



Uhuru The Hidden Card That Shall Determine 2027 Elections

As Kenya moves closer to the 2027 general elections, former President Uhuru Kenyatta has remained largely silent in the national political arena. However, political analysts and party insiders suggest that his behind-the-scenes manoeuvres are shaping the emerging opposition landscape.

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News>> Private Sector Stakeholders Urge Government To Find Lasting Solution To Unrest For Businesses, Economy Sake

P. 8. Stakeholders in the private sector have pleaded with the Government to find a lasting solution to political unrest and mayhem saying that they are detrimental to the country's economic stability.



News>> Isiolo Governor To Face The Senate Plenary

P. 12. The fate of Isiolo County Governor, Abdi Ibrahim Hassan now lies in the hands of the full Senate after a proposed Motion to form a Special Committee to investigate his impeachment failed to secure the required support during a special sitting held yesterday.

Kalonzo Slams Kuria's 2027 General Elections Remark

Wiper Party leader Kalonzo Musyoka has strongly condemned remarks made by President William Ruto's Senior Economic Advisor, Moses Kuria, hinting that the 2027 General Election may be delayed due to ongoing court cases involving the appointment of commissioners to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) commissioners. Musyoka described Kuria's comments as reckless and a direct threat to Kenya's constitutional democracy.



Wiper Party leader Kalonzo Musyoka

STORY ON PAGE 9



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Opposition Leaders Takes Wantam 'Gospel' To Narok County

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

Top opposition leaders, led by former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua yesterday toured Narok County where the expressed their optimism that President William Ruto will serve one term as the most powerful political leader in the country.

The leaders urged Kenyans to make their call a reality by ensuring they register as voters ahead of the 2027 General Elections.

Among those who accompanied the former DP who is also the party leader for Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) were, former Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka, former ministers; Martha Karua, Justin Muturi and Eugene Wamalwa and Jubilee Party chairman Torome Saitoti.



Editor's Desk

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Eng. Eric Mugaa yesterday hosted the World Bank Country Director for Kenya, Mr. Qimiao Fan, at Maji House, Nairobi, for a bilateral meeting focused on strengthening collaboration in the water sector. He was joined by the Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation, Mr. Julius Korir, the Principal Secretary for Irrigation, Ephantus Kimotho, and the Water Secretary, Eng. SAO Alima. The meeting focused on reviewing the current World Bank-supported portfolio in the sector, exploring new opportunities for investment and technical support and aligning development efforts with Kenya's Vision 2030. The Ministry expressed deep appreciation for the continued partnership and support from the World Bank and reaffirmed its commitment to driving impactful and sustainable water and irrigation programs across the country.



Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale has pledged to ensure that information on Social Health Authority (SHA) benefits is translated into local and simplified languages to boost public awareness and accelerate registration across the country. Speaking during a public engagement at the KCB Grounds in Kajiado County, the CS emphasized the need for inclusive communication to ensure that every Kenyan understands their entitlements under the Taifa Care programme. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) through accessible, affordable, and equitable healthcare services. Duale announced the Ministry's plan to equip all public hospitals through the National Equipment Service Program (NESP), a key initiative aimed at expanding access to specialized healthcare services under Taifa Care. Commending Kajiado County for registering 431,259 individuals representing 39% of the county's population into the SHA, the CS urged residents to continue enrolling and support the national goal of full UHC implementation. The CS also sounded a strong warning against health facilities engaged in fraudulent activities. He confirmed the recent closure of 35 facilities found guilty of defrauding SHA and reiterated the Ministry's zero-tolerance policy toward such malpractice. He urged community members to report any suspicious practices, especially cases where patients are charged both by SHA and in cash, by calling the 24/7 SHA hotline 147. He was accompanied by among others area governor Joseph Ole Lenku.



Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale yesterday flagged off 100 digital devices in Kajiado County, complementing an earlier deployment of 160 units, as part of the Ministry's broader health sector digitization agenda under the Taifa Care rollout. Speaking during a visit to Kajiado County Referral Hospital, Duale emphasized that the ongoing digital transformation is anchored on the Comprehensive and Integrated Health Information System (CIHIS), which aims to digitize patient records, prescriptions, and facility transactions. He noted that this shift is instrumental in enhancing transparency, curbing fraud, and improving overall service delivery in public health facilities. The CS announced the planned distribution of over 74,000 digital devices to public health facilities across the country. He underscored the importance of equipping public sector health institutions with technology that matches private sector standards and called for continuous capacity building to ensure healthcare workers are fully trained to uphold patient confidentiality and effectively use digital systems. Addressing hospital staff and management, Duale provided an update on ongoing health reforms being spearheaded by the Ministry, including the deployment of 6,484 healthcare interns and the recapitalisation of KEMSA to guarantee steady supply of essential medicines and medical commodities to all facilities, including those in remote areas. The CS was accompanied by Kajiado Governor Joseph Ole Lenku, Director General for Health Dr. Patrick Amoth, SHA CEO Dr. Mercy Mwangangi, KMPDC CEO Dr. David Kariuki, and Acting CEO of the Digital Health Agency Mr. Anthony Lenaiyara.



Dorper sheep rearing is gaining traction in Nakuru due to the breed's hardiness, rapid growth, and good meat quality. Originally from South Africa, Dorpers have adapted well to Kenya's climate, especially in semi-arid regions. Their ability to thrive on minimal feed, coupled with their fast maturity and high lambing frequency, makes them a profitable choice for commercial sheep farming. The county government of Nakuru has chipped in to bridge the gap in the growing demand for Dorper sheep parent stock and through its livestock breeds improvement programme is distributing Dorper rams to enhance sheep breeds and productivity in the region. As he hands over 65 Dorper rams to ten farmer groups from Elementaita Ward within Gilgil Sub-county, Livestock, Fisheries, and Veterinary Services Chief Officer Dr Michael Cheruiyot notes that the breed also has a very good feed conversion efficiency and are not selective grazers hence will flourish even on relatively poor-quality feeds.

The year 2030 is round the corner and with it the target of attaining the sustainable development goals adopted by all united nation members in 2015. The aim of the global goals is peace and prosperity for people and the planet while tackling climate change and working to preserve oceans and forests. With this date quickly approaching, the need to focus on True Value Accounting (TVA) in ensuring that there is sustainable food production which ensures that nations can produce high quality healthy food which ensures there is no starvation or malnutrition cannot be gain said. According to Prof. Jacqueline McGlade of Strathmore University, TVA is an approach that captures the full range of social, environmental and economic impacts both positive and negative of the food system activities. She noted that TVA goes beyond measuring not only yields and profits for instance the bags of maize produced by increased use of inorganic fertilizer but its long-term effect on the soils, water and more importantly the health of the consumers. Noting that healthy soils translate to healthy food, the professor who teaches ecological economics at Strathmore University emphasized the importance of a healthy soil saying it is the greatest engine we have together with the sun in the growth of plants.





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IGAD Unveils Leadership Academy To Foster Regional Integration And Transformation

By: Sadik Hassan
@themkenyatimes

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) has inaugurated its first cohort of the IGAD Leadership Academy (ILA), aimed at nurturing a new generation of visionary, ethical, and inclusive leaders to drive regional integration and sustainable development.

ILA was established in 2022 to facilitate the mentorship and provisioning of future leaders with the critical skill sets necessary to steer the course of a rapidly developing multi-cultural African society in the 21st century and beyond.

The Academy is rooted in the principle that Africa requires home-based solutions to its unique challenges. It focuses on developing visionary, ethical, and gender-responsive leaders through training, mentorship and peer-learning.

The first cohort comprises 30 youths competitively selected from a pool of 3000 applicants from the eight IGAD member states: Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda

The four-day intensive training at the Kenya School of Government, Mombasa campus, is designed to equip emerging leaders with the skills, values, and strategic insights needed to tackle governance challenges and drive transformation. IGAD plans to have three cohorts by the end of 2025. IGAD Executive Secretary Dr. Workeneh Gebeyehu said when he unveiled the programme in Mombasa, that they came up with the Academy, not by chance or due to a lack of a leadership school in the region, but to deepen integration and address common challenges facing the bloc

that are not confined to the sovereign territory of a single country.

“This integration has missed one key element; – human integration, mind integration, which ultimately means the leadership integration. That’s why we came up with this Leadership Academy,” Dr. Gebeyehu explained.

He encouraged the selected outstanding youths to exuberate their intellectual capability to the region and help it to surmount challenges.

“One thing which I ask you humbly is to know how to communicate with each other. This is not just a training. This is a call to lead,” he said, adding that the future of the region rests in the hands of its young people.

Dr. Gebeyehu further noted that the region, though rich in culture, talent and opportunity it faces challenges that required bold leadership and united action.

“You’re the generation that will redefine what is possible through innovation, courage and collaboration; you can change not only your communities but the entire region,” he stated.

The youths will be taken through a comprehensive curriculum that, according to Dr. Workeneh, will take the region to the aspirations of the founding fathers of the nations.

The Executive Director also championed for unity of purpose and intellect to narrow the gap among African states and to be competitive economically, diplomatically amid a complex world.

He thanked the Government of Japan for sponsoring the programme that would transform the region’s youth.

Ms. Yoki Mochizuki, from the Embassy of Japan in Kenya, stated that the Horn of Africa faces significant challenges from ongoing conflicts and post-conflict transition, aiming to establish democratic governance according to the post-conflict peace



IGAD Executive Secretary Dr Workeneh Gebeyehu.

agreements.

“This instability underscores the critical need to develop individuals who can champion peace and stability. Recognising that regional conflicts are rarely isolated incidents and often involve complex interdependencies between nations. Regional multi-facet approach is essential,” she said.

To achieve a long-lasting peace and stability in the Horn of Africa, she added, it necessitates a long-term perspective encompassing diverse stakeholders, including women who are often disproportionately affected by conflicts.

Ms. Mochizuki affirmed the Government of Japan’s commitment to strengthening peace through the Leadership Programme by cultivating leaders equipped with strategic thinking, communication, decision-making and fostering strong ethical princi-



A section of the candidates in the 1st Cohort of the IGAD Leadership Academy (ILA) training at the Kenya School of Government, Mombasa on Monday, June 30, 2025.

Photos/Andrew Hinga.

ples, a clear vision and a deep commitment to democratic values.

She said, the selected participants, represented the best across the IGAD member states, and they embodied untapped potential to address leadership gaps in the region.

“Their contributions will be invaluable in advancing peace, economic development, and realistic governance,” she said.

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Private Sector Stakeholders Urge Government To Find Lasting Solution To Unrest For Businesses, Economy Sake

By: John Kamau
@themkenyatimes

Stakeholders in the private sector have pleaded with the Government to find a lasting solution to political unrest and mayhem saying that they are detrimental to the country's economic stability.

They assert that the rising political temperatures which include the Gen-Z-led protests have dealt a huge blow to businesses in the country with some pushed on their deathbed and at the same time scaring investors, who play a pivotal role in the country's economic growth.

Their sentiments come as businesses and traders in Nairobi and other parts of the country continue to count losses in billions they suffered due to destruction, looting and arson attacks in the aftermath of Wednesday's violent protests.

The stakeholders, led by Moses Muriithi, the CEO of Fanaka Real Estate, maintain that the government must embrace dialogue with the aggrieved parties including the Gen-z youths and the opposition for the sake of the country's peace and tranquility noting that failure to end the perennial standoffs will erode the gains it has made in stabilizing the economy.

They spoke during an awards ceremony to recognize 50 most Dependable CEOs in Kenya by Dependable Brands at a Nairobi Hotel.

Muriithi said that the political turmoil in the country has created uncertainties on investments forcing investors to withhold their resources and scaring them from investing. He quipped that the Real Estate sector is the most affected in the country.

"Investors are holding back from investing due to the uncertainties brought about by the political instability being witnessed in the country. This is hurting almost all sectors and if left unchecked, it will cause ripple effects to our economy," Muriithi said.

The CEO pointed out the demonstrations and political squabbles have created an uncondusive environment for businesses which is hurting businesses noting that if the trend continues until the 2027 general elections, the economy will have suffered irreparable effects.

Similar sentiments were echoed by Martin Githinji, the CEO of AMG Realtors Ltd, who noted that investors are in a wait-and-see situation as they cannot risk investing their

resources amid a violent and unfavorable situation.

"It's high time the government agrees to sit at a negotiation table with these youths and find a solution to the grievances they are raising. Most people have been pushed out of businesses, others are on the verge of shutting down while investors have backtracked on investing," Githinji said.

Kenneth Wamburu, the CEO of Imara Lands Investment Ltd, stated that the government must protect businesses at all costs adding that restoring sanity in the country and putting an end to political anarchy should be the country's first priority.

"We are calling upon the government to support businesses by providing an enabling environment. The skirmishes like witnessed on Wednesday are tantamount to killing businesses and investments which is detrimental to our country's economic growth and stability," Wamburu said.

Perminus Kariuki of Nyota Njema Real Estate said that fighting GenZ will only make them more vibrant. He called on President William Ruto to rise to the occasion and find an amicable solution.

"We are urging the President to be strong and show his leadership. He should be quick to listen and act affirmatively by addressing all issues that his people are raising and agitating for. The trail of destruction that was left on Wednesday should never recur again in this country," Kariuki said

Dr Regina King'ori, a tax strategist, urged entrepreneurs and traders to be more resilient to survive the heavy tides of political aggressions adding that the government must facilitate cash flow to the grassroot levels to help affected traders rise to their feet again and at the same time spur economic growth.

The stakeholders however called on the government to ensure that traders and investors are supported through incentives like tax reliefs.

Muriithi quipped that tax increments in the Real Estate Sector like the hiking of Stamp Duty from 2 percent to 4 percent has augmented land prices thereby scaring investors. A reduction of the taxes, he said, will promote investments.

"The government should be considerate of the current economic situation in the country before adding more taxes. Increased taxation will only undermine investments in the country. The government should instead create laws and policies that



AMG Realtors Ltd CEO Martin Githinji speaking in Nairobi.

will create an enabling environment for businesses to thrive," he said.

Similar sentiments were echoed by Faith Musyoki who noted that unpredictable tax policies by the Kenya Kwanza administration has seen most investors shy off from investing.

"Every time we have a new Finance Bill, there's a new tax policy being introduced and this has seen many investors hold back from investing. The government should act on our pleas because the private sector plays an imperative role in growing and sustaining the country's economy," she said.

They however hailed some of the interventions the government has made in promoting business including digitisation of services in the real



Fanaka Real Estate CEO Moses Muriithi speaking during the awards ceremony by Dependable Brands in Nairobi..

estate sector which they said has restored confidence and transparency in the land-related transactions.



Fanaka Real Estate CEO Moses Muriithi (2nd right) receives his award during the ceremony in Nairobi.

Kalonzo Slams Moses Kuria's 'Irresponsible' 2027 Election Remarks

By: Wangechi Purity
@themkenyatimes

Wiper Party leader Kalonzo Musyoka has strongly condemned remarks made by President William Ruto's Senior Economic Advisor, Moses Kuria, hinting that the 2027 General Election may be delayed due to ongoing court cases involving the appointment of commissioners to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) commissioners. Musyoka described Kuria's comments as reckless and a direct threat to Kenya's constitutional democracy. "What knowledge is Moses Kuria relying on to claim that there will be no election? This is someone who must be called out directly. If he knows there will be a problem in this country, let him come out and say it, because the Constitution is clear," Musyoka stated.

He accused the former Gatundu South MP of deliberately stoking public fear and attempting to lay the

groundwork for unconstitutional extensions of power.

He reiterated that the Constitution provides clear timelines for elections, and no amount of political maneuvering should be allowed to interfere with the sovereign will of the people. "Kenyans have decided that this shenanigans about stolen elections must come to an end. There will be elections under the constitutions by 2027 or even before if William Ruto steps aside because that is also an option," he stated.

Kuria had earlier posted on social media, expressing concern over the court's suspension of the swearing-in of new IEBC commissioners.

He warned that with only 39 days left before the official two-year countdown to the next election, the legal process could drag on until September 2027 potentially leaving the country without a duly constituted electoral body to oversee the 2027 elections.

Quoting the findings of the Kriegler Commission, Kuria stated that a credible election cannot be held without



William Ruto's Senior Economic Advisor, Moses Kuria

a commission in place at least two years in advance.

He implied that Kenya's litigious culture might stall the IEBC process long enough to derail the much-anticipated 2027 polls.

"The court has stopped the swearing-in of IEBC commissioners. In 39

days, we begin the two-year countdown to the 2027 elections. Without a commission, as Kriegler warned, a credible election is impossible. Given our litigious nature, this case could reach the Supreme Court and drag on until September 2027—meaning the current administration may remain

in office without an election," Kuria noted.

The debate comes amid a heated political climate, with the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) reconstitution process facing legal hurdles.

SBM Bank, Serena Hotels Partner To Offer Exclusive Discounts And Boost Domestic Tourism

By: Brenda Oluoch
@themkenyatimes

SBM Bank Kenya Director of Consumer Banking Beth Thuo, has unveiled a wide-ranging partnership with Serena Hotels that will give SBM cardholders discounted access to the chain's lodges, resorts and city properties, while deepening domestic tourism and lifestyle spending.

Speaking during the signing ceremony at Nairobi Serena Hotel, Thuo said the agreement "reaffirms our commitment to continually enrich the journeys of those we serve."

Under the deal, SBM cardholders will enjoy a 20 per cent discount on all food offers, 15 per cent off accommodation at any Serena property in Kenya and 10 per cent off SPA treatments.

"Serena Hotels resonates with excellence, hospitality and a rich tradition of service and by joining forces, we unlock new possibilities for our customers and set new benchmarks for service in Kenya's travel industry," she stated.

The Director added that SBM's innovation agenda is anchored on responding to evolving lifestyle needs. "Expect more value-driven solutions as we continue to listen to you, embracing this partnership with openness and enthusiasm," she assured.

Serena Hotels' Regional Director of Marketing for Africa Maureen Okore, noted that the tie-up is backed by research showing a surge in Kenyans who choose to travel, explore and unwind within the country.

"According to the Tourism Research Institute, domestic bed-nights grew from 4.6 million in 2020 to 5.2 million in 2024, a 12 per cent rise. Therefore, today's guest is looking for meaning, not just money, in every experience and together we are launching offers that invite SBM club-holders to enjoy Serena properties in a seamless and rewarding way," she announced.

Okore further pointed out that Serena runs 22 properties across Africa, including city hotels, a beach resort and several camps and lodges in Kenya, giving domestic travelers a full menu of escapes.

Additionally, she mentioned that consumer spending is rapidly shift-



ing toward dining, wellness and self-care, making the SBM-Serena bundle timely.

"Our collaboration is aimed at making African hospitality more accessible while supporting sustainable tourism and nurturing regional economic growth," explained Okore.

The Marketing Chief lauded the media for amplifying the message of home-grown tourism saying, "Your support helps us inspire more people to travel with purpose and joy. Sere-

na and SBM are showing that hospitality is not just a destination, but an experience".

Concurrently, Nairobi Serena Hotel General Manager (GM) Antony Chege, said the partnership would give mutual clients enhanced experiences.

"Today we put pen to paper on activities that will make our shared vision of superior service delivery a reality and a very meaningful and collaborative endeavour that will deepen

loyalty to both brands," stated Chege. Speaking at the event, the GM revealed that the hotel had already earmarked themed weekends where SBM clients would receive surprise upgrades and personalised welcome amenities.

He urged local media to walk the talk by sampling the packages and reporting on the experience.

Nurture Your Talent Instead Of Resulting To Drugs, Meru Women Rep. Urges

By: Dennis Dibondo
@themtkenyatimes

Meru County Women Representative Elizabeth Kailemia has urged youths to spend their time nurturing their talents instead of resulting in drug abuse.

She spoke on Sunday in the sideline of where she had organised a talent search that brought different talented youths across the country.

The Talent search dubbed 'Komesha Mihadarati' (stop drug abuse) saw many youth turn up to show their prowess in singing, rapping, spoken word, dancing and many more.

The talent show happened at Elsa Hotel, North Imenti constituency where several popular Meru artists attended the event. These included Single L, MC Mananga, MC Laingo, Supu O Miro comedian Kiambambi among others.

Kailemia said she decided to start the talent show as she noticed many youths were drowning in alcohol and drug abuse.

"I have talked to many youths and they have told me the frustrations they

face because of lack of employment, I noticed there was a gap somewhere and I chipped in," she said.

She urged the youth to embrace talents to employ themselves instead of resulting in drugs.

"There are alot of people earning very huge sums of money because of their music, football, dance and other talents so I urge the youths to come out and am willing to support them," Kailemia said.

She said that she was willing to help put up a studio where young artists can record their songs free of charge.

She said the Meru artists are capable of going national and even international.

"At one time people were making fun of us in the Meru community saying we cannot sing but we now many artists in the county have shown that we are capable and many songs done by Meru artists are getting airplay countrywide," Kailemia said.

On Gen Z protest Kailemia said youth should not allow themselves to be used for political gain.

She said youths should embrace skills jobs instead of relying on being employed in offices.

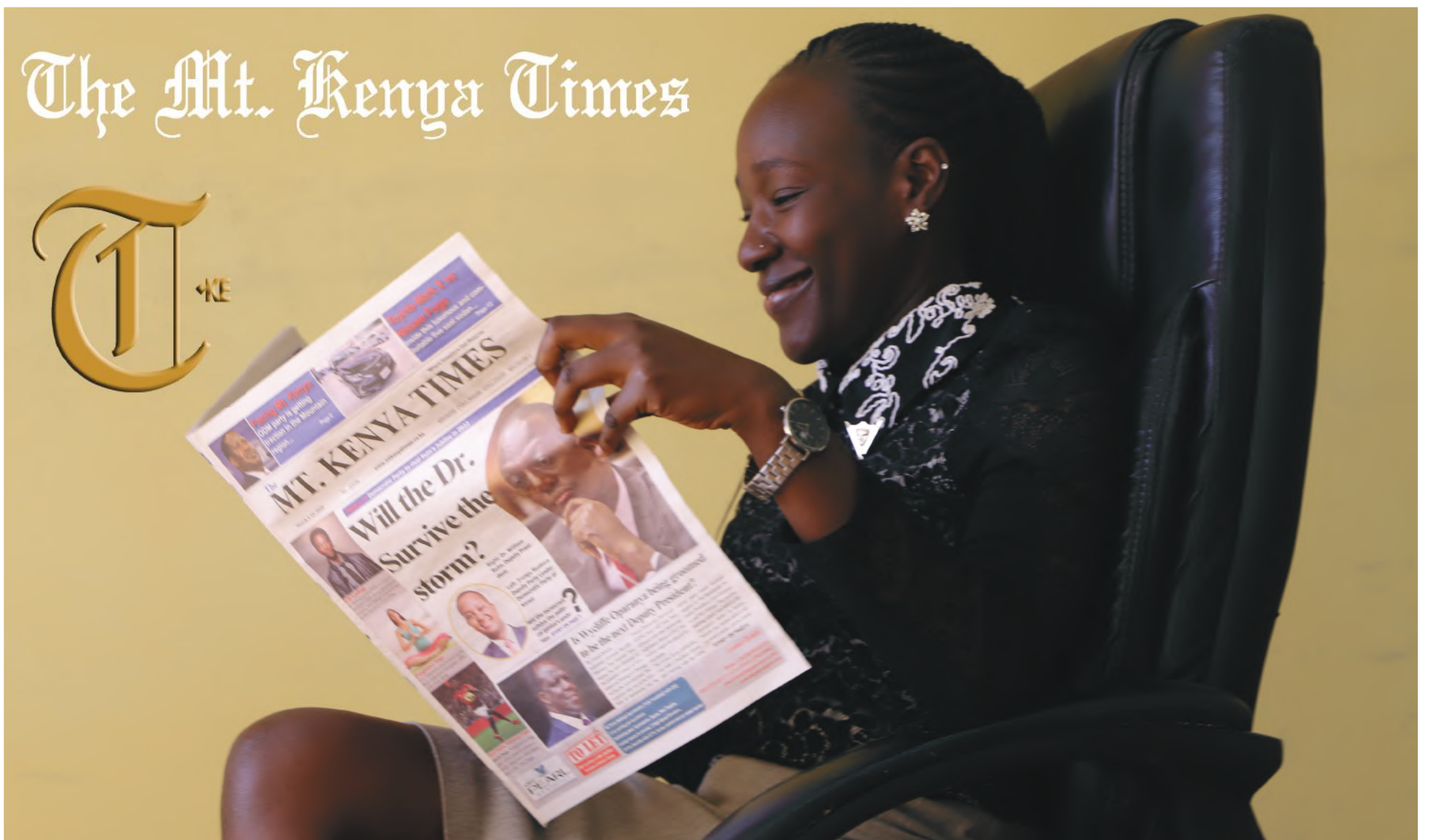


Meru County Women Representative Elizabeth Kailemia (right) dances with one of the artist when she organized a talent search dubbed 'Komesha Mihadarati' at Elsa Hotel on Sunday. Photo/Dennis Dibondo

"I have been encouraging the youths to join technical institutions like Mitunguu, Karumo, Mukiria. I have paid for a number of them doing

plumbing carpentry welding and other assisted courses," Kailemia said.

She urged youths who are interested to go to her offices and they will be



Government Implementing Transformative Reforms To Revitalize The TVET Sector

By: Esther Mwangi and Mary Ochieng

[@themkenyaintimes](#)

The State Department for Post-Training and Skills Development has called for enhanced collaboration between national and county governments in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector to ensure that TVET institutions offer relevant, high-quality training that meets local and national market driven needs and standards.

Director of Technical Education at the State Department Dr. Meshack Opwora explained that effective collaboration between the national and county governments was vital for successful regulatory efforts in the TVET sector, as it ensured alignment with national development goals and regional needs.

He cited key areas of cooperation between the two levels of government including curriculum development, trainer accreditation, quality assurance processes, and infrastructure development.

Dr. Opwora further said the collaboration was critical in developing and enforcing standards, regulations, and guidelines for TVET institutions, programmes and trainers, which he noted included standards in accreditation, registration, and licensing of providers.

“This collaboration should focus on standard development, quality assurance, access, equity, and relevance in training,” he added

While noting that Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) was the primary body for regulating and coordinating TVET including accreditation of institutions, programmes, and trainers, Dr. Opwora said county governments played a vital role in supporting and monitoring the quality of training within their jurisdictions.

The Director made the remarks at the Rift Valley National Polytechnic (RVNP) at the close of a two-day stakeholders’ engagement and dissemination forum on the 2023/24 Quality Audit Report compiled by the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA).

The event focused on presenting findings from the audit covering 416 institutions across 30 counties, including national polytechnics, public and private TVETs, and county vocational training centres. It aimed at assessing performance and foster dialogue on improving the quality of technical training in Kenya.

Dr. Opwora pointed out that the national government, through the Ministry of Education’s Directorate of Vocational Education and Training and the TVET Authority, set national policies and standards for TVET while County governments were responsible for implementing the policies at the local level, ensuring that institutions adhere to standards and guidelines.

This, he said, included ensuring that institutions have adequate resources, qualified trainers, and effective teaching and learning methodologies.

The collaboration also involves reg-



Director of Technical Education at the State Department Dr. Meshack Opwora..

Worth Noting:

- Dr. Opwora further said the collaboration was critical in developing and enforcing standards, regulations, and guidelines for TVET institutions, programmes and trainers, which he noted included standards in accreditation, registration, and licensing of providers.

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ular consultations and joint technical committees to ensure alignment and effective implementation of policies, he added.

The Director reaffirmed the government’s commitment to strengthening TVET institutions to support the ongoing transition to the new competency-based curriculum (CBC).

The focus on TVET is seen as a crucial step in addressing youth unemployment and equipping learners with relevant, marketable skills. The government’s emphasis on technical education marks a shift towards competency-based learning, reinforcing its role in national development under Vision 2030.

The forum brought together key stakeholders, including representatives from the State Department for TVETs, TVETA Board, County Governments, Ministry of Education, National Administration, and heads of institutions.

The Director emphasized that TVET reforms were essential in ensuring that graduates acquired the practical skills needed in Kenya’s evolving job market.

Other reforms included aligning TVET curricula with emerging sectors like digital technology, renewable energy and advanced manufacturing, increased funding and stronger industry partnerships (dual training model) which combines classroom learning with practical industry experience.

“Our partnerships with industry players ensure that what students learn in TVET institutions is directly applicable in the job market. We want to produce

graduates who are job-ready and innovative,” Dr Opwora stated

He affirmed that national and county governments should work together to ensure that TVET opportunities are accessible to all, regardless of location or socio-economic background and that joint efforts are needed to monitor the performance of TVET institutions, assess the quality of training, and evaluate the impact of TVET programs on the job market.

Nakuru County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Education, ICT, e-Government and Public Communication Ms Zipporah Wambui reaffirmed the devolved unit’s commitment to vocational training as a driver of economic transformation.

She cited ongoing infrastructure upgrades, policy reforms, and support initiatives as part of the County’s strategy to enhance access, equity, and quality, citing partnerships between Nakuru Vocational Training Colleges and national institutions to boost youth skills.

Ms. Wambui stated that Governor Susan Kihika’s administration had committed to making significant investments in tertiary institutions to accommodate the increasing number of students and ensure access to higher education.

Consequently, the county had embarked on the transformation of various vocational training centres with a view to aligning them to current market trends, she said.

She pledged that they would continue

focusing on strengthening the ties between vocational training and industry needs, as a way of addressing the critical issue of youth employability in Kenya.

Ms. Wambui emphasized the growing need for students to pursue technical education in light of the rising number of high school graduates saying that the country was facing a shortage of skilled technicians, urging students to explore technical fields that are critical to shaping Kenya’s economic future.

She indicated that the County Government was championing a dual Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) programme- an educational approach that combines theoretical classroom instruction with practical workplace training and called to attention Kenya’s growing demand for digital and technical skills, encouraging young people to retrain and stay aligned with the industry needs.

“We shall continue supporting our VTCs through the Sh30, 000 capitation fund per trainee, infrastructure improvement, equipping and staffing. Together with our partners, we are building a workforce that will propel Nakuru County to an economic giant in future,” she stated.

Nakuru County has 24 youth polytechnics spread across the 11 sub counties.

Isiolo Governor To Face The Senate Plenary

By: PSCU

The fate of Isiolo County Governor, Abdi Ibrahim Hassan now lies in the hands of the full Senate after a proposed Motion to form a Special Committee to investigate his impeachment failed to secure the required support during a special sitting held yesterday.

Senate Speaker Amason Kingi made the ruling following the collapse of the motion that sought to establish an 11-member Special Committee to handle the matter.

The motion, which was moved by Senate Majority Whip and Kakamega Senator Boni Khalwale did not proceed after Minority Leader and Kilifi Senator Stewart Madzayo declined to second it.

In accordance with the Senate's Standing Orders, Speaker Kingi ruled that the Motion was effectively withdrawn.

"The Motion was not seconded and is therefore, pursuant to Standing Order 70 of the Senate Standing Orders, deemed to have been withdrawn," stated Speaker Kingi during the proceedings.

He further directed that the impeachment process will now be handled by the Senate Plenary.

"This implies that the Senate will investigate the proposed removal from office, by way of impeachment, of Governor Abdi Hassan in plenary pursuant to Section 33(3)(a) of the County Governments Act and Standing Order 80(1)(b)," he said.

The Senate will now deliberate on the matter during plenary sittings scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday next week.

Speaker Kingi directed the Office of the Clerk to issue formal invitations to the involved parties by today. All parties are expected to file their written responses with the Clerk's office by Friday.

In preparation for the plenary hearings, the Clerk was also instructed to circulate all received documentation including the hearing programme to Senators by 5pm on Monday.

Earlier during the Special Sitting, Speaker Kingi formally notified Senators of a communication he had received from the Speaker of the Isiolo County Assembly regarding the impeachment proceedings initiated against Governor Hassan.

"I have, pursuant to Standing Order 48(3), received a message from the Speaker of the County Assembly of Isiolo regarding the passage by the County Assembly of a Motion for removal from office, by way of impeachment of Honourable Abdi Ibrahim Hassan, the Governor of Isiolo County," said Kingi.

The communication cites Articles 181(1)(a), (b), and (c) of the Constitution, read together with Section 33



Worth Noting:

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of the County Governments Act and Standing Order 74 of the Isiolo County Assembly.

The impeachment resolution was formally transmitted to the Senate via a letter dated Friday, 27th June 2025 and received on the same day. The Isiolo County Assembly accuses Governor Hassan of Gross Violation of the Constitution and other laws, Abuse of Office, and Gross Misconduct.

Under the charge of Gross Violation of the Constitution and other laws, the Governor is alleged to have failed to deliver the constitutionally mandated annual State of the County Address for three consecutive years, in violation of Section 30(2)(k) of the County Governments Act. He is further accused of violating Articles 201(d) and (e) of the Constitution by maintaining a bloated County workforce.

Allegedly, the Governor employed 36 advisors in his office and 31 Chief Officers, despite the county only hav-

ing six departments. Additionally, the governor appointed two Deputy County Secretaries, positions that do not exist in law. The appointments reportedly resulted in a wage bill that consumes 46% of the county's annual revenue allocation, significantly breaching the 35% cap set under Section 25(1)(a) and (b) of the Public Finance Management (County Governments) Regulations, 2015.

In the Abuse of Office charge, the Governor is accused of disregarding the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) Circular of 29th July 2013 and guidance from both the Transition Authority and the Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee, which limit the number of advisors to three.

His appointment of 31 Chief Officers also exceeds the 18 positions allowed under the County Executive Staff Establishment of July 2022.

Under the charge of Gross Misconduct, Governor Hassan is alleged to have made disparaging and sexist

remarks targeting Senator Fatuma Adan Dullo, the elected Senator for Isiolo County. The comments are said to have violated constitutional principles of leadership and integrity, the right to dignity and were classified as gender based psychological violence. His conduct is viewed as undermining the respect and decorum expected of his office.

Further, the governor is accused of making inflammatory and discriminatory remarks against certain clans residing in Isiolo County. The remarks, according to the County Assembly, have sown division among communities, eroded public trust and compromised the integrity of his office.

As the Senate prepares to deliberate the charges in full view of the nation, all eyes are now on the plenary proceedings, which will determine whether Governor Abdi Hassan will survive or be removed from office as proposed by the County Assembly of Isiolo.



The Senate in a past sitting.

PS Ann Wang'ombe Calls For Urgent Action On Rising Cases of Defilement

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Principal Secretary for Gender and Affirmative Action, Ann Wang'ombe, has called for urgent intervention to address the rising cases of defilement and child abuse in Nyeri County.

Speaking during a visit to Riamukurwe Primary School in Nyeri town Constituency, the PS expressed concern over increasing reports of sexual violence targeting minors, describing the situation as "a silent emergency that must not be ignored."

Ms Wang'ombe, who was on a tour to assess the state of learning and welfare of children in rural schools, was received by local education officials, teachers, and parents. She interacted with pupils, inspected classrooms, and held closed-door meetings with the school's management and community leaders.

Addressing the media and residents at the school grounds, Ms Wang'ombe emphasized the role of community awareness and education in combating the vice. "It is painful to hear of



PS for Gender Ms Ann Wang'ombe with Nyeri Central DCC Maina Ngunyi distributing milk to pupils at Riamukurwe Primary School yesterday.

young girls and boys being defiled by those meant to protect them—relatives, neighbors, even teachers. We must end this cycle of silence and shame," she said.

The PS urged parents and guardians to speak up and report such cases promptly.

"As a ministry, we are working closely with the police and children's departments to ensure perpetrators are brought to justice. No child should

suffer in silence."

She also announced a new partnership between the Ministry of Gender and grassroots organizations in Nyeri to establish child protection units and safe spaces in schools and churches.

"We are keen on strengthening school boards, launching mentorship programs, and ensuring schools like Kiamuru are equipped to protect learners not only academically but socially and emotionally," she added.



PS for Gender Ms Ann Wang'ombe with Nyeri Central DCC Maina Ngunyi distributing milk to pupils at Riamukurwe Primary School yesterday.

Local leaders in attendance, including Nyeri Central Sub-county Deputy County Commissioner Maina Ngunyi, Education officers and village elders, applauded the PS's commitment and called for more support in addressing cultural taboos that hinder reporting of such crimes.

During her visit, Ms Wang'ombe also launched a dignity kit distribution program aimed at supporting vulnerable girls in rural areas.

Over 300 girls at Riamukurwe Primary School received sanitary pads and hygiene supplies.

The visit is part of a broader national campaign by the Gender Ministry to curb gender-based violence and promote child protection in schools across Kenya.

Modern Markets Transform The Lives Of Traders In Kiambu

By: Grace Naishoo
 @themtkenyatimes

The development of modern markets in Kiambu County has brought significant transformation in the lives of local traders, replacing makeshift stalls and open-air trading with permanent, hygienic, and secure facilities.

For decades, traders in towns such as Ruiru, Limuru, and Githunguri operated in congested and often unsanitary environments, battling weather extremes and insecurity.

Today, many of them conduct business in newly constructed market complexes equipped with stalls, cold storage, water, electricity and digital payment systems.

"I used to sell vegetables under an umbrella by the roadside," says Jane Wanjiru, a mother of three who now

owns a stall at the newly opened Limuru Modern Market. "Now, I don't have to worry about the rain, and I serve more customers because they find the place clean and accessible."

The transformation is the result of the government and World Bank investing in market infrastructure under Kenya's Vision 2030 plan.

The establishment of modern markets in Kiambu County marks a significant step towards economic empowerment for small-scale traders. With over 20 markets completed or under construction, the county is setting a benchmark in market infrastructure development, fostering a conducive environment for trade and economic growth.

According to Kiambu County Trade Executive Susan Gatwiri, these markets are not just about construction of better facilities, they are about empowering small traders and also creating opportunities.

"Traders now have access to formal financing, proper business registration, and training in entrepreneurship," Gatwiri explains. "This has led to increased incomes and better standards of living."

Digital inclusion is also playing a key role. Many traders have adopted mobile money and digital record-keeping, allowing them to access microloans and manage their businesses more efficiently.

However, the shift has not been without challenges. Some traders have struggled to afford service fees in the new facilities, while others miss the high foot traffic of the old street setups. Nevertheless, most agree the long-term benefits outweigh the setbacks.

Local Economist Mercy Nduita notes that formalizing informal trade helps stabilize the economy and opens new paths for youth and women.

"These markets are not just places



of commerce, they are also centers of community development, supporting both economic growth and dignity of work," she says.

As Kiambu continues its urbanization journey, the story of its modern markets reflects a broader national trend, turning small-scale trade into a driver of economic resilience and

social progress.

Plans are underway to replicate the success of the pilot markets in smaller towns like Githunguri and Kikuyu. Additionally, the county is exploring digital marketplaces and e-commerce integration to further boost traders' reach.

The Golden Truth



In the peaceful village of Vrindapur, located by the sacred Yamuna River, lived an exceptional girl named Radha. Despite having a limp that made her gait different, her kindness and curiosity shone brightly. While other children teased her and elders felt pity, Radha remained gentle, helping her mother and listening to her grandfather's enchanting tales of Lord Krishna. One day, an old sage named Rishi Aryananda arrived, holding a beautiful mirror adorned with lotus carvings. "This mirror shows your inner

truth," he declared. One by one, the villagers approached, seeing their anger, envy, and greed reflected back at them.

Then Radha stepped forward. Her reflection radiated golden light, with a blooming lotus at her heart and a calm smile on her face.

Rishi Aryananda smiled warmly. "Look! She walks with love in every step. Radha embraces her true self, and her whole soul shines brightly."

From that day on, the villagers no longer laughed at her. Though Radha remained the same, the village transformed, learning to see each other with kinder eyes and walk with compassionate hearts.

- Kshama Rao
Writer

When A Language Dies, Culture Fades – Preserving Indigenous Tongues Is Preserving Identity



By: Sobirova Vazira Jahongir

In a world that speaks louder in global languages, the quiet voices of indigenous tongues are fading into silence. Yet, every dying language carries with it more than just words – it holds the collective memory, traditions, and soul of a people. The extinction of a language is the erosion of identity, the loss of a unique worldview, and a crisis often unnoticed by the world.

Language is more than a tool – it is a vessel of culture. From lullabies to ancestral myths, it transmits ethics, customs, and identity. As Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o notes, language carries culture, and through it, people perceive themselves and their world [Thiong'o, 1986, p. 16].

The nuances in indigenous tongues reflect unique ways of thinking. For instance, many have no word for 'owning' land, suggesting a communal bond with nature. Losing such languages means losing alternative philosophies of living [Harrison, 2007, p. 63].

Today, about 40% of the world's 7,000 languages are endangered. One language disappears every two weeks [UNESCO, 2020]. Most of these belong to marginalized communities. Many of them have never been written down, making their loss irreversible. Language is tied to identity. It shapes how we

name, describe, and connect with our world. Generations in colonized nations were punished for using their mother tongues, causing cultural trauma. As a Māori proverb says, 'Language is the life force of identity.'

Reviving indigenous languages requires more than nostalgia. It needs education, policy support, and community will. Bilingual education and cultural pride have helped languages like Welsh and Hebrew recover. Social media is now a surprising ally, connecting young people to their linguistic roots.

But true preservation requires space in courts, media, and daily life – not just classrooms. When people speak their native language with pride, they assert their presence and cultural worth. As linguist Leanne Hinton puts it, language use is a declaration: 'We are still here' [Hinton, 2013, p. 102].

Preserving a language is not merely saving words – it is saving the songs, prayers, and stories that define who we are. In protecting these voices, we protect human diversity itself.

Sobirova Vazira Jahongir was born on August 30, 2006, in the Qarshi district of Qashqadaryo region. She has successfully completed her first year of undergraduate studies with excellent grades at the Uzbek State World Languages University. During her studies, she has shown great interest in learning several foreign languages. Currently, she is fluent in Uzbek, English, and Russian, and is eager to learn additional languages.

In addition to her academic pursuits, she actively participates in both international and local social projects. Her future goal is to contribute to the development of the education sector and society, and to become a highly qualified specialist in her field.

Plan Everything



Plan everything, before you start anything
Pre-planning is key, to achieving your best,
Without a clear mindset, you'll stumble and fall,
It leads to failure,

Remember failure's not the end, it's a part of
the way,

To success and growth, come what may,
In each step, you learn to analyze well
Your strengths and weaknesses lies there

Identify your strength, and weakness
And work well to be strong,
From the beginning start planning
and the end will be successful
Save your time, and transform well

Mistakes are human, but don't make them a
habit,
Learn from them, and move forward
Follow the path, of clear vision
To succeed in your mission, and shine reach the
peak

All we need is plan and only plan

J.H.Aasiya
Class 10
Govt High school Melpattampakkam Cuddalore
district
Tamil Nadu, India

Time Shows The True Intention Of People Around Us



Time reveals the reality, just wait and see,
Who is who, and what is what, will be revealed
to you

Many hide behind masks, with evil intentions
Seeking favor and praise, while justice is
ignored totally

They utter honey combed words, sweet and
fine,

But their heart is venomous and poisonous
Like a cobra's bite, their malice will tell
But time will expose all reality

Their true nature will come to light one day
Time is a mirror, reflecting the soul,
Revealing true character, making it full
It shows the heart, mind, and soul's intention

Exposing the fake nature and confirms the
reality
Just wait and see, their mask will fall,
Revealing the truth, of who they are,
Time teaches us so much, wait with patience

Showing strength and weakness, in the light.
Just be Patient and observe with time.
They have no self conscience too

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



Teacher



The sun of the heart is the teacher,
The gardener of the student's garden is
the teacher,
The teacher is the light of the sun's rays
The teacher who shines like a light is the
teacher.

The teacher who opens his arms wide
like a mother,
The teacher who takes great steps like

a father

The teacher is the most brilliant, the
teacher is the most beautiful.

The teacher is the flower garden of
every garden, the teacher.

Thousands of students follow the
footsteps of one teacher,
They pour flowers on their paths and
express gratitude,

If I write again, I will miss the sandy
landscape.

The teacher is still there, the teacher is
the teacher!

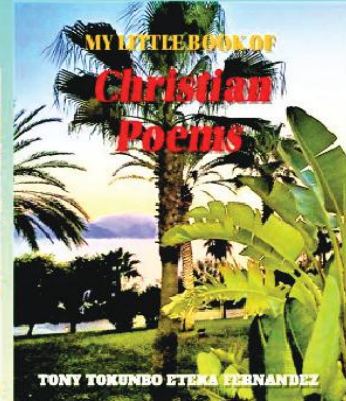
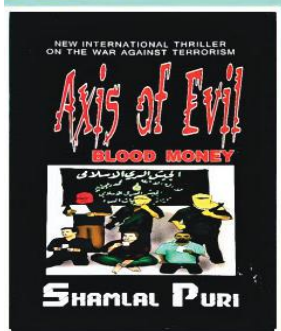
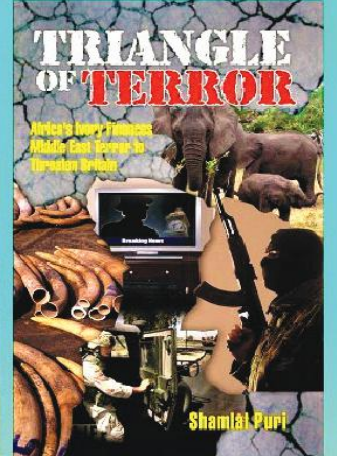
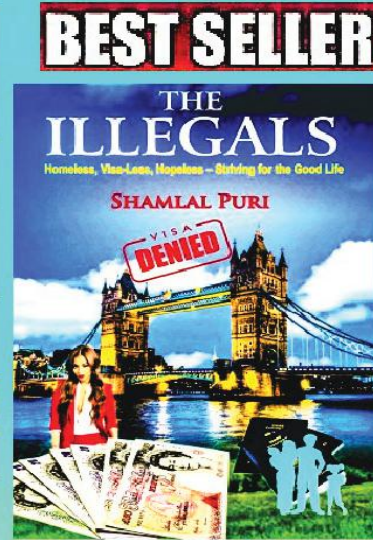
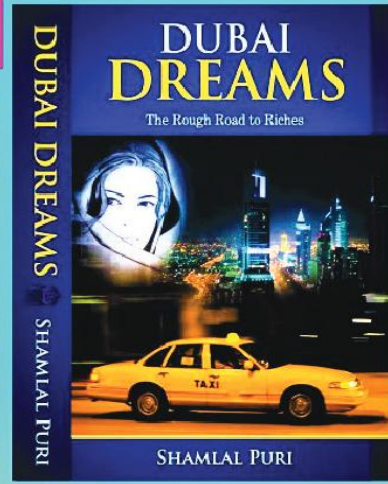
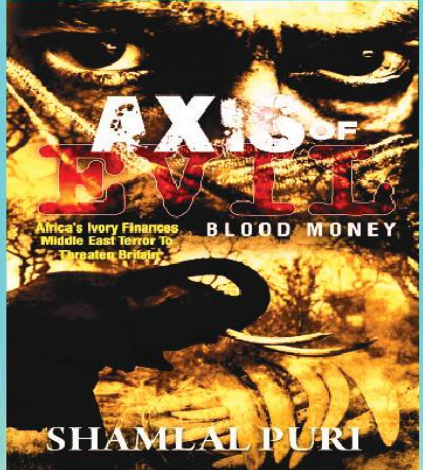
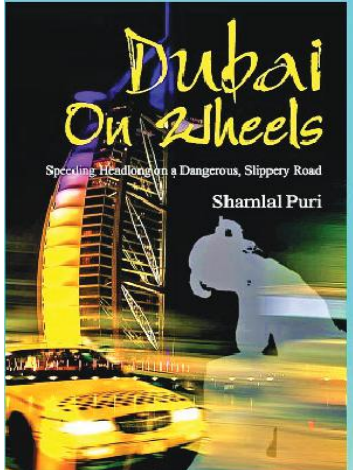
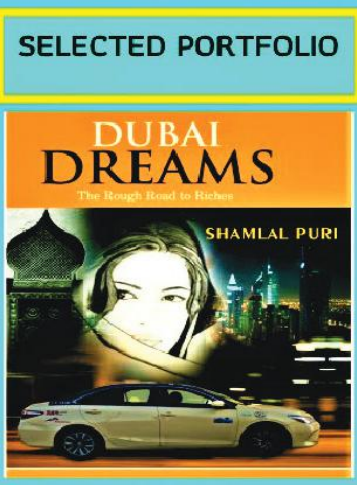
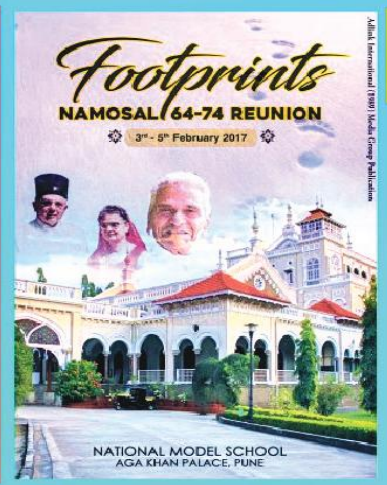
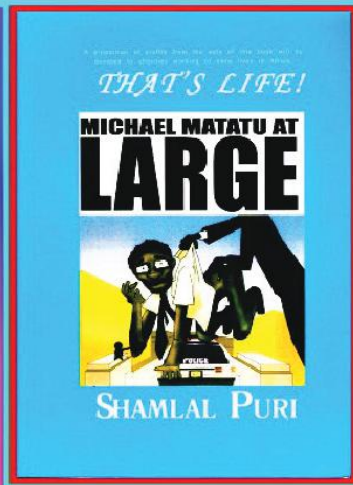
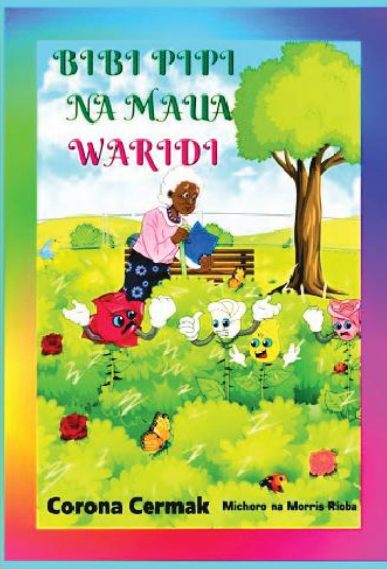
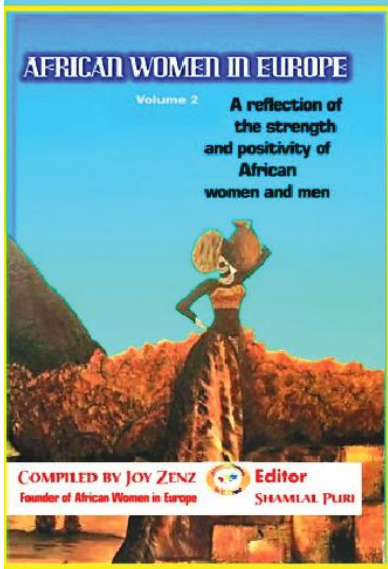
Khotamazarova Shokhista was born on
October 25, 2007 in the Zamin district
of Jizzakh region. Her hobbies are reading,
drawing, and traveling. She has won
various competitions with her drawings.

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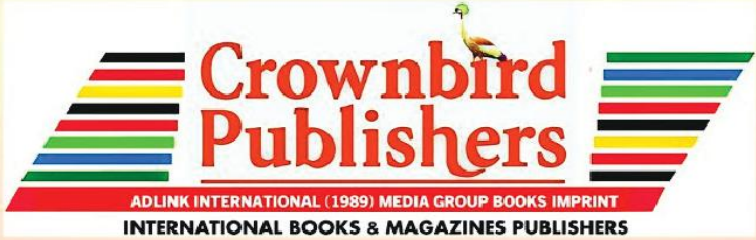
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BUSINESS

Global Leaders convene in Nairobi for the Vatican African Conference on Climate Resilience

By: Cynthia Masibo
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

• Speakers underscored the need for equitable solutions that prioritize the poorest and most affected populations. Dr. Jackie Kado, Executive Director of NASAC, stressed the importance of science-based, locally informed, and inclusive partnerships: “Africa’s climate challenges demand solutions that are rooted in science, informed by local realities, and driven by inclusive partnerships. This summit is a crucial step toward empowering cities and communities to lead on climate resilience through innovation, solidarity, and determined action.”

• Women’s grassroots participation was also spotlighted as a driver of community adaptation, with calls to empower women’s leadership in climate decision-making to ensure that adaptation strategies are both effective and equitable.



Eliane Ubalijoro – Chief Executive Officer, CIFOR-ICRAF issuing her address.

World leaders, scientists, policymakers, and grassroots advocates convened in Nairobi for the Vatican African Conference on Climate Resilience, a landmark summit aimed at charting a new course for climate adaptation across Africa. Hosted at the CIFOR-ICRAF campus, the two-day event seeks to place local communities and grassroots actors at the heart of Africa’s climate resilience strategy, with a focus on decentralizing adaptation policies and ensuring that resources reach those most vulnerable to climate shocks.

The summit, co-convened by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences (PAS), the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences (PASS), and supported by the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC), is part of a global series of regional gatherings inspired by the Vatican’s “Planetary Call to Action.” This initiative, signed by Pope Francis and global leaders, calls for a bottom-up, locally led approach to climate resilience and will inform a global blueprint for adoption at future COP meetings and

a final Vatican summit in 2026.

Dr. Eliane Ubalijoro, CEO of CIFOR-ICRAF, highlighted the importance of local knowledge and nature-based solutions: “Across Africa, communities are already demonstrating that local knowledge, regenerative practices, and nature-based solutions are powerful tools for climate resilience. As we confront the escalating climate crisis, we must amplify these efforts and invest in integrated, inclusive approaches that bridge science, policy, and action.”

The summit’s agenda reflects Africa’s diverse socio-economic and environmental realities, with sessions focusing on best practices in resilience from mayors and local leaders, innovative financing for adaptation in cities and regions, scientific and policy innovations for climate adaptation, responses to extreme weather and disaster recovery, societal transformation through inclusive, multi-level governance, and strategies for climate-related migration and mobility. A central framework guiding discussions is the Mitigation, Ad-

aptation, and Societal Transformation (MAST) strategy, which emphasizes rapid emissions reductions, local adaptation, and broad societal change to build lasting resilience.

Speakers underscored the need for equitable solutions that prioritize the poorest and most affected populations. Dr. Jackie Kado, Executive Director of NASAC, stressed the importance of science-based, locally informed, and inclusive partnerships: “Africa’s climate challenges demand solutions that are rooted in science, informed by local realities, and driven by inclusive partnerships. This summit is a crucial step toward empowering cities and communities to lead on climate resilience through innovation, solidarity, and determined action.”

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The summit highlights the vital role

of faith communities in advancing climate resilience. Archbishop Philip Anyolo, head of the Catholic Church in Kenya, and other religious leaders are participating in discussions on how the Church can champion sustainability and support vulnerable communities. Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, a co-convenor, emphasized: “Climate change knows no borders; all of us feel its cruel effects. We must move beyond division and embrace solidarity and shared resilience standing together behind bold actions and policies that serve the public good.”

Outcomes from the Nairobi summit will feed into a global protocol for climate resilience, shaping policy and practice not only across Africa but worldwide. By centering local voices, science, and inclusive governance, leaders hope to build a robust, climate-resilient future for Africa one that can serve as a model for the world.



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Uhuru The Hidden Card That Shall Determine 2027 Elections

By: Omaar Dee
 @themtkenyatimes

As Kenya moves closer to the 2027 general elections, former President Uhuru Kenyatta has remained largely silent in the national political arena. However, political analysts and party insiders suggest that his behind-the-scenes manoeuvres are shaping the emerging opposition landscape. With significant personal wealth, a network of loyalists, and unfinished development projects in Mount Kenya, Uhuru is increasingly seen as a pivotal force in deciding who will challenge President William Ruto at the ballot.



Former President Uhuru Kenyatta

Worth Noting:

- During his tenure, Uhuru launched ambitious projects in infrastructure, health, education, and digitisation, most notably Huduma Namba, the Nairobi expressway, and expansion of technical training institutions. While some were completed, others stalled after the 2022 elections. With public discontent rising over these delays, Uhuru is using the promise of reviving unfinished projects as political capital.
- Sources within Jubilee indicate that the party's revival plan is tied to restoring development momentum in the region. Uhuru is reportedly keen on supporting a candidate who can guarantee the completion of his legacy initiatives while also appealing to national unity.

Uhuru's Unshaken Grip on Mount Kenya

Despite his 2022 retirement, Uhuru still commands considerable influence in Mount Kenya. Delegates at the Limuru III political summit in early 2025 reaffirmed his role as the region's political kingpin. The Jubilee Party, under his guidance, is undergoing restructuring, with Secretary-General Jeremiah Kioni leading the reorganisation of grassroots support bases.

Many in the region feel disillusioned with Kenya Kwanza's performance, citing broken promises and stalled development. These sentiments have opened the door for Uhuru's resurgence. Political strategists believe he is strategically waiting for the right time to make a decisive move, most likely through endorsing a candidate who aligns with his development agenda and political values.

The Legacy Question: Unfinished Projects and Political Leverage

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Fred Matiang'i: The Technocrat in Waiting

Fred Matiang'i has emerged as a strong contender for the opposition ticket. Though not officially endorsed, the former Interior Cabinet Secretary has been named in Jubilee's internal strategy as a likely flagbearer. Matiang'i's administrative track record under Uhuru's government includes cleaning up the education sector, enforcing discipline in public service, and spearheading security reforms. His candidacy is gaining quiet momentum, particularly in Central and Western Kenya. Jubilee officials point to his loyalty, competence, and ability to manage large national programmes, key traits that align with Uhuru's leadership style. Matiang'i declared his presidential ambitions in May 2025 and has since begun grassroots tours, signalling his readiness to step into the national political ring.

Political analysts argue that Matiang'i's technocratic appeal, coupled with Jubilee's resources and Uhuru's backing, positions him as a serious contender to face Ruto in 2027.

Kalonzo Musyoka: Experienced but Politically Limited

Wiper Party leader Kalonzo Musyoka

has also declared interest in the presidency and is actively seeking to build alliances, including efforts to win over Mount Kenya voters. Kalonzo brings decades of political experience and commands a strong following in Eastern Kenya.

However, his prospects face significant hurdles. Jubilee insiders have expressed reservations about his assertiveness and leadership strength. His previous indecisiveness in past coalition talks and failure to take firm stands have raised doubts among potential supporters. Additionally, Kalonzo lacks solid backing in Mount Kenya, a critical voting bloc that remains under Uhuru's influence.

Sources say Kalonzo's attempt to form a coalition ticket with Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua without involving Jubilee alienated him from Uhuru's circle and triggered the party's pivot toward Matiang'i.

Uhuru's Strategic Silence and the Road Ahead

While Uhuru has not publicly endorsed any candidate, his strategic silence is seen as a calculated move. Political observers believe he is

watching the field closely and will only speak when conditions are most favourable. The likelihood of his eventual support for Matiang'i remains high, given their past working relationship and alignment on governance priorities.

Jubilee's resurgence, backed by Uhuru's wealth and loyal base, is expected to play a key role in shaping the 2027 opposition strategy. Whether Matiang'i becomes the final pick or not, Uhuru's influence will likely determine who carries the hopes of the opposition into the next election.

Uhuru Kenyatta may be absent from public rallies, but his political weight is being felt. With unfinished development projects, vast resources, and influence in a vote-rich region, he remains the hidden card in Kenya's 2027 presidential race. As discussions centre around Fred Matiang'i and Kalonzo Musyoka, the final decision could rest with Uhuru, the man many still see as Mount Kenya's political anchor.

A Sacred Cry from the Elders and Seers of Mt. Kenya



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**To His Majesty King Charles III,
To the United Nations,
To the people of conscience across the world,**

A Message of Truth, Pain, and Hope.

From the sacred slopes of Mt. Kenya, the mountain that has watched generations weep, struggle, and pray this is our heartfelt cry. We, the elders and seers of this sacred land, rise in solemn remembrance and sorrow, carrying the pain of our forefathers who fought in the Mau Mau struggle not just for a flag, not just for a title but for full liberation of a people, their land, and their destiny.

Between 1958 and 1963, an agreement was entered between the British Crown and the Mau Mau movement. It was not merely a political arrangement. It was a covenant sealed in blood, in suffering, and in sacrifice. It was a promise that after 30 years from 1963, the people who truly fought for Kenya's freedom would be handed the reins of their future.

But this promise remains unfulfilled.

Since 1963, the land and spirit of Kenya have remained in the hands of leaders who, with sorrow we say, have continued cycles of oppression, betrayal, and the shedding of innocent blood. The vision of a free Kenya by the people and for the people has been deferred. The cries of our mothers, fathers, and children still echo through the forests where our warriors once hid, where they bled for liberty.

We appeal to His Majesty King Charles III, as a son of Queen Elizabeth II, who witnessed this agreement search the royal archives, return to the records signed in good faith between the Crown and the Mau Mau. You will see the truth. Do not let this generational promise be buried in time and bureaucracy.

We appeal to the United Nations, the guardians of justice and human dignity hear the voices long silenced. Recognize that the colonization of Kenya did not end in formality; it merely changed faces. True independence economic, spiritual, and political was postponed.

If you doubt our words, read the prophecies. Go to the sacred texts:

Joel 2 – speaks of restoration after years of locusts and suffering.

Isaiah 18 – a message to a land divided by rivers, to a people tall and smooth-skinned, scattered and peeled.

Daniel 7 – speaks of kingdoms rising and falling, and a time when judgment is passed in favor of the holy people of the Most High.

These are not coincidences. These are sacred signs.

The world is rising, not in chaos but in spiritual reckoning. Until the covenant made is honored, peace will be elusive. The uprising is not only political it is ancestral, spiritual, and divine. What rightfully belongs to Kenya's true freedom fighters must be returned.

Let there be healing. Let there be truth. Let

there be restoration.

We do not seek vengeance we seek justice. We seek to complete the journey that began decades ago in the forests, the prisons, and the graveyards of our land.

This is a cry.
This is a plea.
This is a prophecy.

From the sacred fire of the ancestors, we speak.
From the heights of Kirinyaga, we call.

Let the agreement be honored. Let the truth prevail. Let Kenya be truly free.

Signed:
Elders and Seers of Mt. Kenya

Missiles, Alliances, And Markets: The Israel-Iran Conflict And The Global Fault Line



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande
@themkenyatimes

Introduction: A Flashpoint Ignites
In June 2025, the Middle East was thrust into a new era of volatility as Israel and Iran engaged in direct military confrontation. What began as targeted airstrikes quickly escalated into a barrage of missiles, drone attacks, and retaliatory strikes that devastated infrastructure, claimed civilian lives, and sent shockwaves through global markets. While the immediate conflict lasted just under two weeks, its implications are far-reaching, touching on nuclear diplomacy, proxy warfare, economic stability, and the fragile architecture of international alliances. This analysis explores the roots of the Israel-Iran conflict, the actors backing each side, the economic and geopolitical consequences, and the potential trajectories this confrontation could take, including the haunting specter of a global war.

1. Historical Roots of Hostility
The enmity between Israel and Iran is not new. Prior to the 1979 Iranian Revolution, the two countries maintained quiet but strategic ties. However, the rise of the Islamic Republic under Ayatollah Khomeini marked a dramatic shift. Iran adopted an anti-Zionist stance, framing Israel as a colonial outpost and aligning itself with militant groups opposed to Israeli statehood. Over the decades, Iran's support for Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Gaza, and various Shiite militias across Iraq and Syria positioned it as the ideological and strategic counterweight to Israel. Meanwhile, Israel, backed by the United States and Western allies, viewed Iran's nuclear ambitions and regional influence as existential threats. The conflict simmered through cyber warfare, assassinations of nuclear scientists, and proxy battles. But in June 2025, it erupted into open war.

2. The Spark: Operation Rising Lion
On June 13, 2025, Israel launched Operation Rising Lion, a massive airstrike campaign targeting Iranian nuclear facilities, military bases, and regime infrastructure. The operation killed several top Iranian commanders, including IRGC chief Hossein

Salami, and crippled parts of Iran's nuclear program. Iran responded with over 1,000 ballistic missiles and drones aimed at Israeli cities, including Tel Aviv and Haifa. While Israel's Iron Dome and David's Sling defense systems intercepted most of the attacks, dozens of civilians were killed, and critical infrastructure was damaged. The United States entered the fray on June 22, deploying bunker-buster bombs on Iran's Natanz, Fordow, and Isfahan nuclear sites. A fragile ceasefire was brokered on June 24, but the damage - physical, psychological, and geopolitical - was already done.

3. Who's Backing Whom? The Global Chessboard
Israel's Supporters
United States: Provided military intelligence, air defense support, and direct strikes on Iranian facilities.
United Kingdom: Condemned Iran's missile attacks and affirmed Israel's right to self-defense.
France and Germany: Increased military presence in the region and called for UN intervention.
Australia and Japan: Denounced Iran's aggression and supported Israel diplomatically.
Iran's Supporters
Russia: Opposed Israeli strikes and provided diplomatic cover for Iran at the UN.
China: Criticized Israel's actions and supported Iran's sovereignty.

Lebanon (Hezbollah): Launched cross-border attacks into Israel.
Yemen (Houthis): Fired missiles at Israeli targets, including airports.
Syria and Iraq: Hosted Iranian-backed militias and supported Iran's regional agenda.
North Korea: Expressed solidarity with Iran and condemned Western intervention.
This alignment reflects a broader ideological divide: Western democracies backing Israel's security narrative versus Eastern powers and regional actors opposing perceived Western hegemony.

4. Economic Fallout: Oil, Inflation, and Market Panic
The conflict triggered immediate economic disruptions:
Oil Prices: Brent crude surged by over 10%, briefly topping \$78 per barrel. Fears of a blockade in the Strait of Hormuz, a vital corridor for global oil, raised concerns of prices exceeding \$100.
Global Inflation: Rising energy costs threatened central banks' ability to cut interest rates, especially in Asia and Europe.
Stock Markets: Initial sell-offs were followed by cautious rebounds. Safe-haven assets like gold and U.S. treasuries gained traction.
Supply Chains: Disruptions in



shipping and aviation affected trade routes, especially in Asia and the Middle East.
Countries like Indonesia, South Africa, and India braced for ripple effects, including higher fuel prices, inflationary pressure, and reduced export competitiveness.

5. Humanitarian and Environmental Toll
The war's human cost was staggering:
Iran: Over 610 killed, 4,746 injured, and widespread damage to hospitals, ambulances, and emergency services.
Israel: 28 killed, 3,238 injured, with strikes hitting residential areas and scientific institutions.
Environmental damage included fires in oil depots, destruction of natural reserves, and contamination from missile debris. The psychological toll - panic, displacement, and trauma - was felt across both nations.

6. Why Are They Fighting? Strategic and Ideological Drivers
At the heart of the conflict lie several intertwined motivations:
Nuclear Deterrence: Israel views Iran's nuclear program as an existential threat. Iran insists its program is peaceful but has enriched uranium to near-weapons grade.
Regional Dominance: Iran seeks to expand its influence through proxy groups. Israel aims to dismantle this "ring of fire".
Regime Survival: Israeli analysts suggest Netanyahu's government may be using the conflict to consolidate power. Iran's leadership, facing internal dissent, may use external threats to rally support.
Ideological Clash: Iran's revolutionary doctrine opposes Western influence and Israeli statehood. Israel, a democratic ally of the West, sees Iran as a destabilizing force.

7. Geopolitical Implications: A

New Regional Order?
The war has reshaped Middle Eastern geopolitics:
Arab States' Response: While traditionally critical of Iran, many Arab capitals opposed Israel's strikes and U.S. involvement. This reflects growing discomfort with Israel's military assertiveness and Western double standards.
Global South's Disillusionment: Countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America criticized Western hypocrisy, supporting Israel while condemning others for similar actions.
Axis of Resistance vs. Axis of Stability: The region is now polarized between Iran-led resistance movements and Israel-aligned stability seekers.
The conflict may accelerate realignments, with countries reassessing alliances, defense strategies, and diplomatic priorities.

8. Could This Lead to World War III?
While the term "World War III" evokes apocalyptic imagery, several factors temper its likelihood:
Containment Efforts: The U.S. and regional powers have pushed for de-escalation.
Nuclear Restraint: Despite targeting nuclear sites, no nuclear weapons were used. However, the risk of proliferation remains.
Proxy Warfare: Most actors prefer indirect engagement, supporting militias rather than deploying national armies.
Yet, the danger lies in miscalculation. A strike on a U.S. base, a failed interception, or a retaliatory escalation could spiral beyond control. The involvement of nuclear-capable states like Russia and China adds to the risk.

9. What Comes Next? Scenarios and Recommendations
Scenario 1: Prolonged Proxy War
Iran rebuilds its networks, and Isra-

el continues targeted strikes. The region remains unstable, with periodic flare-ups.
Scenario 2: Regime Change in Iran
Internal dissent, economic strain, and military losses weaken the Islamic Republic. A new government emerges, potentially more moderate.
Scenario 3: Diplomatic Breakthrough
Global pressure leads to renewed nuclear talks, regional security pacts, and gradual normalization.
Scenario 4: Escalation to Global Conflict
A misstep draws NATO, Russia, or China into direct confrontation. Cyberattacks, economic warfare, and military clashes ensue.
Recommendations
Strengthen Multilateral Diplomacy: Revive the JCPOA or a new framework for nuclear restraint.
Invest in Conflict Prevention: Support civil society, economic development, and regional cooperation.
Monitor Proxy Networks: Track arms flows, militia movements, and ideological radicalization.
Prepare for Economic Shocks: Diversify energy sources, stabilize markets, and protect vulnerable populations.

Conclusion: A Fault Line Exposed
The Israel-Iran conflict of 2025 is more than a regional skirmish, it is a fault line in the global order. It exposes the fragility of international norms, the volatility of ideological rivalries, and the interconnectedness of security, economy, and diplomacy. Whether this moment becomes a turning point toward peace or a prelude to deeper chaos depends on the choices made by leaders, institutions, and citizens worldwide. The missiles may have stopped, for now, but the reverberations will echo for years to come.

Beyond Success And Failure: Navigating The UPSC Civil Services Journey

By: Murali Krishna Boddula

@themtkenyatimes

“Winners Never Quit & Quitters Never Win” - a mantra that echoes the unrelenting passion and determination of those who dare to dream big. For aspirants of the UPSC Civil Services Examination, this phrase is more than just a motivational quote; it's a way of life. It's about embracing the challenges, overcoming the obstacles, and emerging victorious.

The Examination Pattern: A Test of Endurance

The UPSC Civil Services Examination is a rigorous process that pushes candidates to their limits. It's a three-stage examination that demands dedication, hard work, and perseverance.

1. Prelims: The First Hurdle

- Objective-type questions, two papers (GS Paper I and CSAT), qualifying nature.
- A test of speed, accuracy, and strategic thinking.

2. Mains: The Battle for Merit

- Descriptive-type questions, nine papers (Essay, General Studies, Optional Subject, English, and Indian Language).
- Marks contribute to the final merit list, making it a crucial stage.

3. Personality Test: The Final Showdown

- Assessment of personality traits, communication skills, and suitability for civil services.
- 275 marks that can make or break a candidate's chances.

The Key Qualities of a Winner

To succeed in the UPSC Civil Services Examination, candidates need to possess certain qualities that set them apart from the rest.

1. Intellectual Ability: The Power of Analysis

- Analytical thinking and problem-solving skills that help navigate complex issues.
- The ability to think critically and come up with innovative solutions.

2. Communication Skills: The Art of Expression

- Effective writing and verbal communication that convey ideas with clarity and precision.
- The ability to articulate thoughts and opinions in a confident and persuasive manner.

3. Personality Traits: The Foundation of Success

- Integrity, adaptability, and resilience that form the bedrock of a strong personality.
- The ability to stay grounded,

flexible, and motivated in the face of challenges.

4. Knowledge and Awareness: The Key to Insight

- A broad knowledge base that encompasses various subjects and current affairs.
- The ability to stay updated and informed about the world around us.

5. Soft Skills: The Glue that Holds it Together

- Time management and interpersonal skills that facilitate effective learning and collaboration.
- The ability to prioritize tasks, work with others, and build strong relationships.

The Precautions to Be Taken

Success in the UPSC Civil Services Examination requires more than just knowledge and skills; it demands a strategic approach and a healthy lifestyle.

1. Preparation: The Foundation of Success

- Create a study plan that covers all the necessary topics and allows for sufficient practice and revision.
- Stay updated with current events and developments in various fields.
- Practice mock tests and previous year's question papers to assess performance and identify areas for improvement.

2. Health and Well-being: The Key to Sustainability

- Manage stress through meditation, exercise, or yoga to maintain mental well-being.
- Get enough sleep and eat a balanced diet to maintain physical and mental health.

3. Time Management: The Art of Prioritization

- Prioritize tasks and focus on the most important areas of study.
- Set realistic goals and milestones to stay motivated and track progress.
- Avoid procrastination and stay focused to make the most of your study time.

4. Staying Motivated: The Power of Positive Reinforcement

- Find a study group or join online communities to stay motivated and engaged.
- Celebrate small wins and milestones to stay motivated and encouraged.
- Remind yourself of your goals and why you're working towards them.

The Path to Success

By understanding the examination pattern, developing key qualities, and taking necessary precautions, candidates can increase their chances of success in the UPSC Civil Services Examination. It's a journey that requires dedication, hard work,

and perseverance. But for those who are willing to put in the effort, the rewards are immense. The UPSC Civil Services Examination is not just a test of knowledge; it's a test of character. It's an opportunity to prove oneself and make a difference in the world. So, let's embark on this journey with passion, determination, and a winning mindset. Let's make our dreams a reality and become the change we wish to see in the world.

The Importance of Having a Plan B

When embarking on a challenging journey like the UPSC Civil Services Examination, it's essential to be prepared for all possible outcomes. While it's crucial to stay focused and motivated, having a plan B can help you navigate the uncertainty and unpredictability of life.

Why Have a Plan B?

Having a plan B can provide several benefits, including:

1. Reducing Stress and Anxiety: Knowing that you have a backup plan can help reduce stress and anxiety, allowing you to focus on your preparation.
2. Increasing Confidence: Having a plan B can boost your confidence, as you'll know that you're prepared for any outcome.
3. Providing a Safety Net: A plan B can serve as a safety net, providing a sense of security and stability in case you don't succeed in the examination.
4. Encouraging Exploration: Having a plan B can encourage you to explore other options and opportunities, potentially leading to new and exciting experiences.

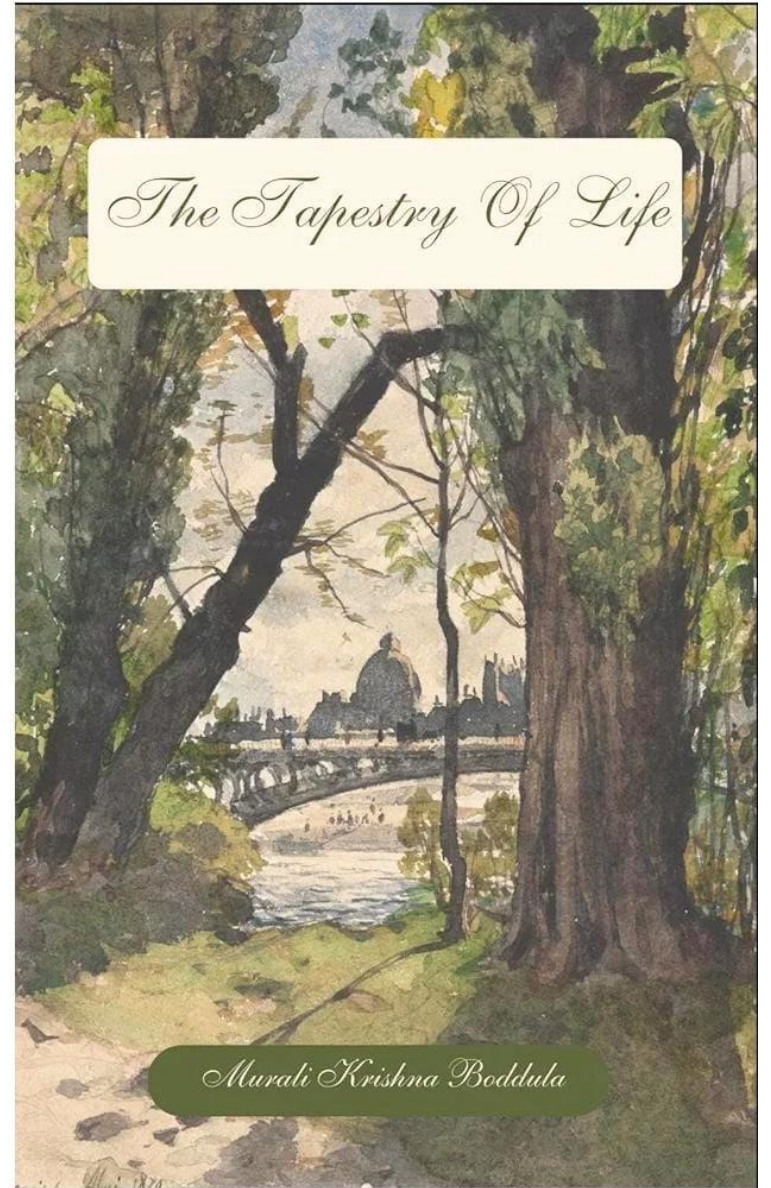
What Can Be Included in a Plan B?

Plan B can include various options, such as:

1. Alternative Career Paths: Consider other career paths that align with your interests and skills, such as private sector jobs, research, or entrepreneurship.
2. Higher Education: Pursue higher education, such as a master's degree or Ph.D., to enhance your knowledge and skills.
3. Skill Development: Focus on developing specific skills, such as language proficiency, coding, or data analysis, to increase your employability.
4. Entrepreneurship: Consider starting your own business or venture, leveraging your skills and passions to create a successful enterprise.

How to Create a Plan B

Creating a plan B requires careful



consideration and planning. Here are some steps to help you get started:

1. Identify Your Goals: Reflect on your goals and aspirations, and consider what you want to achieve in the short-term and long-term.
2. Explore Options: Research and explore various options, including alternative career paths, higher education, skill development, and entrepreneurship.
3. Assess Your Skills: Assess your skills and strengths, and consider how they can be applied to different options.
4. Create a Plan: Develop a plan that outlines your goals, objectives, and strategies for achieving your plan B.

Tips for Implementing a Plan B

Implementing a plan B requires dedication and perseverance. Here are some tips to help you succeed:

1. Stay Focused: Stay focused on your goals and objectives, and avoid distractions that can derail your progress.
2. Be Adaptable: Be adaptable and flexible, and be willing to adjust your plan as needed.

3. Seek Support: Seek support from friends, family, or mentors, and don't be afraid to ask for help when needed.
4. Stay Positive: Stay positive and motivated, and celebrate your achievements along the way.

Conclusion

The article Beyond Success and Failure: Navigating the UPSC Civil Services Journey offers valuable insights and guidance for aspirants of the UPSC Civil Services Examination. By understanding the examination pattern, developing key qualities, and taking necessary precautions, candidates can increase their chances of success. Additionally, having a plan B can provide a sense of security and stability, allowing them to navigate the uncertainty and unpredictability of life.

-MURALI KRISHNA BODDULA
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The writer is an eminent author of the book THE TAPESTRY OF LIFE.

Police In Kiambu Recover Firearms, Arrest 147 After Gen Z Protests

By: Felix Njenga
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Security officers in Kiambu County have arrested 147 suspects in connection with burning police stations in Kikuyu and Thika, stealing of guns and other police items.

Three guns and rounds of ammunition have also been recovered in Kikuyu in the hands of young men.

Dorris Kemey Kiambu, the County Commander of Police said that a 20 year old man was nabbed with the Jericho pistol and 10 rounds of ammunition.

“ We lost firearms during the 25th June Gen z demonstrations in Dagoreti police post and we have already recovered three guns with the latest one being a Jericho pistol found

through police effort with a 20 year old man in Kikuyu,” Kemey said.

She said that by the time of stealing the firearm it had 15 ammunitions with the suspect confessing to having fired five rounds.

“ Where he fired the five rounds we have no idea but himself confirmed to have fired the five rounds. Some rounds were fired on the demonstration’s day and we are not sure if there was somebody injured,” she said.

She sent a warning message to those who are having the remaining two firearms to surrender as the police have a lead on where they might be.

“ We are aware that the two firearms are in the wrong hands and we are leaving no stone unturned and we are not sleeping until we get hold of them,” she said.

She said that to those who looted massively no one will be spared and



Dorris Kemey Kiambu County Police Commander inspecting a pistol that was recovered after being stolen at Dagoreti Police Post during Gen Z protests last Wednesday. She was accompanied by other senior officers.

police will be coming for them.

“ The faster you surrender the better for you,” she said.

Seven suspects were arraigned in Kiambu law courts in connection with the demonstrations where in-

vestigating officer was given seven days to complete investigations.

Thika Hospital celebrate Cancer Survivors’ Day

By: Vivian Makungu
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Cancer survivors, families, and health workers gathered at Thika Level 5 Hospital to mark National Cancer Survivors Day, celebrating resilience, hope, and progress in cancer recovery.

Thika Level 5 Hospital was a scene of celebration and resilience on Sunday as Kiambu County joined the world in marking National Cancer Survivors Day.

The event honoured individuals who have conquered cancer, showcasing their strength, determination, and hope for a healthier future.

Cancer survivors, healthcare providers, caregivers, and stakeholders gathered in solidarity to reflect on the challenges and victories in the fight against cancer.

The event was attended by representatives from the Kenya Red Cross Society, Stoma World Kenya, Stoma Centre Kenya, and the National Cancer Institute of Kenya.

Kiambu County Health officials reiterated their dedication to improving cancer prevention and care across the region.

Speaking during the event, Deputy Director Nursing Services and Immunization Dr. Bernard Mwegu emphasized the importance of early detection and investment in treatment infrastructure.

“We are scaling up regular screening programmes across the county and equipping our facilities to handle specialized cancer treatment. Our goal is to ensure no one is left behind in this fight,” he said.

According to the National Cancer Institute of Kenya, the country records approximately 47,887 new cancer cases annually, with about 32,987 cancer related deaths.

The most prevalent cancers include breast, cervical, esophageal, and prostate cancer. Experts stress that early diagnosis significantly increases chances of survival.

Among the highlights of the day were moving testimonials by survivors who shared stories of endurance and triumph.

Nancy Wahome, a cervical cancer



survivor from Thika, recounted her experience with the disease. “When I was diagnosed, I thought it was the end. But through early treatment, counselling, and the love of my family, I survived. Today, I stand here to give others hope,” she said.

Also speaking at the event, Mr. Maurice Anyango from the Kenya Red Cross encouraged community involvement in spreading awareness.

“Survivors are living proof that cancer can be defeated. Their voices must be amplified in our communities to break the stigma and fear surrounding this illness,” he said.

Free cancer screening and counselling services were provided to attendees, alongside educational materials on cancer prevention and lifestyle modification.

National Cancer Survivors Day,

celebrated globally on the first Sunday of June, honours cancer survivors and highlights the need for continued support for those still battling the disease.

This year’s celebration in Kiambu served as a powerful reminder that behind every survivor is a story of courage worth telling and hearing.

Study Finds Four On Five Child Deaths In Africa Are Avoidable

By: Michael Omondi
@themkenyatimes

A landmark study by the Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance (CHAMPS) Network has found that majority of deaths among children under five in Africa and South Asia are caused by preventable infections.

The Report, supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and implemented in Kenya by the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), offers sobering evidence and a critical roadmap for intervention.

Using Minimally Invasive Tissue Sampling (MITS), a technique that allows for postmortem diagnosis without full autopsies, researchers examined 632 deaths of children aged 1 to 59 months across seven high-burden sites. An astonishing 86.9 percent of these deaths were linked to infectious diseases, and over 82 percent were deemed preventable by expert panels.

In a press statement, Dr. Victor Akelo, a Senior Director of Science and Implementation at CHAMPS and a lead researcher at KEMRI, revealed that prior to the study, global health actors were struggling to reconcile high under-five mortality rates with growing investments in child health. "The missing link was understanding the actual causes of death. That's where MITS came in providing clarity without the invasiveness of full autopsies," he noted.

Further, Dr. Akelo explained that MITS involves collecting small samples using specialized needles, which are then subjected to rigorous laboratory analysis. This, he highlighted, has helped illuminate the most common contributors to child mortality: malnutrition, HIV, malaria, birth defects, lower respiratory tract infections, and diarrheal diseases.

Of particular concern are infections from pathogens such as *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Plasmodium falciparum*, and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and according to Dr. Akelo, many of these, including *Klebsiella* and *Acinetobacter baumannii*, were found to be nosocomial acquired within healthcare settings highlighting urgent gaps in hospital infection control.

"Some of these pathogens cause sepsis, pneumonia, and meningitis and they're picked-up right in our hospitals," he noted, adding that simple steps like routine sanitation, sterilizing equipment, and training on infection control could make a significant difference.

Dr. Akelo maintained that the findings were a wake-up call, not only



to public health officials but also to political leaders stating, "We've mapped the problem. Now we need the will and resources to act."

According to the Senior Director, the research builds on decades of work and Kenya, for instance, has made strides in reducing malaria-related deaths through widespread use of insecticide-treated bed nets and preventive treatment for pregnant women. With malaria vaccines now being rolled out, experts hope for even greater progress.

However, Dr. Akelo warned that challenges still persist citing Siaya County, in which CHAMPS operates, where malaria remains a top killer of young children.

He highlighted pathogens like *Plasmodium falciparum* could cause life-threatening conditions like cerebral malaria and severe anemia, while *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is linked to pneumonia and meningitis. *Klebsiella*, a hospital-acquired infection, poses a grave risk for already vulnerable patients.

Dr. Isaac Kihurani, a paediatric specialist at Aga Khan University Hospital in Nairobi, said that dealing with preventable child deaths takes an emotional toll on healthcare workers.

"Even as professionals, we feel the weight of losing a patient. Everyone involved; doctors, nurses, caregivers has emotionally invested in that child's survival," expressed Dr. Kihurani.

His colleague, Dr. Aura Nzinga, echoes the sentiment saying, "We

reflect deeply on every case. We hold debriefs to understand what we could have done better, and recommend postmortems to provide answers and closure for grieving families."

The human side of this crisis is heartbreakingly captured in the story of Mama Baraka, a Kenyan mother whose viral Tik-Tok videos document the tragic loss of her four-year-old son, Brylejones Baraka.

Born with liver complications, the child's short life was a series of hospital visits, a transplant, and ultimately a fatal infection. A post-mortem revealed widespread organ damage and malignant tumors.

"I donated my liver and hoped for the best," she shared in one of her most-watched videos. "We tried everything. But in the end, God had other plans."

Her story, viewed over half a million times, has turned her social media page into a digital memorial and a call to action.

Both Dr. Kihurani and Dr. Nzinga stress the need for early intervention, particularly in HIV prevention. "We have protocols to prevent mother-to-child transmission from managing the mother's viral load to considering alternatives to vaginal birth and breastfeeding," assured Kihurani.

Nzinga added that treatment must go hand in hand with mental and psychosocial support for both the child and their caregivers.

"We work with psychologists to help families cope and ensure chil-

dren get the best quality of life," she said.

Meanwhile, the urgency of translating CHAMPS' findings into policy cannot be overstated. With the causes identified and tools available, experts insist it's now a matter of coordinated effort and scalable implementation. "The data is there. What we need is action," says Dr. Akelo.

The implications stretch beyond one study or one country. They challenge African governments, health institutions, and international donors to step-up to make infection control standard in all healthcare facilities, to expand access to preventive interventions, and to ensure no child dies from a cause that could have been prevented.

Because in the end, as the CHAMPS study shows, the child mortality crisis is not unsolvable. It is a test of commitment.

The Report is part of Network's continuing coverage on child health and innovation in Africa. Future installments will track policy responses and highlight best practices that could turn research into real-life impact.



Worth Noting:

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- "The missing link was understanding the actual causes of death. That's where MITS came in providing clarity without the invasiveness of full autopsies," he noted.
- Further, Dr. Akelo explained that MITS involves collecting small samples using specialized needles, which are then subjected to rigorous laboratory analysis. This, he highlighted, has helped illuminate the most common contributors to child mortality: malnutrition, HIV, malaria, birth defects, lower respiratory tract infections, and diarrheal diseases.

Government Reaffirms Commitment To Information Access As A Constitutional Right

By: Naif Rashid and Esther Mulongo

[@themkenyatimes](#)

Worth Noting:

- “This Report demonstrates the government’s dedication to ensuring every Kenyan can access the information they are entitled to under the law; access to information empowers citizens, promotes accountability, and is a cornerstone of our constitutional democracy,” said Pareno.
- The PS noted that citizen engagement is only possible when people are empowered with knowledge and that is why the government remains committed to strengthening legal and institutional frameworks that support access to information.
- She also urged stakeholders to support government efforts in building a digitally enabled, transparent, and citizen-responsive Administration.
- “An informed citizen is an empowered citizen. Let us work together to ensure every Kenyan can access the information they need to fully participate in governance,” rallied the PS.



PS Judith Pareno, CAJ chairperson Charles Ndung'u and other stakeholders during the forum.

The government has reaffirmed its commitment to transparency, accountability and citizen empowerment through the implementation of the Access to Information Act (ATI), 2016.

Speaking during the launch of the inaugural National Report on the Implementation of the Act, Principal Secretary (PS) for Justice, Human Rights and Constitutional Affairs. Judith Ramaita Pareno lauded the initiative as a key milestone in advancing constitutional rights and democratic governance.

“This Report demonstrates the government’s dedication to ensuring every Kenyan can access the information they are entitled to under the law; access to information empowers citizens, promotes accountability, and is a cornerstone of our constitutional democracy,” said Pareno.

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“An informed citizen is an empowered citizen. Let us work together to ensure every Kenyan can access the

information they need to fully participate in governance,” rallied the PS.

The Report, launched by the Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ), popularly known as the Office of the Ombudsman, presents findings from a comprehensive assessment of 139 public and private institutions across 21 counties and over 400 citizen interviews.

It evaluates compliance with the ATI Act, outlines gaps, and proposes reforms to enhance transparency at all levels of governance.

CAJ Chairperson, Charles Ndung'u, insisted that access to information is not a privilege but a constitutional right enshrined in Article 35 of the Constitution.

“This right is critical not just for citizens but for government institutions themselves,” stressed Ndung'u, citing a legal case where delayed access to land records nearly jeopardized the government’s position in court.

He noted that Government Ministries often struggled to defend public interest due to delays in accessing archived documents, underscoring the urgent need to digitize government records to enhance accessibility and improve service delivery.

The Chairperson announced that the Commission is instituting measures to hold non-compliant officers accountable.

“We now have the authority to fine

individual officers for every day they fail to release information upon request. This is not about punishing, but about creating a culture of responsibility and openness in government,” voiced Ndung'u.

The report also highlighted notable progress, including the establishment of information desks in some counties, translation of documents into Kiswahili and Braille, and efforts to disseminate information through vernacular radio stations.

However, the Commission also found that many counties and private entities still lag behind, citing outdated systems, resource limitations, and resistance from some public officials.

To address this, the government, in collaboration with development partners, is working to strengthen institutional capacity and roll out public awareness campaigns, especially in underserved and marginalized areas.

The Country Manager for the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), Teresa Mugadza, commended the government’s openness and applauded the Commission for its self-assessment.

“Kenya is one of the few countries taking deliberate steps to localize and operationalize access to information laws,” she noted.

Mugadza acknowledged that IDLO has supported county governments, including Marsabit and Nandi in

drafting ATI legislation and integrating complaints management systems.

Executive Director of Uraia Trust Mr. Oliver Waindi, called for a cultural shift in how information is treated by government agencies.

“Access to information is the bridge between the people and the government. If we break that bridge, mistrust and misinformation will fill the void,” he cautioned.

Waindi noted that many Kenyans were unaware of the role of the Ombudsman and urged the Commission to enhance its presence across all regions.

“No matter how effective an institution is, it must be visible to be impactful,” he maintained.

According to the Report, nearly one-third of Kenyans remained unaware of their constitutional right to information.

The government now plans to scale-up sensitization initiatives, focusing on women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and other marginalized populations.

The Report sets a baseline for future assessments and will guide policy reforms aimed at entrenching openness in government processes.

As the country moves forward, the government has pledged to remain steadfast in upholding the right to information as a fundamental pillar of Kenya’s democracy.

When Protectors Become Predators: The Price Of Demanding Justice

By: David Nyaga
 @themtkenyatimes

Boniface Mwangi Kariuki's story is not just a family tragedy, it is a national shame. A 22 year-old hustler, shot in the head while exercising his democratic right to protest, now lies brain-dead at Kenyatta National Hospital. His future, once filled with promise, has been violently stolen. And for what? For demanding justice in a country where silence is preferred, and truth comes at a cost.

Speaking with journalists Sunday afternoon, family spokesperson Miss Emily Wanjira painfully recounted the moment they were called at midnight. "We rushed to the hospital and were told he is now brain-dead. He still has a pulse, but doctors can't switch off the life support machine because of legal complications," she said, her voice heavy with grief.

Boniface breathed last yesterday. For two weeks, Boniface has lain

unconscious in the ICU. Though doctors managed to remove the bullet from his skull, fragments remain embedded in his brain, making recovery almost impossible. He has undergone three major surgeries, including one to insert a breathing tube in his throat and another to create a feeding pathway in his abdomen. These are not the images of justice, they are symbols of a country that turns its weapons on its youth.

His parents, relatives, and friends now keep vigil watching their son breathe through machines, not knowing what tomorrow holds. The hospital bill has crossed Ksh3 million, and the emotional toll is even higher. This is a family whose only plea was for accountability and now they are paying in suffering and uncertainty.

This tragedy is a mirror of the state of the nation. Kenya is bleeding not just from bullets, but from the betrayal of institutions meant to protect. The youth are no longer just jobless, they are hunted for raising their voices. Peaceful protests are now treated as acts of war. And the cost is mea-



Boniface Mwangi Kariuki

sured in blood.

When protectors become predators, and the system shields those responsible, who will speak for Boniface? For Albert Ojwang? For the countless others silenced by force?

Justice in Kenya should not be selective. It should not be reserved for the powerful. Until those responsible are held to account, Boniface's fight is not just personal, it is our collective responsibility.

Because today it's Boniface. Tomorrow, it could be someone you love.

21st Century — The Era Of Technology



By: Khotamnazarova Shokhista
 @themtkenyatimes

tool?": the Internet is the heart of the modern information age. Any person can receive information from anywhere via the Internet. The Internet is an example of an ocean, and a person who has fallen into its trap swims in the current of the information field. And the effective use of such digital technologies is our task. Because through the Internet we can increase the efficiency and quality of work. We can earn money even remotely by taking various online courses.

Due to the countless advantages of the network, there are now few places where the virtual network has not reached. Especially in the last decade, the demand and need for Internet networks have increased, and the media has paid much attention to improving the quality of the Internet. According to statistics, 80-85% of the population on Earth uses the Internet. Even the highest peak in the world - Mount Everest - will have a 4G Internet network in 2023. That is why the 21st century has been declared the "Century of Technology". But as they say, "There is another side to the coin", information technologies also have negative aspects

In our rapidly developing world, new types of modern equipment, information technologies and Internet networks are gaining momentum. These types of tools are designed to make our daily lives easier, increase productivity and ensure quality, and have now become an important and integral part of our lives. However, some people believe that such innovations are also having a negative impact on our lives. What do you think — are such social networks necessary for humanity? From this perspective, Internet networks are a necessary tool for our lives. If we stop at the question "Why is it a necessary



for our lives. Nowadays, we see that many young people are wasting their time on virtual correspondence. This not only negatively affects communication between people, but also leads to psychological pressure and depression. In addition, there is a lot of misinformation or false information circulating on the Internet. As the saying goes, "Truth is like gold, and lies are like a shiny stone," and instead of facing the bitter truth, people are falling for juicy lies. Just like "mangurt," there are more and more cases of blindly following whatever

is trending on the Internet. As we said above, the Internet is an ocean and its depths are full of various useful and harmful things. And the current young generation can fall into a bad current without knowing it. This will put not only their lives, but also the life of society at risk. In conclusion, the Internet does not lead people astray at all. On the contrary, if used correctly, our future and life can be strengthened without hesitation through the Internet and information technologies. It is only necessary to use it wisely, know the

limits and allocate time correctly. It is not for nothing that they say "Science is light, ignorance is darkness". Technologies are also a product of science. If used correctly, they are light, if used incorrectly, they are delusion. Before technology controls you, learn to control it!

Khotamnazarova Shokhista was born on October 25, 2007 in the Zamin district of Jizzakh region. Her hobbies are reading, drawing, and traveling. She has won various competitions with her drawings.

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Sports >> *Brentford are in "constant dialogue" with forward Bryan Mbeumo and it is "not impossible" he will stay, says director of football Phil Giles.

'Not Impossible' Mbeumo Will Stay At Brentford – Giles



Brentford's Bryan Mbeumo. PHOTO/BRYAN MBEUMO

Brentford are in "constant dialogue" with forward Bryan Mbeumo and it is "not impossible" he will stay, says director of football Phil Giles.

Cameroon international Mbeumo is the subject of serious interest from Manchester United, who have had two offers for the striker rejected – the second of which was worth up to £62.5m.

Mbeumo, 25, wants to join United and is understood to have told the west London club that.

Speaking on Monday, Giles told BBC Sport there had been "not so much" progress regarding a potential deal.

"He had a fantastic season," he said. "We expected big interest

in him, we have had big interest in him.

"He has his ideas about where he wants to take his career. He is well within his rights to do that.

"It is not impossible he is still a Brentford player next season if we agree he is going to stay."

Giles said Mbeumo would only be sold if it was "the right deal" for Brentford.

"Any club will tell you that," he added. "If it's not right deal, why would we do it?"

"He is certainly one of our best players, if not our best player, and we need our best players. There's no harm in keeping your best players."

Meanwhile, Giles also con-

firmed captain Christian Norgaard was close to joining Arsenal.

BBC Sport revealed last week the two Premier League clubs had agreed a fee – believed to be up to £15m inclusive of add-ons – for the Denmark midfielder.

"We have been in conversations with Arsenal for the last week to 10 days," said Giles. "As it stands it hasn't been completed yet but it is heading in that direction.

"If that happens for him then fantastic, he's earned it. He's been a brilliant captain for us.

"Let's see how that story ends but we are pretty open about that interest there."

BBC

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *The Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports Salim Mvurya has urged the youth to exploit the diverse opportunities offered by the government to economically empower themselves and grow

Youth Urged To Harness Power Of Sports Talents



Sports Cabinet Secretary Salim Mvurya (right) and his Principal Secretary Eng. Peter Tum (left) speaking during a session with the Senate Committee on Labour and Social Welfare.

The Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports Salim Mvurya has urged the youth to exploit the diverse opportunities offered by the government to economically empower themselves and grow their potential in different fields.

The CS was speaking on Monday at Kasiini village during the ground-breaking of Ksh 55-million Yatta Constituency Sports Academy.

Terming the facility as a game-changer in the development and growth of sporting skills in the region, the CS pointed out harnessing and growing the youth talent in Kenya has become a top priority for the government in sporting sector.

“The government has demonstrated full commitment to the youth empowering agenda

through investing in critical infrastructure that is at the heart of talent harnessing and development,” he said.

The ground-breaking event was attended by senior government leaders led by Majority Leader in the National Assembly Hon. Kimani Ichung’wah, PS Sports Elijah Mwangi, Yatta MP Hon. Basil Ngui and Suba South MP Hon Caroli Omondi.

The CS stated that the facility will unlock the sporting talents for hundreds of youths in the region.

Additionally, the CS directed the contractor to prioritize offering employment opportunities to the local community while also procuring local goods and material for the project from local suppliers.

The Yatta Sports Academy is one of the 37 academies at the heart

of government’s agenda targeted to spur and grow talents in Kenya in the Phase 1 of the construction project at a cost of Ksh 1.7 billion.

The CS further asked the youth to be patriotic and avoid destructive conduct as part of growing a prosperous nation.

Citing the recent riots and violence that rocked parts of Nairobi and other towns in Kenya, the CS asked the youth not to allow political inclinations to divide them and instead called for adoption of cordial and progressive methods of addressing grievances.

He pointed out that the government has rolled out several programs targeting the youth including opening up jobs in the digital frontier to catalyst growth.

“We should avoid being used by politicians and instead take advantage of the opportunities made

available by the government to better ourselves,” he advised.

His call was echoed by Majority Leader Kimani Ichungwah who said the youth should be responsible and become the change they wanted in the country.

He stated that destruction of property and violence was not an option and instead challenged them to engage the government and leaders on issues.

Other speakers called for leaders to engage civilly and avoid antagonistic utterances that risked dividing the country further.

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Dr. Shellie Hipsky: Illuminating the World Through Empowerment, Performance, and Purpose



By: Anila Bukhari

@themkenyatimes

In a world that continually seeks compassion, authentic leadership, and transformative impact, few individuals embody these qualities as profoundly as Dr. Shellie Hipsky. Her life and career stand as a testament to the power of purpose-driven service, creative expression, and relentless advocacy. As a multi-award winning global changemaker, author, philanthropist, educator, performer, and media personality, her journey is a compelling narrative of passion, resilience, and unwavering commitment to uplifting marginalized communities—especially women and children around the world.

Born into a family that cherished storytelling and the arts, Shellie's early years were immersed in a nurturing environment that valued creativity, education, and service. Her mother, Libby Jacobs, a published novelist known for her literary work *Sea Sonata*, instilled in Shellie a love for storytelling and a deep appreciation for the human experience. In this household where books and the arts were a daily presence, Shellie developed a deep understanding of the transformative power of words and performance.

From a young age, she showed remarkable talent for communication and a heartfelt desire to make a difference. Her exposure to diverse communities and pressing social issues fueled her passion for justice and empowerment. Recognizing that storytelling could be a powerful tool for change, she dedicated herself to using her voice—both literally and figuratively—to elevate others.

Shellie's academic journey culminated in a doctorate in educational leadership, equipping her with both the scholarship and vision to inspire through teaching. As a tenured professor, she mentored countless students and emphasized the impor-

tance of leadership, empathy, and personal voice. Whether addressing university lecture halls, community groups, or international audiences, she consistently combined academic rigor with storytelling—a hallmark of her work that would shape her global impact.

Though rooted in academia, Shellie's passion for service soon propelled her beyond the classroom and into international activism and philanthropy. She founded the Global Sisterhood, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering women and children through direct aid, education, and inspiration. From domestic violence and human trafficking to access to clean water, food, and shelter, the Global Sisterhood has tackled urgent issues with empathy and effectiveness.

Under Shellie's leadership, the organization launched initiatives like #PopUpGiving, a rapid-response model of community aid that delivers support when and where it's most needed. She has led efforts on the ground in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, always approaching communities with respect and a deep belief in local women's potential to lead change. The Global Sisterhood continues to be a beacon of hope and a force for transformation across continents.

Her tireless commitment has been recognized by honors such as the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award for Volunteer Service, the Humanitarian Award from Global Woman, and numerous international accolades that name her among the world's top empowerment leaders. Yet, these recognitions are not the source of her motivation—they reflect the impact of decades of heartfelt service and advocacy.

As an author, Shellie has written fifteen books, including the acclaimed *Common Threads* trilogy. Her writing uplifts the voices of women who have faced adversity and emerged with renewed strength and purpose. She has further extended this mission through *Inspiring Lives Magazine*, a national publication she founded and leads as editor-in-chief. The magazine amplifies the stories of changemakers, visionaries, and everyday heroes, reinforcing her belief in the power



Dr. Shellie Hipsky

of shared stories to heal and inspire. Her reach extends beyond print. As a keynote speaker and educator, Shellie has traveled the globe to deliver workshops, lectures, and mentorship through her Global Sisterhood Give Back Tour. From classrooms in Kenya to community centers in South Africa, she has empowered women and youth with the tools to launch micro-businesses, pursue education, and build lives of dignity and opportunity.

Shellie's talents also shine on stage. Her background as a performer—singer, dancer, actress, and model—has infused her philanthropic efforts with creativity and joy. She has performed in benefit cabarets and runway shows that raised critical funds for causes such as the American Heart Association, the Red Cross, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and the Multiple Sclerosis So-

ciety. Whether she's performing a Broadway ballad or hosting a gala, she uses art to connect, uplift, and give back.

Her media presence is equally impactful. Shellie has graced the covers of over 80 magazines including *Vogue*, *Elle*, and *Forbes*. A notable feature in *Marie Claire* with her daughter Alyssa, titled "Strength in Sisterhood," celebrated their shared commitment to empowerment and family legacy.

Currently, she is developing a groundbreaking docuseries that will spotlight the untold stories of women overcoming homelessness, violence, and poverty. This media project, currently in its proof-of-concept phase, will illuminate the harsh realities faced by so many—while celebrating resilience and catalyzing global awareness and action.

At the core of Shellie's work is her family. Her children, Alyssa and Jacob, are not only her greatest inspirations but also participants in her mission of service. The influence of her mother, Libby Jacobs, remains a guiding force, reminding her that storytelling and compassion are of high value. Her brilliant father who has passed, Dr. Jack Jacobs instilled in her a strong work ethic and his legacy lives on through her dedicated work.

Dr. Shellie Hipsky's life is a luminous example of how purpose, creativity, and compassion can illuminate lives across the globe. Her impact is measured not only in awards and accolades, but in the faces of women and children who, through her leadership, have found hope, dignity, and the courage to rise.