



Redeem Your Legacy, Nyutu Urges Raila
 Opposition leader Raila Odinga has been urged to defend his legacy of fighting for good governance by moving out of the broad based government.
 Murang'a senator Joe Nyutu described the dozen of opposition politics as the pillar of the oppressive Kenya Kwanza government that has perfected impunity.

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NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE, 10TH ANNIVERSARY ROADSHOW
Gala Dinner
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 WHEN: 17-21ST SEPTEMBER 2025
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News >> Digitization Of Capitation Process For Schools, Progressive - Mudavadi

P. 8. Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has defended the government's move to digitize the capitation process for schools with an aim of streamlining the disbursement of funds and improve transparency and efficiency.



News >> We Don't Fear Elections, Mudavadi Tells Government Critics

P. 12. Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has dismissed the growing political noise and opposition criticism as empty rhetoric, adding that Government remains solid on delivering long-term national transformation.

Police Disrupt Gachagua Allies' Rally In Murang'a For Second Week

A planned political rally by allies of Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua was disrupted for the second consecutive week, after police lobbed teargas and blocked their procession in Murang'a County yesterday.

According to eyewitness accounts and footage from the scene, the chaos erupted shortly after a church service at AIPCA Christ the King Church in Kahuro, Kigumo Constituency, where a group of legislators allied to Gachagua had gathered ahead of a scheduled meet-the-people tour.

Among them were Senators John Methu (Nyandarua) and Joe Nyutu (Murang'a).



DCP Allied Leaders Attacked In Kigumo Constituency, Murang'a

STORY ON PAGE 9

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

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DCP Allied Leaders Attacked In Kigumo Constituency, Murang'a

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

Armed Police officers accompanied by goons yesterday ambushed leaders allied to DCP party leader Rigathi Gachagua after they left AIPCA Christ The King Church in Kahuro, where they had attended a Sunday service. They blocked the leader's convoy and started throwing teargas, stones and live bullets. They dispersed the crowds and harrassed the leaders saying that they were not allowed to do a meeting in the area. Earlier, at the church they criticised the government for its continued harassment and extrajudicial killings and presiding over economic crisis that had affected some of the most critical sectors like health and education. Apart from the leaders present in Murang'a, most of the opposition leaders, led by Gachagua condemned the incident.



Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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NEWS IN BRIEF



President William Ruto arrived in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia last evening to attend the Second United Nations Food Systems Summit Stocktake. He was received at Bole International Airport by Ethiopia's Deputy Prime Minister Temesgen Tiruneh. At the summit today, he will deliver Kenya's national statement, reaffirming the country's commitment to transforming food systems to support sustainable development and enhance climate resilience. On the sidelines of the Summit, the President is expected hold bilateral talks with other leaders, including Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, and the African Union Commission Chairperson Mahmoud Ali Youssouf, among others.



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has reaffirmed the government's commitment to uplifting rural communities through targeted economic empowerment and infrastructure development programmes. Speaking at Kimorori grounds in Maragua Constituency during an economic empowerment forum, the Deputy President emphasized that the ongoing initiatives are aimed at restoring dignity and enhancing livelihoods by supporting small businesses and community-based enterprises. Kindiki also announced key government-backed infrastructure projects in the region, including the resumption of the stalled Ichagaki-Gikomora Road and the construction of a 16-kilometre Gwa-thamaki-Mbombo road to boost connectivity and economic activity. Additional plans include the construction of KMTC Maragua and a Sh1.1 billion electricity connectivity project targeting over 16,000 Murang'a residents.



Uasin Gishu County has made its first-ever livestock export to West Africa with the shipment of 50 in-calf Ayrshire heifers to Nigeria, boosting its status as a regional livestock breeding hub. The heifers, sourced from local farmers by Kinanie Agrovet Suppliers, were airlifted from Eldoret International Airport, marking a major milestone in Governor Jonathan Bii's Nguzo Kumi agenda to transform agriculture. County Agriculture Chief Officer Abraham Kiptalam said the export reflects ongoing investments in livestock development, including subsidised AI services and improved disease control, aimed at empowering farmers and opening global markets.



Nyeri Catholic Archdiocese head, Archbishop Anthony Muheria was yesterday joined by church and political leaders, led by Othaya constituency Member of Parliament Wambugu Wainaina to cut a cake to mark 120 years celebrations of Karima Catholic Parish in Othaya yesterday. Consolata missionaries settled at Karima in 1905 where they set up the first church in the area. Thousands of faithful attended the colourful occasion.



Principal Secretary for the State Department for Medical Services, Dr Ouma Oluga, hosted a delegation from the Kenya Red Cross Society at Afya House. The courtesy call focused on enhancing collaboration to strengthen healthcare delivery across the country. Discussions centred on key priority areas, including universal health coverage, sustainable health financing, human resources for health, efficient commodity management, and digital transformation in healthcare services. The delegation comprised Ms Dorothy Anjuri (Head of Health, Nutrition and Social Services), Ms Miriam Ngure (Head of Global Fund Programs), Ms Monica Oremo (Director, Kenya Red Cross Training Institute), Ms Florence Kariuki (Business Development Manager – E-Plus and Head of Warehousing and Logistics) and Ms Valentine Tindi.



At a time when many had lost hope in traditional fishing, fishermen in Bunyala are charting a new course on the shores of Lake Victoria through the adoption of modern, profitable fish cage farming. At Busembe Beach in the quiet village of Bumbe, Busia County, cage fishing has quickly gained popularity and is transforming livelihoods. Armed with basic knowledge from social media and training from the Busia County Fisheries Department, local farmers have embraced the technique—and the impact is already being felt. Victor Bwire, a farmer managing five cages, says the practice has significantly reduced insecurity incidents in the lake, especially previous confrontations where Kenyan fishermen lost their lives in clashes with Ugandan authorities. "Cage farming has not only made fishing safer but has also created employment and reduced overfishing," he noted.

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THEME: "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for sustainable Economic Growth"

Zetech University Banks On Research, Innovation And Tailor-Made Courses For A Competitive Edge In The Job Market

By: John Kamau
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

• According to the University's Human Resource Director Beryl Mate, the institution upholds research and innovation to nurture job creators, problem solvers and industry-ready graduates.

• "At the University we believe that research skills training empowers students to investigate problems, generate knowledge, and apply evidence-based solutions skills that are very important in the workplace," she said in a statement.



Zetech University

In the wake of unemployment crisis in the country that has left millions of youths grappling with a myriad of socio-economic challenges, higher learning institutions are devising new ways to make their students more employable.

Zetech University is leading the way by enhancing its Research and Innovation faculties to prepare students for the job market as well as enable them become problem solvers of many problems that face the community and the country at large.

According to the University's Human Resource Director Beryl Mate, the institution upholds research and innovation to nurture job creators, problem solvers and industry-ready graduates. "At the University we believe that research skills training empowers students to investigate problems, generate knowledge, and apply evidence-based solutions skills that are very important in the workplace," she said in a statement.

She averred that innovation helps

in developing the student's ability to think creatively, solve real problems, and adapt to change.

The university has been supporting student-lead innovations and start-ups by providing innovation labs, other equipment and facilities, and seed capital promotes innovation initiatives which are critical in developing problem solving skills and creativity.

"For example, the University holds bootcamps and hackathons and has an innovation hub (Izet) through which students develop solutions to solve community-based problems," she noted.

She quipped that students are also being offered tailor-made courses that are in tandem with the requirements of the industry noting that digital and technological, leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship courses are incorporated in all programmes as common courses.

"Further personal branding, job search skills, CV writing, interview skills, in a nutshell employability skills training



Some of Zetech University students during a graduation ceremony.

is run every semester making the students workplace ready," she said.

The Director maintained that entrepreneurship training not only instils a mindset of the students being employers that create opportunities for others as opposed to employees, but also encourage students to create solutions to solve social problems for which the University provides seed money.

"We need this entrepreneurship spirit so very much especially in Kenya and Africa where the rates of unemployment is very high. We are offering courses that are relevant to what the industry needs-for instance, data science and analytics. There is an adage that goes that data is the new oil describing the importance of data in today's world especially for its use in decision-making," she noted.

Ms Mate quipped that students at the institution undergo industrial exposure through attachment and internship placements as well as incorporation off industry visits in the curriculum for experiential learning.

"Provision of career and job placement services help prepare students for the job market through not only sourcing for placement opportunities, but also through organising of career fairs, CV writing and job search strategies training, networking opportunities, coaching and mentoring services to prepare them for the job market," the Director noted.

The don added, "Our curricula also incorporate emerging societal issues such as climate change, data-driven decision-making, sustainability, the importance of global cooperation, and issues of social change are no longer wishful issues."

She at the same time urged students to apply soft skills in their area of specialization and create a network of relevant people so as to succeed.

"Soft skills go beyond technical skills. We must endeavour to be technopreneurial individuals because there's a wide application of technology in almost all areas," she said

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Digitization Of Capitation Process For Schools, Progressive - Mudavadi

By: Anders Ihachi, OPCS Press Service
 @themkenyatimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has defended the government's move to digitize the capitation process for schools with an aim of streamlining the disbursement of funds and improve transparency and efficiency.

Mudavadi said once the process is completed it will help closely monitor the flow and use of funds disbursed to schools across the country for proper utilization.

"We have reports of funds meant for capitation having been misappropriated in certain circumstances with the dailies reporting an estimated 2 billion shillings having been misused," Mudavadi regretted.

Mudavadi said officials in the education sector similar to other sectors must be accountable as the government is putting in place structures to monitor up to the last cent and the last person at the lowest cadre of the disbursement chain.

He said the government through the collaboration between Ministry of ICT and the mother Ministry of Education will ensure the digitization is completed in good time.

"The government is putting in place a budget of around Ksh 600 billion to fund the education sector. We want to relook at the whole process of disbursement and audit where does the 600 billion go to and what the funds support because we want to organize it better," noted Mudavadi.

"We also understand the difficulties our children in universities and other institutions of higher learning are facing, and many can't even afford a meal. We are working to ensure all our children who deserve to be at the university can benefit from government support and even afford to have a decent meal," Mudavadi said.

The digitization process involves transitioning from manual processes to digital platforms, potentially utilizing the eCitizen portal and other digital payment systems.

"Na ndio mliona wengine wakati rais alisema let us digitize capitation wakaanza kupiga kelele kwa sababu wanataka manual ndio wazidi kupora



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi (centre) enjoys a dance with MPs Kimani Ichungwa (left) and Gitonga Murugara (right).

raslimali zinazihitajika kwa wanafunzi wetu. We will not allow this we must move forward and use technology and ensure that resources get to the people who are required," regretted Mudavadi.

The Prime CS said moving into the future public resources will only be utilized for the intended purposes. The disbursement of the funds to

schools is usually conducted in three phases: 50 percent in term one, 30 percent in term two and 20 percent in term three.

Streamline Parking Systems, Karatina Business Community Urges Nyeri County Government

By: Charles Kinyua
 @themkenyatimes

Karatina business community has decried the disorganised parking system and called for its streamlining of the same.

According to the business people who are the main drivers of the town's economy and Mathira constituency at large, there is no order in how and where motorists should park.

Speaking on their behalf, Peter Ndugi urged the devolved unit to mark and possibly mark parkings even as they look for more spaces, particularly for public service vehicles.

"County planners should device ways of easing mortorists' headache in this town where getting parking space is hectic as there's no order on how or where one needs to park", lamented the motor spares dealer.

Consequently, observed Ndugi,

double parkings are the order of the day, thereby reducing space.

Further, the business people advised the county government to reach out to Kenya railways corporation who own vast lands in the town to allow motorists to utilise part of it for parking particularly for matatus that have crowded out other motorists.

"When dualling of the Sagana- Marwa road is completed, transit motorists might be dissuaded from entering the town due to the problem," observed the businessman.

His sentiments were echoed by butcher Duncan Waititu, who noted that lack of parking affects businesses as no one will want to park far away from where he/she wants to get services particularly hospitality.

"Nobody will want to walk for long just to buy half a kilo of meat for his family leaving his car far away," stated Waititu.

Peter Mwangi a dapper suggested that the giant Karatina market that was one famed as the second largest open market in Africa should be

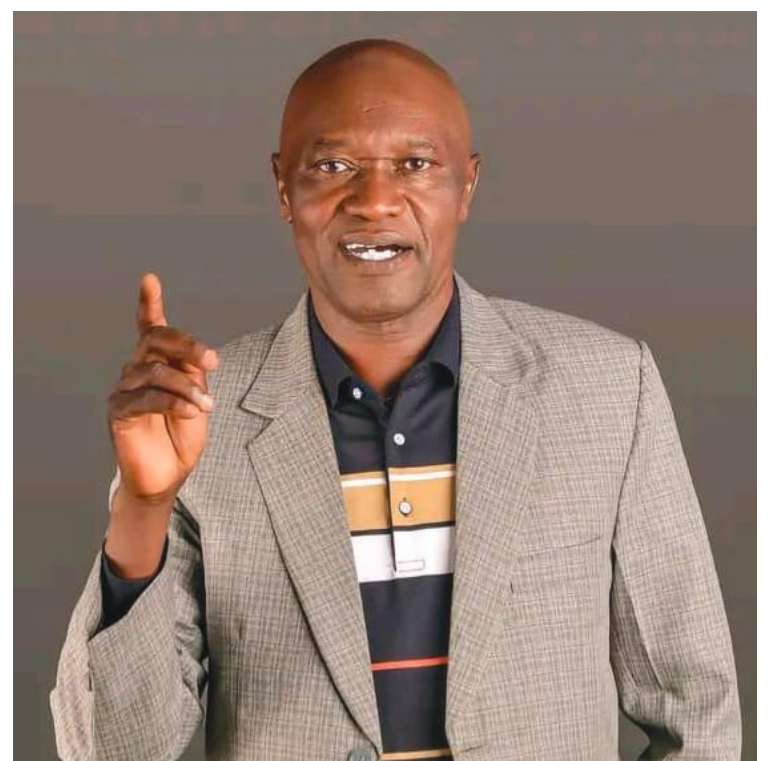
redesigned to have an underground parking to ease congestion and jams in the town.

Waititu further suggested that owners of new buildings should be encouraged to have underground parkings for their clients.

Ndugi also advised motorists who reside in nearby estates such as Giakairu, Muthua and Karindundu to endeavour walking to the town centre as walking is also good for health.

"Considering that the town sits on only 407 acres, we need to put to optimum use of all the available space as we can only expand vertically," advised Ndugi.

The 84 kilometre Sagana- Marwa road that is being elevated into a dual carriage cuts right across the town and with the persistent traffic jams and lack of parkings, transit motorists may not find reason to stop over, an act that is not good for business.



Businessman Peter Ndugi

Tensions Flare As Police Disrupt Gachagua Allies' Rally In Murang'a For Second Week

By: Ayub Abdikadir
 @themkenyatimes

A planned political rally by allies of Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua was disrupted for the second consecutive week, after police lobbed teargas and blocked their procession in Murang'a County yesterday.

According to eyewitness accounts and footage from the scene, the chaos erupted shortly after a church service at AIPCA Christ the King Church in Kahuro, Kigumo Constituency, where a group of legislators allied to Gachagua had gathered ahead of a scheduled meet-the-people tour.

Among them were Senators John Methu (Nyandarua) and Joe Nyutu (Murang'a).

The convoy encountered a heavy police blockade at Ngonga Shopping Centre. A brief standoff ensued, culminating in the use of teargas and live rounds fired into the air to disperse the crowd. Several vehicles were reportedly damaged during the melee.

This is the second time in as many Sundays that police have thwarted attempts by DCP-affiliated leaders to hold public rallies. A similar incident occurred in Subukia, Nakuru County last week, and echoes of the same were reported in Kakamega in May. Critics say it reflects an increasingly repressive approach by the state toward opposition-aligned political activity.

Speaking from Baltimore, Maryland, where he is currently on a political tour of the United States, Gachagua condemned the incident in strong terms.

"This is barbaric, dictatorial violence against the soul of the nation," Gachagua wrote on his official Facebook page. "It is a blatant assault on the preamble of our Constitution—one that President Ruto himself never supported during its passage in 2010."

The former Deputy President accused security agencies of acting on political instructions to frustrate his movement's grassroots engagements, warning that Kenya was slipping into authoritarianism.

Gachagua also took aim at Azimio



According to eyewitness accounts and footage from the scene, the chaos erupted shortly after a church service at AIPCA Christ the King Church in Kahuro, Kigumo Constituency, where a group of legislators allied to Gachagua had gathered ahead of a scheduled meet-the-people tour.

leader Raila Odinga, claiming his recent political cooperation with President Ruto was a trap. He alleged that the Kenya Kwanza administration had no intention of implementing the recommendations of the National Dialogue Committee (NADCO), a key element of the Raila-Ruto accord.

"Raila Odinga, William Ruto told me that NADCO will go nowhere. He's only buying time. He's instructed Ichung'wah and company to stall it until the next election," Gachagua declared in a speech to diaspora supporters.

He went further, accusing President

Ruto of engineering internal turmoil within the ODM Party and capitalizing on Gen Z discontent to weaken Odinga's political capital.

"By the time Ruto is done with you, you'll be a footnote in Kenyan politics," he warned.

Activist Mwabili Mwagodi Found Dumped In Kwale After Abduction

By: Davis Ayega
 @themkenyatimes

Kenyan human rights activist Mwabili Mwagodi, who disappeared days ago under mysterious circumstances in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, has been found alive and is currently receiving medical attention in Mombasa.

According to Hussein Khalid, CEO of rights group VOCAL Africa, Mwagodi was released early yesterday morning and left in a bush in Kinondo, Kwale County, around 3 a.m. He walked over 3 kilometers to Diani, where he contacted his family.

VOCAL Africa and Muslim for Human Rights (MUHURI) officers quickly intervened.

"While in Diani, Mwabili voluntarily presented himself at the police station, hoping for help," Khalid said. "But instead, the police attempted to detain him. Our officers had to step in

to ensure his release."

Mwagodi has since been rushed to Pandya Hospital for a medical check-up before being flown to Nairobi to reunite with his family.

His disappearance on Tanzanian soil days earlier, amid growing criticism over President William Ruto's controversial church fundraisers triggered fierce backlash.

Both Kenya and Tanzania had remained silent, raising concerns about a coordinated effort to silence dissent across borders.

"This is not an isolated incident," Khalid said. "There's a clear pattern of governments in East Africa quietly teaming up to target critics."

Mwagodi, a vocal supporter of the #OccupyChurch movement, vanished on July 23, 2025 after calling out senior Kenyan security officials and President William Ruto in a now-viral X post.

His abrupt disappearance closely followed the Directorate of Criminal Investigation's (DCI) announcement of a new crime-reporting WhatsApp



Kenyan activist Mwabili Mwagodi with officials from Muhuri and Vocal Africa lobby groups/HUSSEIN KHALID

number, deepening public suspicion. The incident reignited painful memories of previous cross-border crackdowns.

In May 2025, Kenyan activist Boniface Mwangi and Ugandan lawyer Agather Atuhaire were arrested and deported from Tanzania under murky circumstances.

Several other Kenyan activists, including People's Liberation party leader Martha Karua and former Chief Justice Willy Mutunga, were also barred or deported from Tanzanian territory.

Human rights groups across the region are now demanding independent investigations from both Nairobi and

Dodoma, accusing the two governments of enabling or turning a blind eye to the harassment of dissenters.

As the hashtag #FreeMwabiliMwagodi trends across social media, civil society has warned that without accountability, such abductions could become normalized.

KALRO chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge Calls For Reduction of Electricity Tariffs

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyatimes

Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge has called on the Ministry of Energy to look at ways of reducing the electricity tariffs saying the high cost of the service was hurting the business that depend on Kenya Power supply.

Speaking during a meeting for Nyeri business community, Dr Mathenge who is the leading industrialist in the county said the high power charges was costing businesses a lot and affecting among other things, employment opportunities.

“We are paying huge bills to Kenya Power, bills running into millions of shillings and this is affecting running of industries and other businesses that rely on Kenya power,” Dr Mathenge said.

The entrepreneur who runs several manufacturing industries in Nyeri told the Ministry of Energy not to concentrate on increasing the num-

ber of electricity connections without considering the high tariffs charged to those already connected.

“I have raised this issue with the minister for Energy and even the PS. People are suffering and this issue must be looked at,” he said during the meeting that took place at Dedan Kimathi grounds in Nyeri town.

He at the same time called on the business owners to look at ways of protecting their premises in the wake of destruction and looting by goons who pose as demonstrators.

Dr Mathenge who owns a series of businesses in several counties across the country noted that he has in the recent past been a victim of business premises destruction and looting in Meru and Laikipia counties.

He called on traders to devise various ways of protecting their businesses saying no one knew which premises might be targeted when the goons get to the streets next.

His sentiments were echoed by various business people who condemned recent incidents that have seen traders make huge losses in various parts of the country.



Dr Thuo Mathenge addressing business community in Nyeri town last week. Photo/Courtesy..

The Mt. Kenya Times



Why NCIC Should Be Scrapped And Commissioners Sent Home - Limuru Politician

By: George Mugo
 @themtkenyatimes

The government should scrap the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, a politician has said. Charles Kamau popularly known as Livondo wa Limuru said that the NCIC has been watching leaders as well as politicians trade words that can incite people against others without questioning them. He said people in the country have been following each and every event and saying some leaders and politicians are careless while making their speeches. He even noted that Kenyans have witnessed some politicians saying that they will not lose elections and that they would steal elections votes, without caring those listening to them. "We have seen leaders saying they

will win elections, it will not matter how they will do it because they can also steal votes. These people are still walking scot free, addressing people without fear" he said. "Many are times when Kenyans confess that they are left with a lot of questions if the NCIC who cares about this country's peace" he noted. Kamau however decried that leaders who were criticising the government, were being arrested whenever they mentioned something sensitive against it. Speaking at Kamirithu village when he visited residents on a meet the people tour, Kamau asked President William Ruto to dissolve the NCIC and disband the commission. "People have lost trust with the NCIC. What is it for if it cannot tame politicians?" he said. Kamau said such inciting words the politicians were using were very unfortunate for this country as campaign for the 2027 general elections

were nearing. He said that people can take care of themselves by reporting inciting and threatening messages to the police. The politician who is eyeing for Limuru parliamentary seat in the coming 2027 general elections, asked locals to remain peaceful when the campaigns starts. However, "People are free to speak out loudly whenever they see and feel issues facing are not handled in the correct way and whenever they are insulted" "We need to be working seriously on peace as it the only thing that will leave this country united after the elections are over" he said. "We have invested, build and developed this country with a lot of energy, and we cannot sit down and watch this country being torn down by politics we can control. We need to control what we speak and who we speak to" Kamau added. Kamau will be competing for the



Limuru politician Charles Kamau alias Livondo.

seat with the incumbent John Kiragu, among other contenders who include former legislator Peter Mwathi, business lady Wanjiru wa Ndung'u and another aspirant Sammy Maina.

Kenya Marked International Day For The Conservation Of The Mangrove Ecosystem At Mida Creek, Kilifi County

By: MKT Correspondent
 @themtkenyatimes

Kenya joined the global community in commemorating the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem (IDCME) at the breathtaking Mida Creek in Kilifi County. Speaking during the event on Saturday, Cabinet Secretary Dr. Deborah Barasa highlighted the critical role of mangroves in enhancing climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and supporting economic development, especially for coastal communities. Dr. Barasa, who was accompanied by Forestry Principal Secretary Gitonga Mugambi emphasized that mangrove conservation is not only an environmental necessity but a national priority that aligns with Kenya's development agenda. "Mangroves are the bedrock of our Blue Economy, our coastal security, and our climate ambitions. Protecting them is not optional. It is essential to

our survival and prosperity," the CS affirmed. Kenya's mangrove forests cover over 61,000 hectares, sequestering up to four times more carbon than upland forests and underpinning critical sectors such as fisheries, tourism, and local livelihoods Kilifi County alone accounts for 14% of this cover. In line with this year's theme, "Protecting Wetlands for Our Future," the event spotlighted the urgent need to shield mangroves from threats such as illegal logging, land reclamation, and pollution. As part of this year's celebrations, the Ministry reported that 1.6 million mangrove seedlings were grown along the Kenyan coast, contributing to the restoration of 8,361 hectares of mangrove ecosystems—tripling the annual national target. These achievements reflect the power of collective action, driven by county governments, the Kenya Forest Service, Community Forest Associations, Beach Management Units, and other stakeholders. To further strengthen community involvement, the Ministry issued



Kenya joined the global community in commemorating the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem.

200 beehives to Community Forest Associations and supported training on mushroom cultivation as part of nature-based livelihood initiatives aligned with conservation goals. During the event, three key strategic documents were launched to guide national and local conservation efforts; The Lamu County Mangrove Harvesting Plan, The Mangrove Nursery Establishment Manual and The Mangrove Management and Restoration Plan. On his part, the PS called on partners

to align all restoration work with the National Mangrove Ecosystem Management Plan (2017–2027) emphasizing on the need to empower women and youth in restoration initiatives and turning conservation into a source of dignified and income-generating enterprise. As the country pushes forward with its 15 Billion Tree Growing Programme and advances the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, Kenya reaffirms its commitment to safeguarding its mangrove heritage

for future generations. Also present attendance at the event were members of the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Environment, Forestry, and Mining, led by Kilifi MP Gertrude Mbeyu Mwanyanje and Kilifi North MP Owen Baya, along with Ms. Susan Boit from the 15 Billion Tree Growing Secretariat and other senior officials from both the national and county governments.

We Don't Fear Elections, Mudavadi Tells Government Critics

The Prime Cabinet Secretary Says President William Ruto's Administration Remains Solid And Focused

By: Ander Ihachi - OPCS Press Service
@themkenyetimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has dismissed the growing political noise and opposition criticism as empty rhetoric, adding that Government remains solid on delivering long-term national transformation.

Mudavadi said the Kenya Kwanza administration is focused, slamming at leaders propagating negative criticism against the government's implementation of its programs, projects and policies.

He has told off critics spreading falsehood and propaganda that President Ruto and his team are acting in fear of the 2027 general election.

"Nataka watu wajue kwamba serikali ya Kenya na wakenya tuko imara. President wetu ni William Ruto, Deputy wake ni Prof. Kithure Kindiki, na Prime Cabinet Secretary ni Musalia Mudavadi. Tunataka wakenya wajue ya kwamba hatuogopi uchaguzi na opposition pamoja na ulimwengu kwa jumla wajue hatuogopi uchaguzi. Tunaambia kila mtu kwamba Kenya itakuwa na uchaguzi wa halali, haki na wa amani kama njia ya kuwachagua viongozi wetu," said Mudavadi.

The Prime CS has warned leaders against creating election tensions in the country through sentiments that undermine the integrity of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) with its newly appointed commissioners.

He said due process was followed in their appointment lauding the vetting process conducted by the National Assembly's committee on Justice & Legal Affairs chaired by Tharaka Member of Parliament, George Murugara.

"Hon. Murugara's leadership in Parliament has helped to achieve a very important mission for the people of Kenya. His committee helped the country achieve a huge milestone after the NADCO process and several court cases that were stalling the process of getting new IEBC commissioners. They ensured that the formation of the new electoral body is properly constituted and now in place, to make conduct free, credible, transparent, verifiable and fair democratic elections," noted Mudavadi.

"Mimi nataka niwaambie, naskia mnasema 'tutam' mnajua tutapata aje 'tutam'? Lazima tutapitia kwa debe ambapo wakenya watapiga kura and the institution that is guaranteed to ensure we have a free and fair election is in place." added Mudavadi.

Mudavadi while gracing the Tharaka Boda Boda Sacco Economic Empowerment Programmes said a section of leaders are totally misleading Kenyans that nothing is happening in relation to the actualization of the prioritized projects and deliverables to the citizens under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

He has termed them as enemies of progress with no focus or agenda for Kenyans, emphasizing that the Kenya Kwanza manifesto as the blue print of development delivery under President Ruto's administration continues to be implemented according to the PLAN.

Mudavadi gave an analogy of Article 43 of the Kenyan Constitution that outlines economic and social rights, guaranteeing every person the right to essential needs like health, housing, food, water, social security, and education saying the Kenya Kwanza administration means well for all Kenyans.

"Article 43 addresses the right to the highest attainable standard of health, including reproductive health care, accessible and adequate housing with reasonable sanitation, freedom from hunger and access to adequate, acceptable quality food, clean and safe water in adequate quantities, social security, and education," noted Mudavadi.

"Kwa hii miaka yote, serikali ambazo zilikuwa mbele, ziliogopa kufanikisha jinsi ya kupata nyumba kwa wakenya. President Ruto has taken the difficult decisions. When others were scared of taking the decision Ruto has made the decision. He is not making the decision just for the sake of it, but it's because the constitution demands so and because Kenyans deserve decent housing. So, he makes the difficult decision on how we shall fund the housing," Mudavadi explained.

Mudavadi said the government is also acknowledging the existing challenges in the health sector and emphasised the importance of collaboration to address its imperfections.

"What we want is health for all Kenyans. We want Kenyans to support



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi arrives in Chiakariga, Tharaka Nithi County for the Boda Boda Sacco Empowerment Programme. Photo/Ezekiel Mwanzia/OPCS.

the government since when you enter into a new program you are prone to face a few challenges here and there but ultimately we will get it right." Mudavadi assured Kenyans.

"And victory is coming not just the victory of William Ruto but the victory of all Kenyans when services are better, when resources are better, when production is better, when people can feed better and when health

is better," he added.

Mudavadi urged the people of Tharaka Nithi the home turf of Deputy President Kithure Kindiki to remain united and support the government's agenda saying they are part of this government same as all other Kenyans across the country.

"Mimi nakaa na Prof. Kindiki katika Cabinet. Nataka niwambie watu wa Tharaka Nithi, you have a focused

leader who is very professional, yule anajua vile mambo ya serikali inaendeshwa, na yeye tumeona a very big difference on the way he conducts business in comparison kwa yale mengine tulikuwa tukiyaona. Watu wa Tharaka Nithi you have a good quality person in Prof. Kithure Kindiki, tusaidiane nay eye tujenge taifa, tuwasaidie wakenya na tum-saidie Rais Ruto."



Residents of Chiakariga in Tharaka Constituency during the Boda Boda empowerment programme.

KWS Charges: Communities, Stakeholders At The Heart Of Country's Conservation Fee Review

Public Forums Across 20 Counties Invite Kenyans To Shape The Future Of Protected Areas

By: MKT Correspondents

[@themkenyatimes](#)

Local communities and residents living near national parks, reserves and sanctuaries are poised to be among the key beneficiaries of a proposed conservation fee review unveiled by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

The adjustments, outlined in the Wildlife Conservation and Management (Access and Conservation Fees) Regulations, 2025, are designed to secure the future of Kenya's iconic wildlife and habitats by strengthening conservation financing, improving visitor experiences, and expanding community benefits.

This marks the first comprehensive fee review since 2007, during which time the cost of wildlife protection has risen significantly. From managing growing cases of human-wildlife conflict to securing vast landscapes and endangered species, the demands of modern conservation have far outstripped available resources.

"This is not merely a price adjustment. It's a strategic investment in the survival of Kenya's biodiversity and

the prosperity of communities who live alongside wildlife," said Prof. Erustus Kanga, Director General, KWS.

The KWS says the review is necessary due to among other reasons; Conservation costs are rising, driven by security operations, habitat management, and climate-related pressures, Public funding is shrinking, with National Treasury allocations unable to meet escalating needs, The current 2007 rates are outdated and inadequate for 21st-century conservation and Global best practice calls for periodic review to ensure sustainable financing

Other factors are the fact that the KWS Strategic Plan 2024-2028 demands robust funding to restore ecosystems, protect endangered species, and grow the wildlife economy and communities need to benefit more from conservation through jobs, services, and revenue sharing.

In the changes that are expected to match value with cost while maintaining accessibility, the proposed structure introduces; A 30-70% fee increase, tiered by park category and visitor type, Affordable rates for Kenyan citizens and East African res-

idents, A new 'Rest of Africa' rate to promote regional tourism and Free entry for senior citizens aged 70+ and persons with disabilities.

Also in the proposals is Introduction of annual passes and discounted conference packages, Adjusted children's age bracket from 3-17 to 5-17 years, nurturing future conservationists and An expanded menu of visitor experiences, including walking safaris, canoeing, water sports, hot air balloon safaris, ranger lectures and helicopter excursions.

In a statement yesterday, the KWS noted that it is committed to ensuring that conservation directly benefits communities through; Revenue-sharing to support schools, clinics, and water projects in wildlife-adjacent areas, Improved human-wildlife conflict mitigation, including predator-proof bomas, electric fencing, and early warning systems, Livelihood support such as eco-tourism training, beekeeping, and nature-based enterprises and Faster, fairer compensation for wildlife-related damages.

"Our goal is to make conservation work for both people and nature," Prof. Kanga emphasized.

"This review lays a foundation for



Prof. Erustus Kanga.

sustainability; socially, economically, and ecologically."

The public participation forums begins tomorrow and ends on Friday next week.

Through the forums, citizens, tour

operators, conservation stakeholders, county governments and community representatives are all invited to contribute their views.

The Impact Of The Internet



By: Yusupova Farangiz

[@themkenyatimes](#)

negative sides.

The Internet is a source of knowledge and opportunities. First of all, if we dwell on the useful aspects of the Internet, it is a treasure trove of information. Any news in the world, scientific research, textbooks, video lessons and various information are now at everyone's fingertips in a matter of seconds. For students, this is a unique opportunity to gain knowledge, learn foreign languages, get acquainted with the work of scientists, and prepare for international olympiads.

The Internet is also opening up new horizons in modern business, entrepreneurship, marketing and creative industries. Areas such as distance learning, online courses, and freelancing are helping young people organize their time independently.

However, we should not lose sight of the dangers hidden behind these endless possibilities. Unfortunately, the culture of using the Internet has not always been formed. Many

young people spend time on social networks, watching aimless videos, playing games or harmful content. This leads to wasting time, indifference to lessons, decreased attention and deterioration of mental state.

Excessive connection to the Internet is a modern problem called Internet addiction. This condition disconnects a person from real life, weakens social relationships, and increases the feeling of loneliness. In some cases, it causes depression and even health problems.

Today, fake news (fake news), aggressive content, scenes of violence, false ideals and stereotypes spread via the Internet have a negative impact on the minds of young people. There is a risk that the younger generation will lose their identity, imitate foreign cultures, and move away from national values. Therefore, it is very important to form a conscious approach to using the Internet and a media culture.



In conclusion, it is worth saying that whether the Internet is good or bad depends on how we interact with it. If it is used consciously, purposefully, and responsibly, it will lead us to develop, work on ourselves, and live in harmony with the modern world. But if it is used as a time thief and a distraction, it will have a negative impact on our lives.

Our young people should learn to use the Internet purposefully, know how to protect themselves from harmful content, and turn to pages that serve personal development. After all, in today's information age, the greatest weapons are knowledge and consciousness. And the Internet is a tool for forming these two forces.

14 POEMS

Whatever Is Broken, Holds A Special Place



Whatever is broken, holds a special place
It possesses rich value everywhere, at all time
But when rebuilt with care, it gains precious nature
Extra efforts woven, like golden threads adds charm
It Makes it more beautiful, and truly divine.
Only broken hearts, can know the pain they have undergone
But when mended with love, they're made more strong,

The cracks and scars remain, a testament to all
A unique quality, that will last for ever
It's not the brokenness, that gives it value
But the trials it's undergone, that make it shine so bright,
The process of breaking, and rebuilding with care,
Adds depth and richness, that's beyond comparison..

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

Trust God Even If The Answer Is Wait

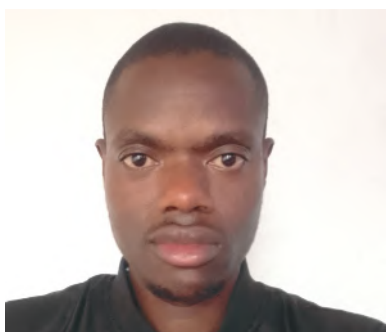


I hope you could hear my whisper
Guide me to the right path to prosper
I pray Thee to strengthen me
To overcome whatever the problems be
And dear God!forgive all my unknown

sins
As I fear that I deserve what I do there within
And I believe dear God
Your creation is not flawed
For you have hidden the solution
Teach me the salvation Dear God!
I trust you are the supreme power
To bless me a blissful life ever.

G. Sarala.
Creative writers
Tamil Nadu
India

The Power Of Us



We are many, yet we move as one,
beating beneath the same warm sun.
Across the hills, across the plains,
hope flows in every shared refrain.
From city's noise to village song,
we've carried burdens all along;
not just for self, but for the dream
that we are more than what we seem.

A farmer's hands, a student's dream,
a teacher's chalk, a leader's theme:

woven together, side by side,
a people with enduring pride.
We rise when women forge the way,
when youth refuse to run or stray.
When elders speak and we still hear,
when truth is told, and hate must fear.
Our strength is born from all our names,
from every spark that feeds the flames.
We carry wounds, we carry grace,
but most of all, we share this place.
So let the world behold our stand:
diverse in roots, but hand in hand.
One nation drawn not by command,
but by the power of us, unplanned.

Poet: Brian Oigara
Pen name: Golden Fingers

When Justice Wear Uniform

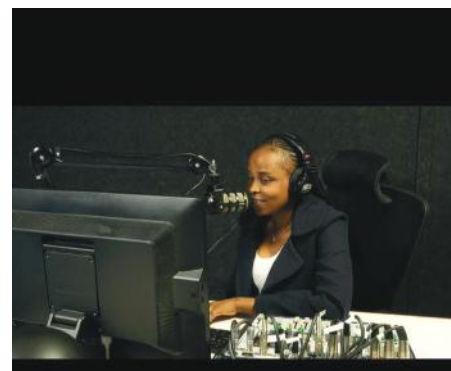


Hardly we face, shields of the silent,
It's so unfortunate our protectors are absent,
It's seems we are the cause of the violent,
But we're seeking background of the client,

It's of very crucial for our Nation to be united,
Police, civil servants,we as citizens all ignited,
It's the perfect definition of peace delighted,
Guardians of the peace, goons are excited,

Hands that guide hearts that really care,
Nowadays trusting you have become rare,
Because games we're playing is dare,
The watchful ones, mocked the share,
To protect and present is what you swear,
After a thousand of militia training we hear,
You're no longer protecting you have cut the ear,
Please protect us,we don't deserve to be tear,
Echoes of the siren cries of the citizens,
Our hearts are afraid, freedom is denizens,
Stand with the justice please not of politicians,
We love you police , protecting is the artisan,
Poet: Wachira Romeo Mugo
Nyandarua - Shalom

Maandamano Ya Raia



In Nairobi's dust laden dawn,
feet drum earth with silent chants—
a heartbeat stirring slumbering walls,
a nation waking, breath by breath.
Placards rise like small suns
carved with truth: "Let us be heard".
A mother grips her child close,
tear gas ghosts licking at their backs—
their eyes speak louder than the pall of smoke

Gen Z's voices thread the streets,
heavy with whispered curses
against bills that choke life's fragile bloom—
the cost of chicken feed,

the hunger of an unemployed youth
Songs of Bien and Breder
roll through clouded avenues,
an anthem of rising pain and hope,
"We march for those who fell" —
honoring lives lost in the fight

Bodies become living verses,
raised fists punctuation in the dust.
Each step a stanza,
each chant a chorus calling for change.
For every tear shed,
there is a promise—
that this choir of hunger, of dreams,
will redraw the lines of power,
painting tomorrow with their presence.

O maandamano,
you are both sorrow and song—
the surge of justice swelling
in every footfall on Kenyan roads,
a living poem of rebirth.

Poet: Cathren Gathoni

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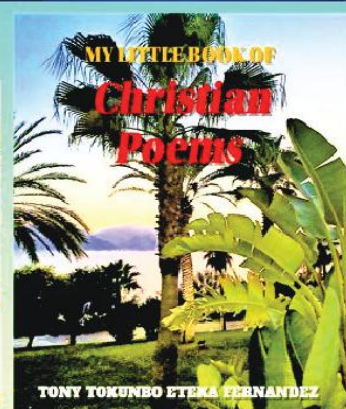
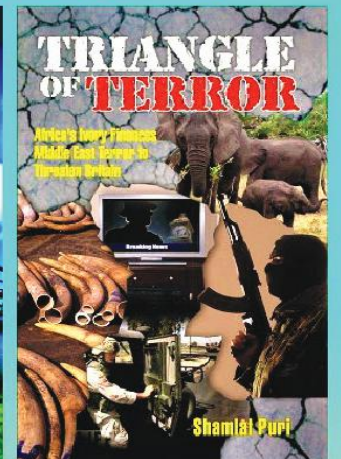
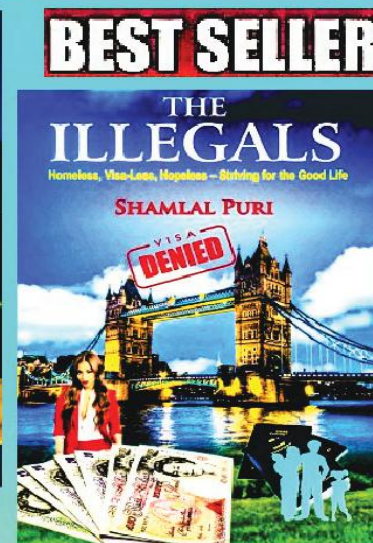
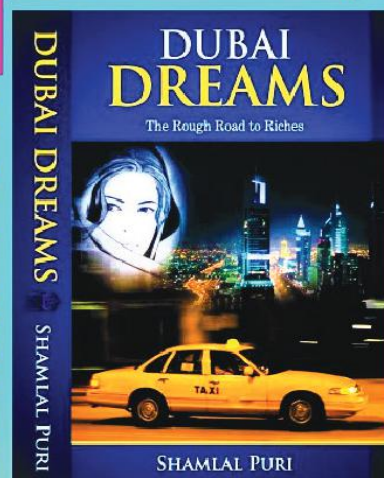
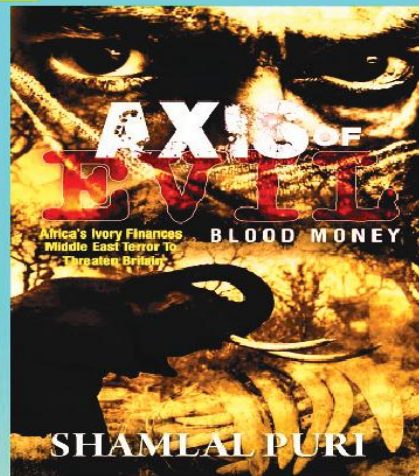
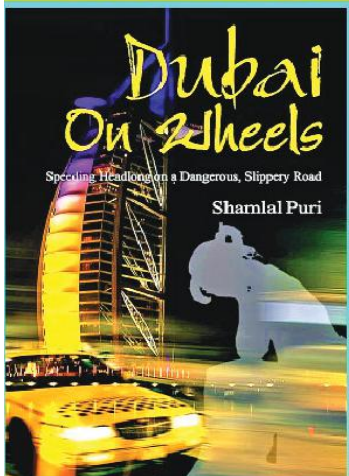
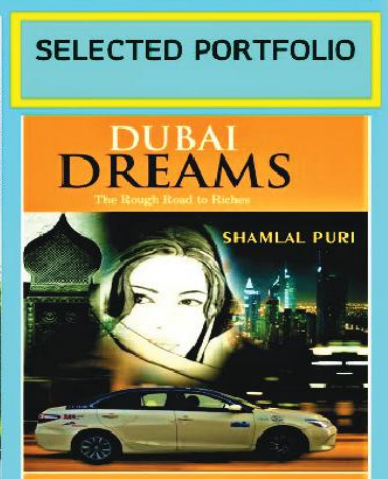
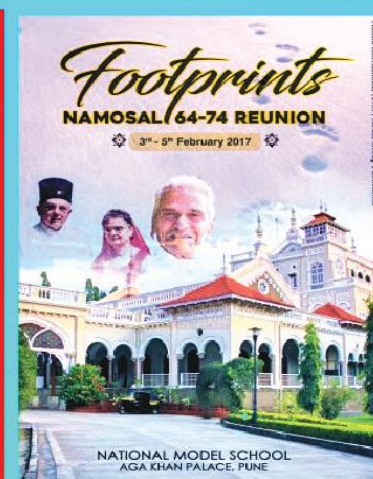
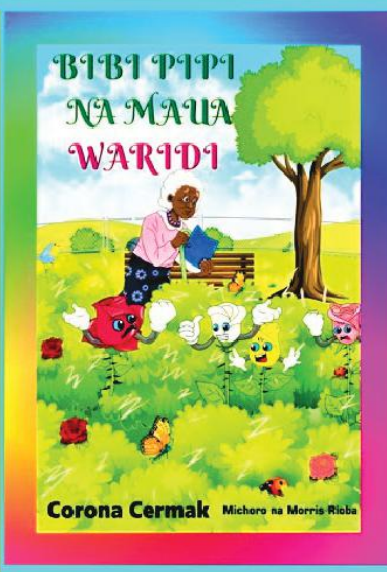
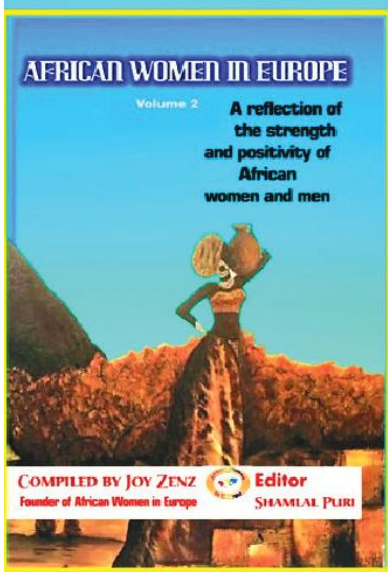
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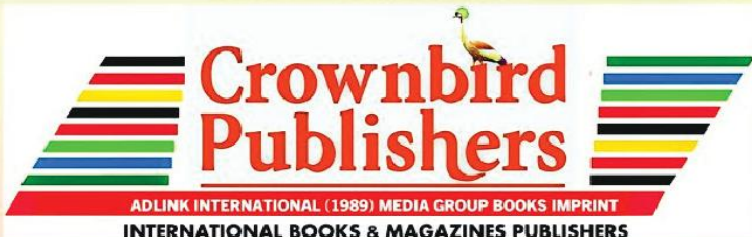
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EDUCATION

Cutting Capitation And Dismissing Free Education Is Betrayal Of Kenya's Children



By: Faith Muthoni
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- As someone who has spent years in Kenya's education system; as Chairperson of Board of Management (BOM), a school board member, school advisory board member and parent representative, I know the critical role government funding plays in keeping children in school.
- But the shock doesn't end there. A politician recently asked, "What do you get from free education? Do you get quality students?"
- These remarks are not just offensive, they are dangerous. They undermine decades of progress, insult hardworking families and teachers and ignore the real challenges on the ground.



The recent announcement by Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadia that the government will slash secondary school capitation from KSh22,244 to KSh16,900 per student and his declaration that "the era of free education, as we knew it, is over" is deeply alarming.

As someone who has spent years in Kenya's education system; as Chairperson of Board of Management (BOM), a school board member, school advisory board member and parent representative, I know the critical role government funding plays in keeping children in school.

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These remarks are not just offensive, they are dangerous. They undermine decades of progress, insult hardworking families and teachers and ignore the real challenges on the ground.

The Constitution of Kenya is unambiguous:

Article 53(1)(b): "Every child has the right to free and compulsory basic education."

Article 43(1)(f): "Every person has the right to education."

Dismantling free education is not

just morally wrong; it is unconstitutional. Free education is not charity. It is a constitutional right.

Free Education Changed Lives

Since the Kibaki-era rollout of Free Primary Education in 2003 and Free Day Secondary Education in 2008, Kenya has seen more children in classrooms, improved literacy and reduced disparities. Children from humble backgrounds have gone on to become high profile professionals like doctors, lawyers, teachers, and innovators, not because they paid more, but because the system opened the door.

President Uhuru Kenyatta built on this by rolling out the 100% transition policy, expanding school infrastructure, supporting teacher recruitment and ICT in learning and introducing the CBC (now CBE) to modernize education delivery

This shows that Kenya's education progress has been bipartisan and cumulative. Today's leaders must not undermine this national effort with careless budget cuts or disparaging remarks.

To claim that free education equals poor quality is a gross misrepresenta-

tion.

It wasn't the money; it was the opportunity.

Parents Deserve Support, Not Blame

Contrary to claims that free education makes parents less responsible, most are already overburdened; paying for uniforms, meals, transport, remedial fees, and more. Dismissing their sacrifices is an insult to the very people who hold the education system together. They do multiple jobs, sell their livestock or forego basic needs just to send their children to school. These are not irresponsible people. They are heroes and heroines.

Crisis Ahead with Grade 10 CBE Intake

In 2026, the Competency Based Education (CBE) enters its next critical stage with the transition to Grade 10 (Senior Secondary). This shift will place enormous pressure on school infrastructure, teaching staff and resources. Instead of slashing funding, the government should be increasing capitation, preparing classrooms, and training teachers.

Reducing capitation now will cripple the CBE rollout and push thousands of students, especially in marginalized areas, out of school.

The government must; Reverse the planned cuts in education capitation, Reaffirm its legal and moral duty to provide free basic education and Distance itself from leaders who disparage free education and its beneficiaries

We cannot afford to gamble with the future of our children. Education is not a luxury. It is our national foundation. If budgetary constraints exist, let the government prioritize better fiscal management, fight wastage and corruption, and protect what matters most; our children's education.

The future of this nation depends not on austerity, but on investment; in classrooms, in learners, and in hope.

Faith Muthoni is a Communication Consultant and Education Advocate. Email; famkiuma@gmail.com



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Redeem Your Legacy, Nyutu Urges Raila

At The Same Time, After They Were Teargas After Leaving A Sunday Service, The Murang'a Senator, Other Leaders Allied To Rigathi Gachagua Called On The International Community To Pay Close Attention To The Unfolding Situation

By: Charles Kinyua
@themtkenyatimes

Opposition leader Raila Odinga has been urged to defend his legacy of fighting for good governance by moving out of the broad based government.

Murang'a senator Joe Nyutu described the dozen of opposition politics as the pillar of the oppressive Kenya Kwanza government that has perfected impunity.

Speaking at Gacharage AIPCA church in Kigumo constituency in Murang'a, Nyutu said that Raila risks soiling his legacy by becoming the last line of defence for the government that has become unpopular for abductions, extra judicial killings and wanton corruption.

"If Raila exits this corrupt and killer government today, we would waste no time in impeaching president Ruto for gross abuse of the constitution," declared the Murang'a senator.

His sentiments were echoed by Naivasha legislator Jane Kihara who regretted utilising her time and resources campaigning for this government that has turned against her own, herself included.

"I crisscrossed the country vigorously campaigning for William Ruto who has repayed me by incarcerating me with trumped up charges," lamented the septuagenarian politician.

"He can get me arrested as many times as he pleases, but I'll not tire telling him to stop killing our children, running down both health and education sectors," added Kihara.

She noted that president Ruto never supported the enactment of the current constitution which perhaps explains his disrespect for the same.

Area MP Joseph Kamau Munyoro urged the president to relax as nobody is interested in removing him in unconstitutional means but should ensure that he doesn't mess the working systems any further.

"When he came in, free secondary was working, NHIF was working and university students were getting assistance from HELB. Why disrupt every working system," posed the legislator.

Nyandarua Senator John Methu who represented DCP Party Leader and former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua called on the president to ensure that the country's systems do not slide further in the next two years.

"President Ruto should at least ensure that he leaves free secondary education as he found it without punishing the students. Our university students should keep on benefiting



Nyandarua Senator John Methu accompanied by other DCP leaders address wananchi at Gacharageini after church service yesterday.

from HELB while no patient should suffer because of the ineffective SHA," warned Methu.

Their sentiments were shared by Kajjado and Kitui senators Ole Seki and Enock Wambua respectively.

Wambua defended Gachagua from accusations of being tribal wondering why the same president Ruto who is accusing him of the vice never raised a finger when the same Gachagua campaigned for him in the last general elections among the same tribesmen of his.

Mukurwe-ini MP John Kaguchia and former Kasarani MP Mercy Gakuya who is DCP's Education Secretary pleaded with the government to rethink its plan to reduce school capitation as education is the only heritage that parents can bequeath their children at this age.

Lawyer Ndegwa Njiru as well as scores of other former MPs led by Victor Munyaka of Machakos Town, aspirants for various seats from various seats also attended the church function.

After the church service the leaders were confronted by police officers and some suspected hires goons who attacked and destroyed their vehicles.

Addressing the media after the ugly incident, the leaders vowed not to relent on their resolve to agitate the one-term call for President Ruto's administration.

The MPs and leaders allied to the DCP party issued a strong condemnation over the actions by police officers to teargas and shoot live bullets in Kahuro, Murang'a County.

They expressed outrage over the police tear gassing them immediate-

ly after they left a church service, an incident they described as a blatant assault on their safety and assassination attempt

Speaking during a press conference held shortly after the incident, the leaders characterized the police action; carried out in collaboration with sponsored goons as an assassination attempt on their lives.

They accused security forces and the goons of deliberately resorting to violence, which included destroying their vehicles and firing live bullets.

They leaders criticized the Ruto administration, describing it as anarchical.

They called on the international community to pay close attention to the unfolding situation, urging intervention to restore peace and uphold their constitutional rights.



Residents of Gacharageini listen to opposition leaders after church service at the local AIPCA church. Photos/Courtesy.

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- "If Raila exits this corrupt and killer government today, we would waste no time in impeaching president Ruto for gross abuse of the constitution," declared the Murang'a senator.

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- "I crisscrossed the country vigorously campaigning for William Ruto who has repayed me by incarcerating me with trumped up charges," lamented the septuagenarian politician.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Generation Betrayed: Why Ending Free Education Is Immoral

By **Bonface Kitonyi**

The sickening news that the Kenya Kwanza government can no longer sustain free education for Kenyan learners didn't shock me. It broke something inside me. And even worse, it confirmed what many have feared for months — that this administration has no intention of prioritizing the rights and futures of the common Kenyan child.

What does this government truly value? Today, your guess is as good as mine. But the pattern is loud and clear: property security over life security, illiteracy over literacy, lies over truth, and of course, corruption over transparency.

And still, no one is held accountable.

Let me be honest: I feel betrayed by a government I never voted for. Yet as a citizen, I am within my right to speak up. Because what's happening isn't just political mismanagement — it's a moral failure.

If it were not for the deliberate efforts of the late President Mwai Kibaki, I would not be writing this today. When

he introduced Free Primary Education in 2003, followed by Free Day Secondary Education, thousands — myself included — gained access to classrooms that had been unreachable for decades. I didn't vote for him. I was just a boy then. But he didn't care about votes. He cared about justice.

Thanks to Kibaki's bold reforms, I studied for free, ate for free, and even got the motivation to dream. I often say that had it not been for that policy, I wouldn't have known what a school gate looked like. That is not poetic exaggeration — it's a lived reality for many in this country.

And now, we watch helplessly as the current regime rolls back progress we bled for. The same government that cannot guarantee food or jobs now seeks to strip away the most basic right: education.

It's easy to dismiss this outrage as youthful protest or political bitterness. But I speak as a beneficiary of public education. And I speak for an entire generation — educated, aware, and awake. We know our rights. We know our history. And we know that the loss



of free education is not just policy regression; it is the erasure of hope.

It is easy to govern an ignorant populace. Perhaps that is the goal.

But I refuse to be silenced. I refuse to watch fundamental human rights be sabotaged in broad daylight. I refuse to be colonized by my fellow black rulers.

Mwai Kibaki may now rest six feet under, but his legacy walks among us. It speaks through every young man and woman who dared to dream because education became possible. That legacy must not die under our watch.

If the government cannot offer free education, it must offer answers. If it cannot protect the rights of children,

then what is its purpose?

Being unable — or unwilling — to provide education to your citizens is not just bad governance. It is immoral.

Bonface Kitonyi is a Teacher of English and Literature in Kilifi County

The Office Predators

By: **David Nyaga**
 @themkenyatimes

In today's competitive job market, many young professionals enter the workforce with enthusiasm, driven by dreams of stability, growth, and dignity. But for some, the workplace becomes a battleground not of skill or talent but of power, manipulation, and exploitation.

One of the darkest and least spoken truths in some organizations, both in the public and private sectors, is the misuse of authority by certain individuals often those in managerial or supervisory roles. These are the so called "office predators." Instead of being mentors or leaders, they prey on the vulnerability of new hires, particularly young women, many of whom are simply trying to earn a decent living.

These predators disguise their abuse of power under the veil of mentorship or opportunity. A common line

heard behind closed doors is, "If you want to secure this position or grow faster here, you must be closer to me." In reality, that "closeness" often implies inappropriate favors, ranging from persistent emotional manipulation to pressuring someone into physical relationships all under the false promise of job security or advancement. While many decline such advances, some, burdened by economic hardship or fear of losing the opportunity, give in. It's a painful reality, one hidden in whispers and silent suffering.

Most affected are interns, recent graduates, or probationary employees, those still finding their footing in unfamiliar environments. They're often afraid to speak up, unsure of who to trust, and too afraid to risk losing their chance at employment. To complicate matters, some workplaces lack clear reporting mechanisms or enforce weak policies on harassment, leaving victims to suffer in silence.

The ripple effect is significant. Marriages are broken, mental health de-



teriorates, and professional integrity is compromised. It also cultivates a toxic environment for those who succeed through merit, as favoritism and unethical advancement create resentment among staff.

But perhaps the most heart-wrenching consequence is the internalized guilt many victims carry. They begin to question their worth and talent, believing their progress is tied only to the favors they refused or agreed

to under pressure.

Organizations must prioritize protecting their employees. There should be zero tolerance for workplace harassment, with confidential channels for reporting misconduct and policies enforced without bias. HR departments should actively educate all staff about professional boundaries, power dynamics, and employees' rights. No man or woman should be coerced into compro-

mising their dignity for a payslip or promotion.

As a society, we must end the culture of silence and shame. Victims need support, not judgment. And the predators no matter how influential must be held accountable. A job is a right, not a favor. Work should build, not break, empower, not exploit.

Mudavadi: Cooperatives Hold A Key Role In The Growth Of Our Economy

The Prime Cabinet Secretary Has Called For Encouragement Of The Saving Culture Through The Cooperatives

By: Anders Ihachi
@themtkenyatimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has urged Kenyans to embrace the culture of saving through cooperatives to safe-guard their financial security and for the country to strive economically.

Mudavadi said the habit of income consumption rather than saving has retrogressive effects within the society and the country's GDP.

He said cooperative societies hold big potential to enhance the livelihoods of people across various sectors, including agriculture, education, housing, the environment, and small and medium-sized enterprises, by effectively mobilizing resources.

"As we speak, the membership of cooperative societies in Kenya is over 15 million people. These numbers contribute to a mobilization of up to a tune of Ksh 1.2 trillion representing a significant percentage of the national savings," said Mudavadi.

Mudavadi was speaking in Chiakariga, Tharaka Nithi County during the Boda Boda Members Economic Empowerment programme under the patronage of Tharaka Member of Parliament George Murugara.

The Prime CS said the ongoing empowerment programmes across the country aim to empower Kenyans to be able to tap into emerging financial opportunities and grow their wealth.

The programme is targeting women, youth, businessmen and women through small and medium enterprises, farmers and people living with disability among other societal groups.

"Kile tunafanya hapa sio mzaha ama watu kufikiri kwamba sisi pamoja na mheshimiwa rais tukiwezesha wananchi kujimudu kupitia economic empowerment programmes ati hatufahamu kile tunachofanya," noted Mudavadi.

"Let us look at the bigger picture of encouraging savings savings in the country because we want our youth, women and every other person engaging in business to be empowered and progress through savings. When we support these groups of individuals through this programme we know the monies are going for a good course to build the cooperatives."

In Kenya the cooperative societies are diverse, ranging from savings and credit (SACCOs) to housing, agriculture and farmers coopera-



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi (centre), Cabinet Secretary for ICT, William Kabogo (left) and Kikuyu MP, Kimani Ichung'wa (right) at the economic empowerment rally in Tharaka Nithi County. Photo/Ezekiel Mwanzia/OPCS..

tives, and consumer cooperatives, marketing cooperatives and investment cooperatives among other emerging ones.

"I was very happy to have received this invitation to join other leaders and support Tharaka Boda Boda Sacco. We are here because of empowerment and nothing else. When we see Boda Boda operators coming together and encouraging the culture of saving we know we are making a step forward. This will help them expand their businesses to the next

level and the government has to support them." Mudavadi remarked.

"The progress at which Kenyans are making in saving as part of their incomes for the future as a comparison to other nationalities is encouraging and the government has noted that there has been a great improvement in the Kenyan savings culture," Mudavadi added.

The Prime CS has in the recent past noted that for governments and institutions seeking to access concessional funding, cooperatives must

be recognized as vital partners due to their remarkable capacity to generate resources.

He has also been quoted to have re-affirmed that the government has sponsored the Cooperatives Bill No. 7 of 2024, before Parliament, a legislation that is expected to strengthen governance and enhance efficiency in the management and operations of cooperatives in Kenya.



Leaders at the Tharaka Boda Boda empowerment programme salute the people.

Worth Noting:

- "As we speak, the membership of cooperative societies in Kenya is over 15 million people. These numbers contribute to a mobilization of up to a tune of Ksh 1.2 trillion representing a significant percentage of the national savings," said Mudavadi.
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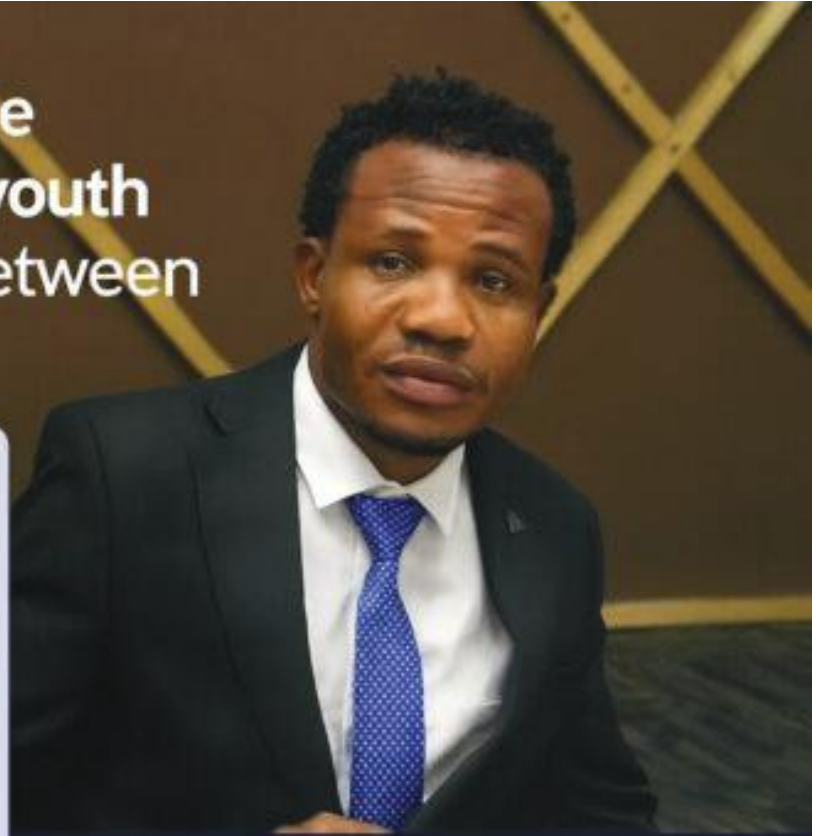
Kenya's Gen Z Pitch Big Ideas After Salasya's Sh1m Tweet—But Frustration Over Jobs Remains

To Salasya's "Bring the Sh1 Million!" Kenya's youth replied: 'Something between outrage and comedy'



pKsalasya
@pksalasya

Am looking for someone who have business idea that it's payback period is short apart from airbnb and betting that with this one million we can invest in. We shall share 70% me and him or her 30%. Tuende kazi i will be reading the comment by comment.



Kenya's youth unemployment rate ranges from 11.93% to 67%. Commenters on Salasya's tweet offered medical centers, digital agencies, and private police stations.

Worth Noting:

- Salasya's tweet may have generated laughs, but the depth of engagement it received reflects a more serious national crisis: the struggle for economic survival among Kenyan youth.
- President William Ruto came to power promising to create jobs for millions of unemployed youth. But for many Gen Z Kenyans, that promise remains unmet. The disillusionment boiled over in the June 25, 2024 protests against the Finance Bill, which saw taxes rise amid a cost-of-living crisis. Dozens were killed in the crackdown.
- A year later, on June 25, 2025, youth again took to the streets to commemorate those lost—and over 60 more were killed.

When Mumias East MP Peter Salasya posted a simple call for business ideas on X (formerly Twitter), offering to co-invest Sh1 million in any venture with a short payback period (excluding Airbnb and betting), he likely didn't anticipate triggering a flood of pitches—ranging from serious to outright absurd.

@pksalasya: "Am looking for someone who have business idea that it's payback period is short apart from airbnb and betting that with this one million we can invest in. We shall share 70% me and him or her 30%. Tuende kazi i will be reading the comment by comment."

That one tweet turned his feed into a fast-paced, crowdsourced Shark Tank, Kenyan-style—complete with business plans, satire, and hustle energy.

The Real Hustle: Business Proposals That Just Might Work

Joy.Ride Carhire @JCarhire: "Invest in a campervan for road trips and stacations... With 1M, you build or buy one and start earning right away." Salasya: "Good idea."

Njenga Mwaha @mwaha_ke: "Niko na machines za 1M... wewe ulete 1M tuanze kuunda Frames na Milango."

Salasya: "Good idea we can do something."

Shadrack Biwot @sediltd_: "Start

a digital agency. High demand, low overhead. Payback in under a year."

Salasya: "Mmmmmh send me this on DM."

Byrum @ByrumWBarasa: "We can set up a medical center for 500k. Returns 20k per day."

Salasya: "Good idea."

When Satire Becomes Social Commentary

Among the flurry of tweets, one stood out for its biting wit:

Serious Joker @HESeriousJoker: "We can open a private police station to arrest government officials and agencies who think they're immune & above the constitution..."

The suggestion—clearly satirical—struck a nerve with many Kenyans. It wasn't just funny; it was loaded with commentary on corruption, impunity, and public frustration with the political elite.

Behind the Laughter: A Generation in Economic Crisis

Salasya's tweet may have generated laughs, but the depth of engagement it received reflects a more serious national crisis: the struggle for economic survival among Kenyan youth.

President William Ruto came to power promising to create jobs for millions of unemployed youth. But for many Gen Z Kenyans, that promise remains unmet. The disillusion-

ment boiled over in the June 25, 2024 protests against the Finance Bill, which saw taxes rise amid a cost-of-living crisis. Dozens were killed in the crackdown.

A year later, on June 25, 2025, youth again took to the streets to commemorate those lost—and over 60 more were killed.

While President Ruto often points to his Affordable Housing Programme and bilateral job deals abroad as proof of job creation, many youth dismiss these efforts as either unsustainable or inaccessible. The jobs abroad—mainly in healthcare and tech—are too few to address the scale of unemployment.

According to World Bank projections, Kenya's overall unemployment rate stood at 5.7% in 2024, while KNBS reported 4.9% in Q4 2022. However, youth unemployment paints a grimmer picture. The Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) estimates that up to 67% of Kenyans aged 15–34 are unemployed.

This is why Salasya's thread became a microcosm of a national mood: raw creativity meeting real desperation.

Comic Relief, Hustler Spirit, and Flirtation

Asango @ann_asango: "Kuja tufun-gue shule for EYFS babe"

Salasya: "Very nice idea if you can

run on my behalf."

Karomo @tonykaromo: "Legal but impossible to tax. 600k capital. DM if serious."

Salasya laughed off the idea.

Millan @Oliat_: "Bring the one million. I'll give you 30% of my business for five years."

Anyole Mwene @EphraimPa89709: "Pedi profit 200%."

Salasya posted emojis.

A New Kind of Political Conversation

Salasya's casual, emoji-laden responses added to the thread's appeal. In a political class often viewed as aloof, he offered something different—direct access, humour, and a willingness to listen (or at least laugh).

The viral thread captured something rare: a fusion of civic engagement, entrepreneurial thinking, and digital democracy—all unfolding in real time.

Whether Salasya actually backs a campervan start-up, a medical centre, or launches a private anti-corruption police force, one thing is clear: the hustle is real.

In a nation where opportunity is scarce and humour is currency, Kenyans are pitching, dreaming, and surviving—one tweet at a time.

SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *Team Mwaura Kabata clinched the 2025 Justice Cup title after edging out Team Faith Odhiambo 3-2 in a nail-biting penalty shootout, following a goalless draw in regular time.

Team Mwaura Kabata Crowned 2025 LSK Justice Cup champions



Mombasa County Governor Abdulsamad Sharif Nassir, Senator Mohammed Faki and LSK President Faith Odhiambo during the Tournament at Aga Khan Academy, Mombasa. Photo by Mark Mutuku/Citizen Digital

Team Mwaura Kabata clinched the 2025 Justice Cup title after edging out Team Faith Odhiambo 3-2 in a nail-biting penalty shootout, following a goalless draw in regular time.

The final, held at the Aga Khan Academy in Mombasa County on Saturday, brought together top legal minds in a spirited sporting contest that saw the LSK President, Faith Odhiambo, face off against her Deputy in a symbolic and highly anticipated showdown.

In the decisive shootout, Team Faith missed one penalty, while Team Mwaura converted all three of their attempts to claim the trophy in the 22nd edition of the annual tournament. The Mombasa Law Society secured third place in the football competition with a narrow 1-0 win over

the Malindi Law Society.

The day was filled with intense competitions across multiple disciplines.

In basketball, the Senate team emerged as champions, showcasing skill and coordination to top the podium. They were followed closely by Anjarwalla & Khanna, who took second place, while the Mombasa Law Society finished third after a strong performance throughout the tournament.

Meanwhile, in volleyball, the Mombasa Law Society dominated the court to claim first place, with the Senate taking second, and the Rift Valley team securing third place in a tightly contested bracket.

Speaking to Citizen Digital during the event, LSK President Faith Odhiambo reflected on the

growing significance of the Justice Cup:

“Each year, this tournament grows in impact. Our aim is to connect, compete, and conquer across our eight LSK branches and invited teams. Last year, Parliament took the win. This year, it was great to see even more involvement, and we truly appreciate the partners who make it all possible.”

Beyond competition, Odhiambo highlighted the deeper purpose of the games.

“We’re tackling mental health through sport. The legal profession can be extremely demanding, and this is a vital outlet. It’s inspiring to see both seasoned lawyers and young practitioners come out to play, relieve stress, and build camaraderie. This is how we fight burnout and emo-

tional fatigue,” said Odhiambo. Mombasa Governor Abdulsamad Sharif Nassir officially opened the event and praised the LSK for promoting well-being through sport.

“Let’s stay united with one goal — a healthy, peaceful country. I’m proud to see the legal fraternity embracing physical activity, which is key to our well-being,” he said.

Nassir also commended LSK’s role in maintaining checks and balances in governance.

“LSK has always stood firm in speaking truth to power. Your voice matters — when it’s silent, others may lead us astray. Continue keeping leadership in check and upholding the rule of law.”

Citizen Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Martin Odegaard's spot-kick in the 84th minute extended Arsenal's pre-season winning run in Singapore after they beat fellow English Premier League side Newcastle 3-2

Late Odegaard Penalty Extends Arsenal Pre-Season Run



Arsenal's Norwegian midfielder Martin Odegaard celebrates scoring his team's third goal during the UEFA Champions League football match between Arsenal and Dinamo Zagreb at the Emirates Stadium in north London on January 22, 2025. (Photo by JUSTIN TALLIS / AFP)

Martin Odegaard's spot-kick in the 84th minute extended Arsenal's pre-season winning run in Singapore after they beat fellow English Premier League side Newcastle 3-2 at the National Stadium in Singapore on Sunday evening.

In an entertaining match played out in front of more than 38,700 fans, it was Newcastle who took the early advantage after scoring with their first attack in the sixth minute.

New signing Anthony Elanga enjoyed his perfect start in the black and white by blasting the ball into

the bottom right corner after meeting a cross from Sandro Tonali.

But Arsenal overcame a shaky start, regaining their rhythm and control of the game.

Mikel Merino drew level for the Gunners with a clinical strike in the 33rd minute from Kai Havertz's flick.

They then found themselves ahead two minutes later when Alex Murphy fumbled the ball into his own net.

The Magpies almost conceded a third after the restart in the 57th minute, but had keeper Nick Pope to thank after he stopped a shot

from a bicycle kick by Bukayo Saka.

Against the run of play, substitute Jacob Murphy levelled for Newcastle a minute later after his shot from outside the box sneaked past David Raya at his near post.

With the match seemingly headed for a draw, it was 15-year-old Max Dowman's deep run into the box, where he was clipped by Joelinton, that proved to be the game-changer.

Odegaard then made no mistake from the spot kick to give Arsenal their second win after their earlier 1-0 victory over AC Milan.

AFP

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A Vessel Of Prayer And Prophecy The Ministry Bio Of Marceline Williams



By: Anila Bukhari
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Marceline answered the call to ministry on March 26, 2000, and was ordained as an Evangelist under the leadership of Apostle Doris Grant Young in 2002. She was soon appointed as an Assistant Pastor, demonstrating her commitment to serving God's people. Under the direction of Apostle Prophet Jones, Marceline's prophetic gift was released and nurtured, preparing her for a life of intercession and spiritual guidance.
- Marceline's ministry journey has been marked by various milestones, including her licensure as a Minister of the Gospel in 2011 under Apostle Alton R. Williams. She has also received certifications in Apostolic Harvest Leadership, Deliverance, Prayer, Prophetic Ministry, Teaching, and Evangelism. These credentials have equipped her to serve God's people effectively.

Marceline Williams is a beacon of hope and spiritual guidance, ordained, appointed, and anointed to pray for leaders and intercede on behalf of the people. Born to Apostle Doris Grant Young and Byron Wiley, Marceline's heritage is rooted in faith and ministry. As the great-great-granddaughter of African Methodist Episcopal Church Bishop Abraham Grant, she has been blessed with a legacy of spiritual leadership.

The Call to Ministry

Marceline answered the call to ministry on March 26, 2000, and was ordained as an Evangelist under the leadership of Apostle Doris Grant Young in 2002. She was soon appointed as an Assistant Pastor, demonstrating her commitment to serving God's people. Under the direction of Apostle Prophet Jones, Marceline's prophetic gift was released and nurtured, preparing her for a life of intercession and spiritual guidance.

Ministry Journey

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Prayer Garden of Memphis

In 2012, Marceline launched Prayer Garden of Memphis, a ministry designed to bridge the gap among denominations and pastors. The goal is to bring people together in prayer, fostering unity and agreement that can bring about positive change in communities, cities, states, and the nation. This ministry was birthed through prayer at World Overcomers Outreach Ministry Church, underscoring Marceline's commitment to intercession and spiritual leadership.



Marceline Williams

Intercessory Prayer and Prophetic Training

Marceline has received extensive training in intercessory prayer and prophetic ministry. Under the guidance of Apostle Almenthia McCray, she has honed her skills in frontline intercession and prophetic ministry. This training has enabled her to serve as a powerful vessel of prayer and prophecy.

Ministry Impact

Marceline's ministry impact is multifaceted. She is part of the intercessory prayer team at The Pursuit of God Transformation Center, where Pastors Ricky and Sheila

Floyd lead the congregation. She has also co-authored "Tying the Knot between Ministry and the Marketplace" and authored several books, including "On the Wall" The Intercessors Break-Threw, "Shattered by One's Touch," "We Overcame," "Grace and Surrender, A Queen's Story," and "The Drops of Poetry." Additionally, she has created an Ebook to transform wealth thinking.

Education and Legacy

Marceline is a doctoral candidate in Doctor of Ministry at Newburgh Theological Seminary. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Science in Management and a Master's degree in Business Administration. Her educational background has equipped

her to serve God's people effectively, combining spiritual leadership with practical wisdom.

Conclusion

Marceline Williams' ministry bio is a testament to her dedication to prayer, prophecy, and spiritual leadership. Her journey, marked by various milestones and certifications, demonstrates her commitment to serving God's people. Through Prayer Garden of Memphis and her other ministries, Marceline continues to impact lives, fostering unity, agreement, and positive change. Her legacy as a vessel of prayer and prophecy will undoubtedly inspire generations to come.