializing in History (by countries and regions) on a state budget (grant).