



Voluntary Early Retirement In Kenya: A Legal Overview
 Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) in Kenya is not expressly provided for in the Employment Act, 2007, but it is a recognized practice within employment relationships. VER refers to an arrangement where an employee opts to retire before the mandatory retirement age, usually set by the employer, commonly between 55 and 60 years. In Kenya, the Employment Act does not set a specific retirement age, leaving it to be determined by contract, policy, or collective bargaining agreements.
 Page 18

THANK YOU FOR ADVERTISING WITH US
 For any news you would wish us to publish,
 email us: news@mountkenyentimes.co.ke
For Adverts & Sponsorship
 email us: ads@mountkenyentimes.co.ke

The **MT. KENYA TIMES** Creative Rewards
 Daily ePAPER

Monday, October 13, 2025 No. 01407 www.mountkenyentimes.co.ke [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) themtkenyentimes



News >> Expansion Of Mombasa Port At KSh41 Billion To Commence By December, Kindiki Assures

P. 8. The government is finalizing plans to expand the port of Mombasa at the cost of KSh41 billion with construction works expected to start by this December, Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has revealed.



News >> Malava: Mudavadi Drums Support For UDA Candidate

P. 12. The UDA party has expressed confidence of victory in the November 27th Malava by election days after its candidate David Ndakwa was cleared by the Independent Electoral and boundaries commission (IEBC).

NYOTA Beneficiaries Interview Starts Today

Interviews to select 100,000 young businesspeople who will benefit from a KSh50,000 grant begin in all sub-counties today, President William Ruto has announced. The KSh5 billion joint government and World Bank business support programme, called National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) project, aims to empower 70 young people from each of the country's 1,450 wards to start and grow their enterprises.



President William Ruto being welcomed by APCK leaders yesterday.

STORY ON PAGE 9

NEXT GENERATION CLASSIFY

"ONE-STOP NATIONAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY"



Contact Us:

+254 720 918 828 / +254 713 318 438
 +254 706 237 040 / +254 724 613 401
business@exponentialinternational.com

SCAN TO REGISTER

"ALL BUSINESSES
 ONE PLATFORM"

Jamii Imara Mashinani Caucus In Nyandarua for Public Engagement

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

A caucus of senior public servants from the mountain region took their public engagement initiative to Nyandarua where they met the locals and enlightened them on Kenya Kwanza administration agenda for the country.

The caucus, bringing together Cabinet Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, Chairpersons, board members of State Corporations drawn from Mt Kenya and its diaspora met at Ol-Jorok stadium last Saturday for the Nyandarua county's forum.

Led by their Chairperson and Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards, Ms Mary Muthoni Muriuki, the team disclosed that the government remains keen on taking services closer to the people by creating opportunities for dialogue, feedback, and meaningful engagement.


"Through the Jamii Imara Mashinani Initiative, citizens are provided with a platform to interact directly with government agencies, access information on available services, and share their priorities on development and service delivery," Ms Muriuki observed. During the forum, the caucus members and residents discussions focused on key priorities including the rollout of the Social Health Insurance, the contribution of Community Health Promoters in preventive care, and ongoing campaigns on hygiene promotion and the fight against drug and substance abuse. They also included several services offered by different government departments and agencies that had pitched tents with employees addressing queries raised by the residents.

The engagement reflected the government's continued effort to ensure that public services are accessible, responsive, and people-centred.

Some of the initiative members who attended the event included; Cabinet Secretary for Tourism and Wildlife, Rebecca Miano who hails from the county, Principal Secretary for Correctional Services, Dr. Salome Beaco, Government Spokesperson, Isaac Mwaura, and senior officials led by the caucus Harrison Wangoro and Winfrida Ngumi.



Editor's Desk




The Mt. Kenya Times

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

Group Executive Chairman
M. Danson

Our Contacts
P. O. Box 101 675 - 00101 Nairobi, Cell: 0700 161 866, 0705 215 262
Editorial Desk: editorial@mountkenyatimes.co.ke, **Adverts:** ads@mountkenyatimes.co.ke,
News Desk: news@mountkenyatimes.co.ke, **Web:** www.mountkenyatimes.co.ke

Facebook: facebook.com/themtkenyatimes, **Instagram:** instagram.com/themtkenyatimes/, **Twitter:** twitter.com/themtkenyatimes
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/the-mt-kenya-times/>





NEXT GENERATION CLASSIFY

"ONE-STOP NATIONAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY"



"ALL BUSINESSES
ONE PLATFORM"



FREE
REGISTRATION



SCAN TO REGISTER

Contact Us:

+254 720 918 828 / +254 713 318 438



+254 706 237 040 / +254 721 274 369

+254 724 613 401 / +254 100 423 971

+254 724 613 401



business@exponentialinternational.com



www.businessavaibale.com

NEWS IN BRIEF



Siaya Senator Dr. Oburu Oginga says President William Ruto’s growing working relationship with KANU party chairman Gedion Moi strengthens Kenya’s broad-based government and fosters national unity. Speaking at St. Paul’s Akoko Secondary School in Bondo during International Day of the Girl Child celebrations, Oburu dismissed concerns that KANU’s inclusion would weaken the Orange Democratic Movement, describing the development as positive for all. He also expressed concern over low voter registration turnout, urging youth and citizens to register, emphasizing that participation is essential for shaping government leadership and ensuring a quality government.



The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) has announced plans to enhance continuous voter registration, with a focus on youth participation. IEBC CEO Marjan Hussein noted that only about 20,700 new voters have registered so far out of a target of 6.03 million, attributing low turnout to the challenges youth face in reaching constituency offices. Marjan said the enhanced exercise, to follow the upcoming Magarini by-election, will feature mobile registration centres, digital outreach, social media campaigns, and ward-level voter educators to ensure more young people are registered and engaged in the electoral process.



Dozens of migratory birds have returned to Kisumu’s wetlands as World Migratory Bird Day celebrations get underway, but conservationists warn that habitat loss, pollution, and hunting are threatening Lake Victoria’s biodiversity. Local conservationists under the Friends of Dunga Swamp Site Support Group, in partnership with Nature Kenya, recorded at least nine migratory bird species across key habitats including Dunga Swamp, Hippo Point, Ndere Island National Park, Nyamware, and the lake shores. Hesbon Okoth, a conservator with Friends of Dunga, said the exercise highlights Kisumu’s role as a vital Key Biodiversity Area and a critical stopover for migratory birds. The monitoring, using a special app, aims to capture over 70 bird species this year. This year’s theme, “Shared Spaces Creating Bird-Friendly Cities and Communities”, calls on governments, urban planners, and communities to create environments where both people and wildlife can thrive.

Laikipia Governor Joshua Irungu has called upon the people of Nyeri County to stay united and avoid politics that will divide them. Irungu noted that Nyeri County has been united for many years and so divisive politics should not divide them. He was speaking at AIPCA Ngarithi in Nyeri Central Diocese after AIPCA Spiritual Head Archbishop Samson Muthuri presided over the thanksgiving ceremony of His Grace Archbishop Fredrick Wang’ombe. Also present were area MP Maina Mathenge, and KALRO Board chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge as well as several political seats aspirants.



Avocado farmers in Nyandarua County have appealed to the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA) to reconsider its directive halting avocado exports from October 20, 2025, arguing the move could hurt their income despite its goal of safeguarding fruit quality. The farmers are urging AFA to adopt a zonal assessment approach based on scientific maturity tests rather than a uniform national ban, noting regional variations in climate affect fruit readiness. Nyandarua Chief Officer for Agriculture, Samuel Gitaka, said the county is working with AFA to enhance compliance and production standards, urging farmers to maintain best practices as Nyandarua strengthens its position as a leading tree fruit producer.



A section of international tourism buyers and sellers listens to tourism marketing insights from various source markets during the Essence of Africa tourism conference. Kenya’s coastal tourism gem, Malindi, hosted a high-profile tourism summit this week that brought together over 500 delegates from 39 countries for the 2025 edition of the Essence of Africa Conference. The three-day event connected international buyers, African tourism suppliers, and global experts to shape the continent’s travel future. Curated by On Show Solutions and ATTA® Events, the private sector-led platform links vetted global buyers with Africa’s top-tier travel companies.

NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS



The Mount Kenya Times

+254 724 439 949, +254 720 918 828, +254 721 103 040, +254 713 318 438

website: <https://mountkenyatimes.co.ke>

Government Calls On Youth To Pursue Technical Skills

By: Erick Kyalo

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Fikirini said that with technical education, it is now possible to create demand in the job market for millions of Kenyans, who are graduating every other year.
- “As one of the young guys who have gotten opportunities to serve at this stage of my life, I want to request the young people of this country to embrace technical education.”

The government has called on the young people in the country to embrace technical education and take advantage of the many employment and income-generating opportunities in the sector.

Youth Affairs Principal Secretary, Fikirini Jacobs, speaking during the closing ceremony of a two-day Garissa Youth Summit at the Garissa University, argued that there has been social wiring that university education is more important, but with the current dwindling employment opportunities for white-collar jobs, it was time for the youth to embrace technical skills, whose job market remains readily available.

Fikirini said that with technical education, it is now possible to create demand in the job market for millions of Kenyans, who are graduating every other year.

“As one of the young guys who have gotten opportunities to serve at this stage of my life, I want to request the young people of this country to embrace technical education.”

I know we have had a problem of socialisation as a country. We have given a lot of attention for far too long to university education, which looks ‘managerial’ and given a lot of emphasis to jobs that are considered white-collar or jobs which are cool in the eyes of the young people,” he said. “However, I think technical education is equally something we need to embrace. We have approximately 1.6 million graduates enter the job market every year. These graduates deserve opportunities to be employed, but for those chances to come, we need a system that will create the demand for the absorption of this population and



Fikirini Jacobs

the only way we can create demand is through technical education,” Fikirini added.

At the same time, the PS reiterated that the government is committed to empowering the young people with special programmes such as the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA), the Jitume programme and the Climate Worxs among others and called on the youth to apply.

“The government is very deliberate in empowering technical and vocational education. We have a fully-fledged state department for Technical and Vocational Education and Training

(TVET). We have institutions that have collaborated with TVET through ICT and the digital economy to create the Jitume programme so that young people can get opportunities,” he said.

Garissa Township MP Major (Rtd.) Dekow Mohamed echoed similar sentiments and called on the youth in Garissa to enrol in different technical and vocational colleges within the county to acquire both skills and certification.

Dekow further called on the young Kenyans to start focusing on the innovations and digital start-ups and dive into Artificial intelligence skills, where the next job markets will be focused.

“We have encouraged our young people in Garissa County to embrace technical skills from the local technical colleges so that they can be ready for absorption into the industry. We want to shift from white-collar jobs to skill-based training,” the MP said.

“We have about eight million young Kenyans, who went to school at various levels and are not able to get meaningful employment. This is because our young people are not exposed; they are not advised on what careers to pursue,” he added.

The

MT. KENYA TIMES

Where Investors Get Returns

To advertise in Mt. Kenya Times read by discerning Kenyan professionals and the business community contact our exclusive **UK & Europe** Advertising and Marketing representatives.



ADLINK INTERNATIONAL (1989) MEDIA GROUP
 16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0AF
 Phone: 0330 606 1438 (44 330 606 1438)
 Email: media@adlinkinternational.com
www.adlinkinternational.com
 Contact: Mr Shamlal Puri

The Africa Largest eCOMMERCE



www.gotyou.co.ke

**NOW
OPEN**

Call/Text/WhatsApp: +254 714 090 155

Expansion Of Mombasa Port At KSh41 Billion To Commence By December, Kindiki Assures

By: DPCS
 @themkenyatimes

The government is finalizing plans to expand the port of Mombasa at the cost of KSh41 billion with construction works expected to start by this December, Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has revealed.

The DP said the port's expansion is crucial to ensure it effectively handles increased cargo after registering an increase in containers received over the last three years.

"The President ensured port operations were returned immediately he was sworn into office. Now it is time to expand the port. The President will be here to launch the expansion which will be done at a cost of Sh41 billion," DP said.

The Deputy President spoke yesterday during Nyali Constituency Economic Empowerment event in Nyali, Mombasa County.

The Kenya Ports Authority recently reported a huge increase in the number of containers from 1.4 million to 2 million calling for its expansion to quickly discharge them.

"The government is keen to expand the port to make it more efficient and handle more operations because it is a critical facility to our country," Prof. Kindiki added.

The investment is among other projects funded by the government in Mombasa and the other five coastal counties which are at the centre of the administration's expansive development agenda.

Others are the expansion of Nyali Bridge-Mtwapa-Kilifi highway, dualling of Changamwe-Jomvu-Mazeras-Mariakani Road, completion of Dongo Kundu Bypass which will ease transport in the coastal city and its environs.

Prof. Kindiki said Ruto's government has accorded the region special attention as compared to previous administrations that did not pay much attention to the area.

"Previous governments have come and gone without fulfilling promises to the people in the coastal region. It is only Ruto's administration that is implementing all the promises to the people in the region," he indicated.

Additionally, Mombasa County is a big beneficiary of the affordable housing project. Already Sh6 billion has been allocated for the Nyali Phase 1 Housing Project that targets construction of 2000 units and Phase 2 at Sh1 billion for 83 units.

The government is also hastening completion of Kidongo Fish Landing Site being constructed at Sh175 million in Kisauni, Likoni Fish Market at Sh77 million and Tuna Fish Hub at 1.5 billion. The construction



The DP being taken through the proposed project.

Worth Noting:

The DP said the port's expansion is crucial to ensure it effectively handles increased cargo after registering an increase in containers received over the last three years.

"The President ensured port operations were returned immediately he was sworn into office. Now it is time to expand the port. The President will be here to launch the expansion which will be done at a cost of Sh41 billion," DP said.

The Deputy President spoke yesterday during Nyali Constituency Economic Empowerment event in Nyali, Mombasa County.

The Kenya Ports Authority recently reported a huge increase in the number of containers from 1.4 million to 2 million calling for its expansion to quickly discharge them.

of Liwatoni Fish Port is also progressing.

"President Ruto is the first to invest heavily in the blue economy. We want to grow the fish sector to support the people of Mombasa and the coastal region," DP noted.

The DP also assured coastal residents of the government's resolve to sort out the perennial squatter issues that have remained unresolved for many years.

"We have already allocated Sh2 billion to settle squatters in the region. We want to fully deal with the squatter problem in the coastal region exhaustively," he stated.

The DP also applauded Mombasa County for leading in SHA registration, saying the county tops with 900,000 out of 1.1 million residents

enrolled for the universal medical cover.

At the same time, the DP pledged government's support for families affected by a boat tragedy at Tudor Creek in Mombasa last Friday.

Kindiki visited affected families in Bangladesh estate in Mombasa yesterday, assuring them that no effort is being spared to find those still missing.

"The national government and the county government of Mombasa will support the families of those who lost their loved ones in the tragedy," he said.

On Friday, 19 survivors were rescued and one body was recovered on Sunday. Two people are still missing.

"Psychology-social support will also be provided to the survivors who were left visibly shaken by the incident," DP added.

Further, the Deputy President thanked all the rescue agencies involved in the search and rescue including non governmental groups and volunteers.

"The government will also support the brave locals who were the first responders and who helped save lives," he assured.

He was accompanied by Mombasa Governor Abdulswamad Sharrif Nassir, MPs Mohammed Machele (Mvita) and Badi Twalib (Jomvu) among other leaders.



The DP and other leaders visiting the boat victims.

Ruto: NYOTA Programme Beneficiaries To Be Interviewed From Today

By: PCS

@themkenyatimes



President William Ruto at Ziwani yesterday

Worth Noting:

- The KSh5 billion joint government and World Bank business support programme, called National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) project, aims to empower 70 young people from each of the country's 1,450 wards to start and grow their enterprises.

- "Tomorrow in every sub-county in Kenya, we will begin identifying 100,000 young people because we want to use their energy, talent and expertise to transform our nation," the President said yesterday.

- He made the remarks at the inauguration of the Nairobi Archdiocese of the African Independent Pentecostal Church of Kenya at the Kasarani Gymnasium in Nairobi.

- Earlier, the President had attended the 70th anniversary of the Africa Inland Church Ziwani in Nairobi County. He was accompanied by First Lady Rachel Ruto, Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, Cabinet Secretaries Kipchumba Murkomen and Hanna Cheptumo, MPs led by the Leader of Majority in the National Assembly, Kimani Ichung'wa and several MCAs.

Interviews to select 100,000 young businesspeople who will benefit from a KSh50,000 grant begin in all sub-counties today, President William Ruto has announced.

The KSh5 billion joint government and World Bank business support programme, called National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) project, aims to empower 70 young people from each of the country's 1,450 wards to start and grow their enterprises.

"Tomorrow in every sub-county in Kenya, we will begin identifying 100,000 young people because we want to use their energy, talent and expertise to transform our nation," the President said yesterday.

He made the remarks at the inauguration of the Nairobi Archdiocese of the African Independent Pentecostal Church of Kenya at the Kasarani Gymnasium in Nairobi.

Earlier, the President had attended the 70th anniversary of the Africa Inland Church Ziwani in Nairobi County. He was accompanied by First Lady Rachel Ruto, Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja, Cabinet Secretaries Kipchumba Murkomen and Hanna Cheptumo, MPs led by the Leader of Majority in the Na-

tional Assembly, Kimani Ichung'wa and several MCAs.

The President announced that the government and Nairobi County have agreed to contract the private sector to collect garbage and keep the city clean.

"Nairobi cannot continue to be the city of filth," he said.

The two levels of government, he explained, will also cooperate in road development in city estates and lighting up the city.

"The National Government is going to work with the County Government to ensure that Nairobi is mobile and motorable, clean and well-lit. We are finalising the plan," he said.

The anniversary celebrations were held at Starehe Boys School, and the President pledged that the government would provide KSh60 million to replace asbestos roofing and expand the school's infrastructure.

Additionally, the President said the government will also send 20 more teachers to the school in January 2026.

At the same time, President Ruto said he has engaged leaders across the political divide in a bid to unite the country and rally support in

transforming Kenya from Third World status to the first world.

He pointed out that he has held talks with former Prime Minister Raila Odinga, former President Uhuru Kenyatta and KANU Chairman Gideon Moi on working together to take the country to the next level.

Additionally, President Ruto said he has held one-on-one discussions with over 80 per cent of Members of Parliament, explaining how they should contribute to the common agenda.

"I will continue to engage all leaders so that we can make Kenya a First World. It is possible," he said.

The President explained that Kenya has what it takes to move from a Third World country to First World status by 2055.

He pointed out that Kenya has ideas, knowledge, plans, people and resources to achieve this, and called on Kenyans to ignore doubting Thomases, unite and work together towards this goal.

Saying Kenya has made tremendous progress in the past three years, the President cited stabilisation of the economy, increased agricultural productivity, implementation of universal healthcare and affordable

housing among other programmes.

"In just three years, it has been possible to start construction of 170,000 housing units. In Nairobi alone, 93,000 housing units, 12 markets and 20,000-bed student hostels are being built," he pointed out.

The President went on: "For far too long, we have been stuck at the level of poverty. It's now time to take the country to the next level."

President Ruto stated that Nairobi County has been allocated KSh210 billion for affordable housing, fresh produce markets and student hostels.

"This is not money we have borrowed; it is money Kenyans have raised," he said.

Governor Sakaja commended the partnership between the National Government and Nairobi County in addressing key issues affecting residents, particularly the water challenge.

He said the county has now received an additional 140 million litres of water to benefit residents.

Mudavadi: Kenyan Police Is The Best Globally

By: OPCS PS
@themkenyatimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has described Kenyan Police as one of the professional security forces in the world.

Mudavadi noted that because of their professional nature the force had been in 50 peace missions globally.

Speaking during the thanksgiving ceremony of Dr. Amani Komora, the Chairperson National Police Service Commission (NPSC) at Oda village, in Tana River, Mudavadi urged the security leadership keep the good tradition.

“Our Security forces are professional, orderly and regarded globally. We must ensure that the Standards are kept at any given time,” said Mudavadi.

PCS gave an example of the over 800 police officers who had held bring harmony in their peace mission 12,000 kilometres away in Haiti.

“The peace mission in Haiti has been their for 15 months and there is no single recorded case of human rights abuse. This is a testament of their professionalism,” said Mudavadi.

He urged Dr. Komora to ensure that the standards with the police are kept during his tenure as had been during his predecessor Mr. Eliud Kinuthia.

“You have no option as the chairperson but to make sure that the standards are kept if not the way they are,



Some of the leaders who attended the event. Photos/PCS PS

they must be higher,” said Mudavadi. The PCS asked the residents and leaders of Tana River county to nurture and maintain peace in their county to ensure that they are able to attract investment.

He noted that investors were keen to invest their money where there was harmony.

“Every investor is keen to put their money and investment where they know that there is peace. It is there-

fore important that you maintain an harmonious life to attract development in your area,” said Mudavadi.

“ The projects like the ones going on in Galana Kulalu can only thrive when they are in a peaceful environment,” said Mudavadi.

He celebrated Dr. Komora’s distinguished service and unwavering commitment to national cohesion and institutional integrity. He lauded his leadership as an inspiration to the

youth and a testament to the transformative power of dedication and discipline.

The gathering brought together a rich tapestry of leadership and community: Host Governor Tana River, Dhadho Gaddae Godana, Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration Kipchumba Murkomen, Inspector General of Police Douglas Kanja, Director of DCI Mohamed Amin, Principal Secretaries, Senators includ-

ing Danson Mungatana (Tana River County) and Ledama Olekina (Narok County), Secretary General COTU Francis Atwoli, a host of Members of Parliament, Members of County Assembly.

“As Chief Guest, I was deeply moved by the unity and pride that filled the air. Dr. Komora’s story reminds us that when integrity guides our path, we not only rise, we uplift others with us,” said Mudavadi.



Musalia Mudavadi with the Amani Komora



Amani Komora with Douglas Kanja.

Girls' Voices Amplified Through Storytelling, Empowerment Programmes

By: Anita Omwenga
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- This year's event, held in Kibera, Nairobi, showcased Room to Read's global "She Creates Change" project, a storytelling initiative that highlights the real-life journeys of girls who have overcome immense challenges to lead transformation in their communities.
- In Kenya, Polycom Girls has localised this initiative across Kibera and Homa Bay County, combining storytelling, mentorship, and creativity to nurture leadership among adolescent girls.
- Speaking during the event, Board Member at Polycom Girls, Brenda Kalekye, emphasised that the day amplifies the voices of young girls and celebrates their achievements despite adversity.
- Kalekye said that by investing in education, leadership, and equality, we are not just shaping the future of individual girls; we are transforming societies, noting that during this International Day of the girl child, Polycom Girls and Room to Read reaffirm their commitment to empowering girls as change makers.



Brenda Kalekye briefing the media.

As the world marked the International Day of the Girl Child and also commemorated 30 years since the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, Polycom Girls, Nairobi, in partnership with Room to Read, joined the global community in celebrating the power, voice, and potential of every girl.

The celebration, themed "The Girl I Am, The Change I Lead", called for renewed commitment to empower girls as agents of change and leaders in shaping a just and inclusive future.

This year's event, held in Kibera, Nairobi, showcased Room to Read's global "She Creates Change" project, a storytelling initiative that highlights the real-life journeys of girls who have overcome immense challenges to lead transformation in their communities.

In Kenya, Polycom Girls has localised this initiative across Kibera and Homa Bay County, combining storytelling, mentorship, and creativity to nurture leadership among adolescent girls.

Speaking during the event, Board

Member at Polycom Girls, Brenda Kalekye, emphasised that the day amplifies the voices of young girls and celebrates their achievements despite adversity.

Kalekye said that by investing in education, leadership, and equality, we are not just shaping the future of individual girls; we are transforming societies, noting that during this International Day of the girl child, Polycom Girls and Room to Read reaffirm their commitment to empowering girls as change makers.

"Accessing Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights remains a challenge for many girls in informal settlements, but through Polycom Girls' programmes, we've kept hundreds of girls in school by addressing issues around menstruation, education, and dignity," she said.

Kalekye said the event featured film screenings, interactive sharing circles, and a Siri Ya Mwezi comic session on menstrual health and dignity, noting that 'The girl I am, the change I lead' is more than a theme, It is a movement, one that begins with a story, grows with mentorship,

and blossoms into leadership.

Polycom Girls Mentor Lavenda Odhiambo noted that the initiative aligns with SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality) goals that are deeply intertwined in ensuring that girls gain knowledge, leadership skills, and confidence to change their communities.

"Through storytelling, we help girls relate, reflect, and rise. They begin to see themselves as leaders and decision-makers," she added.

Polycom Girls's menstrual Health Program Lead, Esther Musavi, highlighted the ongoing struggle to access hygiene products, particularly in informal settlements and rural areas, noting that they work with women who locally make disposable pads for girls.

Kelvin Ouma, a male champion with Polycom Girls, added that gender equality requires partnership. "This is not a gender fight. Men and boys must collaborate with girls to create safe, equitable spaces for all," he said.

Chris Musonya, a patron representing Polycom Girls in schools, reaffirmed their commitment to holistic support for girls.

According to UNICEF, globally, over 129 million girls are out of school, with Kenya facing persistent challenges that threaten girls' education and wellbeing.

In Homa Bay County, about 33 per cent of girls aged 15–19 are either mothers or expectant, nearly twice the national average of 18 per cent. The teenage fertility rate stands at an alarming 178 births per 1,000 girls.

In Kibera, girls in informal settlements are more likely to drop out of school due to poverty, lack of menstrual products and social pressures such as early marriage or care responsibilities.

These realities make it clear that empowering girls is not a choice; it is a necessity.

Malava: Mudavadi Drums Support For UDA Candidate

By: OPCS PS
@themtkenyatimes



Farouk Kibet, Musalia Mudavadi and other leaders joined locals in a jig...



Musalia Mudavadi

The UDA party has expressed confidence of victory in the November 27th Malava by election days after its candidate David Ndakwa was cleared by the Independent Electoral and boundaries commission (IEBC). Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi said it is now all systems go since the party has a formidable candidate to face Democratic Action Party–Kenya (DAP-K)’s Seth Panyako and DCP’s Edgar Busiega in what has been termed as in a tightly contested race to replace the late MP Malulu Injendi.

“I have faith in the people of Malava and I have a strong believe that you will help us get a good leader in David Ndakwa.” said Mudavadi.

“Ndakwa, you have to work closely with all leaders from this region. Look for brothers who will give you the right advise, get more friends and good people on board. This is my advice to you.” added Mudavadi.

Yesterday, when he attended a service at Tumbeni African Church of the Holy Spirit in Malava, Mudavadi

rallied six Members of Parliament from Kakamega county in throwing their support behind Ndakwa.

The MPs were Fred Ikana (Shinyalu), Tindi Mwale (Butere), Emmanuel Wangwe (Navakholo), Benard Shinali (Ikolomani), Nabii Nabwera (Lugari) and Titus Khamala (Lurambi) all who vowed to campaign for the UDA candidate in the mini polls.

“The people of Kabras and Malava, let us be focused. This by election should unite us more than ever as a people of this region. Malava should show the rest of Western Kenya the

direction. Let us listen to our leaders, we should not despise them by being misled by the opposition which does not carry any message of inspiration towards the future of our people.” warned Mudavadi.

“Let us not be swayed by propaganda and cheap political rhetoric. Our friend here, Farouk Kibet (aide to President Ruto) has come to help us drum support for the UDA candidate, he will not vote in Malava, neither myself Musalia, I will not vote in Malava. I have not registered as a voter in Malava. The people of

Malava will vote in the leader of their choice. My plea is that when you see us here, together with the leaders who have spoken today we have good intentions to make sure you vote in a good leader by making the right decision.” added Mudavadi.

Mudavadi said the leader who takes the mantle to lead the people of Malava must reflect the national image, pick up from where the late Malulu left and steer the development agenda for the constituency to a greater front.

“Malulu Injendi had a plan, he had a strategy and you Ndakwa supported him, you walked with him as you witnessed what he was doing for the people of Malava, so the first call of action is to ensure you finish what he has started.” Mudavadi added.

President William Ruto’s aide Farouk Kibet, UDA National Vice Chairperson Kelvin Lunani, Ndakwa, a host of Members of County Assembly and other local leaders were present.

Gachagua Vows To Expose Mt Kenya ‘Traitors’ By Name

By: Rene Otinga
@themtkenyatimes

Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has vowed to begin naming and shaming Mount Kenya leaders whom he accused of ‘betraying the community’.

Gachagua spoke during a church service at Ambassador of Christ Church in Mwea, Kirinyaga County, where he claimed there was a concerted plot by the Kenya Kwanza government to divide the Mount Kenya region through the formation of smaller political vehicles to scatter votes.

According to Gachagua, President William Ruto aimed to achieve this by using his allies from the Mount Kenya region - a move which the former DP vowed to quell.

“Let us agree on what I will do. Wherever I go in Mount Kenya, I will be calling out the traitors by name so that people know them. Whether you are a man or a woman. We will tell our people who the traitors are so that the President doesn’t

finish this community,” Gachagua said.

The former DP specifically called out Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru, whom he claimed had plans to form a political party ahead of the 2027 polls.

Waiguru, who is in her second term as governor, is intent on switching to a Senatorial race since she cannot serve a third term as governor.

“I know Waiguru has been told to form a party. That is a wheelbarrow,” he asserted in a thinly veiled attack on Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru. “If you see that party, know it is a wheelbarrow.”

Waiguru has not made her plans public and is yet to issue a response to the claims made by Gachagua.

He went further to warn women leaders in the region not to expect sympathy if they are part of what he sees as a betrayal of the community.

“Our women leaders, those of you betraying our community, we will deal with you as traitors,” Gachagua said. “There is no distinction between men and women. A traitor is a traitor.”

While citing the government’s decision on rice imports, Gachagua



Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua addressing the residents of Embu on Saturday, October 11, 2025. Photo: Rigathi Gachagua

blamed the impasse between the state and rice farmers on the silence from Kirinyaga leaders, who he claimed had the power to stop rice imports.

People’s Liberation Party (PLP) leader Martha Karua was also present at the church service on Sunday, dismissing any claims of opposition discontent, saying that all opposition leaders shared an agenda and a front-

man to rival President Ruto for the top job in 2027 would be announced soon.

Gachagua’s remarks came just a day after he accused Ruto of double standards following the President’s meeting with KANU party leader Gideon Moi.

On Saturday, Gachagua specifically expressed frustrations over what he termed a clear double standard by

Ruto and the latter’s divisive political mobilisation in the country.

He lamented over the constant criticism he always faces when he attempts to mobilise the Mt Kenya region, in which he is often labelled as a tribalist for trying to unite the central Kenya region.

Health CS Pledges To Champion Maternal Health As A National Priority

By: MoH
 @themtkenyatimes

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale has pledged to make maternal health a national agenda, calling for a comprehensive, life-course approach that addresses women's health well before, during, and after pregnancy.

Speaking during the launch of Rumuruti Mission Hospital (RMH) in Laikipia County yesterday, Duale said the strategy will be achieved through the active participation of women leaders in developing a framework that provides actionable recommendations for preventive and promotive services that enhance women's health and wellbeing.

"We must view maternal health not as an isolated event but as part of a woman's lifelong journey of wellbeing; from adolescence to motherhood and beyond," said the CS.

The launch marked the culmination of a week-long medical outreach by the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA), which provided health services to more than 2,000 community members. Constructed by the PCEA Health Board, Rumuruti Mission Hospital becomes the fourth mission hospital under the Church in the Rift Valley region, joining PCEA Kikuyu, Tumutumu, and Chogoria hospitals. Strategically located in Rumuruti, the new facility will provide affordable and quality healthcare to rural communities while serving as a hub for medical outreach in the region.

Duale commended Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) for their pivotal role in Kenya's health system, noting that they manage nearly 30 per cent of the country's health facilities. He lauded their continued partnership in advancing the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) agenda and contributing to the Bottom-Up Economic Trans-

formation Agenda (BETA) through the Taifa Care Model.

The CS highlighted the benefits available under the Social Health Authority (SHA), including maternal healthcare, dialysis, and coverage for emergency, chronic, and critical illnesses, all designed to ensure equitable access to essential health services for every Kenyan. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to accountability and prudent management of public resources under the SHA, issuing a stern warning against fraudulent practices targeting the Fund. He emphasized that the Ministry continues to implement reforms aimed at protecting health financing integrity and improving efficiency in service delivery.

Reiterating President William Ruto's directive, the CS confirmed that the government will fully cover SHA contributions for 1.5 million indigent Kenyans across all 47 counties, while Governors and Members of Parliament will support an additional one million citizens; a major step toward universal access to healthcare.

Calling for national unity, Duale urged Kenyans to reject divisive politics and instead focus on shared progress. He commended the PCEA for its long-standing contribution to health and community development and announced the Ministry's support for the new hospital through the drilling of a borehole and donation of essential medicines to facilitate operations.

He was joined by Cabinet Secretary for Tourism and Wildlife, Rebecca Miano; Principal Secretary for Defence, Patrick Mariru; SHA CEO Dr. Mercy Mwangangi; DHA CEO Eng. Anthony Lenayara; Members of Parliament Sarah Korere, Jane Kagiri, and Wachira Karani; and PCEA Deputy Secretary General Rev. John Mbae, among other national and county leaders.



Adan Duale with Sarah Korere and Patrick Mariru in Rumuruti yesterday.



CSs Rebecca Miano and Adan Duale with PCEA leadership in Rumuruti yesterday.



Adan Duale with other leaders, including Laikipia Women Rep. Jane Kagiri (right) and Laikipia North MP Sarah Korere (left). Photos/Courtesy.

Healing Yourself



Pull away the curtains of sorrow—
let the rising sun burst through your window.

Silence the song that wounds too deep

More than your spirit aches,
But hear instead the morning birds.

Rise from the bed that pins you down,
Walk in the arms of beautiful nature,
Then down the dark streets while you dance,
It lifts the weight you carry.

You drink from the cup of sorrow every night,
Shatter it before the sun's orange dims—
And do not trade it for another bowl.

Now close your eyes, breathe—slow, deep.
Think of wildflowers,
of the evening breeze.
Walk among them,
Feel the peace.
And repeat.

~Flora N. Muihaki

Small Lifestyle Changes Bring Great Health Benefits



Let's Make Slight Lifestyle Changes
And Bring Great Benefit.
A Slight Deviation Alone is Needed,
That Too is Only for Our Benefit.

Let's Step Out of Our Comfort Zone
And Take Care of our Health -
Through Food, Sleep, Walk, Yoga, and Personal
Hygiene.

It May Seem a Bit Difficult,
Yet All is for Our Good alone

A Little Sacrifice is Essential
For Achieving Something.
Early Morning Walk with Slight Sunlight,

Drinking Water, Eating Fruits, Vegetables.

Breathing Deeply, Cutting Down Rich Cholesterol
Food,

Going for Exercise - Beyond All, Smiling at
Everyone.

Doing Hard Work, That Too Smart Work and
Physical Work,
Brings Great Improvement to Health.

So Let's Shifts
For a Healthier Tomorrow of
With Balanced Habits,
Then We'll Find Our Peace,
Our Face Will Bloom with a Happiness

Brinda. D
GRADUATE TEACHER,
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPAKKAM
CUDDALORE, Tamilnadu India
creativewritersmag@gmail.com

Digital Life Vs Real Life - Contrast



Digital life, a screen away,
Connections made, but feelings gray.
Real life, flesh and bone,
Emotions raw, connections grown.

Digital masks, we hide and seek,

Real life, vulnerable, true and unique.
Likes and shares, a virtual score,
Real life love, forever more.

Clicks and swipes, a lonely night,
Real life touch, a warm delight.
Digital noise, a constant hum,
Real life silence, a peaceful drum.

In digital life, we curate and pose,
In real life, we live, we grow, we know.
So let's not forget, to live in the real,
To nurture our hearts, and truly feel.

R. SRIPRIYA
BT ENGLISH GHSS KOLAPAKKAM
KANCHIPURAM DISTRICT TAMILNADU INDIA

The Lion



The lion is the king of the forest
So brave and clever in every way
Its skin is soft, its appearance grand,
But don't be fooled, it's a skilled hunter

Its nails are sharp, its teeth so fine,
It runs with speed, none can hide
It sleeps soundly, without a care,

For it's the king, no one to come near

When I asked why it doesn't eat plants, it said
"Plants are so poor
it's the king forever
the lion's might,
Doesn't understand,
Animals are also poor.

S. Arivazhagan.
7B govt High school Melpattampakkam
Cuddalore district
Tamil Nadu India

Change Your Living, Even If Your Fate Hasn't Given You The Chance



Though the destiny isn't giving in us chance,
We'll make the situation in the way that makes
it enhance.

There's no need for a strike,
If we don't even like.
Move out,
No shout.

As we need to set up our own, no arguing,

No one in the world could ask as it's our willing,
Let's make our way,
To strike out people's aspects of say.
We can change our fate by turning the
lifestyle,
Whoever stops, don't mind, set your own rules
that make you smile.
Your success in what you dripped every single
drop should make a history,
That should bring respect in you unconditionally
by the whole society.

G.JEEVITHA SRI
CLASS X
SCHOOL-VELAMMAL VIDYALAYA
KARAMBAKKAM
CHENNAI
TAMIL NADU
INDIA

Born To Break Through



A problem's not a real big deal,
Unless you run and hide in fear.
It grows when you don't try to heal,
But face it once, it disappears.

You cannot solve it by delay,
It waits for you, it won't forget.
Just walk right through it, and the way,
And soon you'll break the biggest net.

Each problem comes to make you strong,
No human lives without a test.
Don't cry or ask, "What's going wrong?"

Just try your best and leave the rest.

We often stare at what goes wrong,
Instead of seeking what will heal.
Shift focus, and you'll move along—
The pain will pass, the peace you'll feel.

So when life throws a test at you,
Stand tall and let your spirit shine.
With every win, you'll prove what's true:
Your strength is deep, your heart divine.

Problems stay till our last breath,
But each one comes with hidden light.
Face them all with fearless faith,
And you will win them, fight by fight.

Durgadevi V
BT Assistant
GHS Nesal
Tiruvannamalai

DO YOU WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?

ARE YOU A WRITER OR CORPORATE?

Let Professional Editors and Authors turn your story into a Dream Book.

THRILLERS - FICTION - FACTION - BIOGRAPHIES - TRAVELOGUES - HUMOUR- COFFEE TABLE - BROCHURES

London-based contract Publishers for independent and self-publish authors.

We offer one-stop top notch Editing, Expert Design, Proof Reading, Book Covers, Artwork, Digital, Litho Printing, E-Books, Corporate Brochures and UK ISBN number. Reasonable costs. We print and deliver books. Authors retain 100% sales profits.



The Crownbird Publishers logo and imprint owned by Adlink International (1989) Media Group London

Copies of some books available for sale: hard copy/digital. Contact us: media@adlinkinternational.com Email Subject: Crownbird Books



ADLINK INTERNATIONAL (1989) MEDIA GROUP
Books Division
16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0AF (UK)
Tel: 44 330 606 1438
Email: media@adlinkinternational.com
www.adlinkinternational.com

YOUTH

NYOTA Programme: Lighting The Way For Kenya's Youth Entrepreneurial Revolution And National Renewal

By: James Kilonzo Bwire
 @themtkenyatimes

The launch of interviews to select 100,000 young businesspeople for the NYOTA programme is a watershed moment in Kenya's efforts to unlock youth potential and tackle one of the country's most persistent challenges: youth unemployment. With a significant budget of KSh 5 billion funded jointly by the government and the World Bank, this initiative promises to inject KSh 50,000 grants into the hands of 70 young entrepreneurs in each of the 1,450 wards nationwide. As the selection interviews commence across all sub-counties, the programme exemplifies a bold strategy that transcends mere financial aid to nurture a nationwide entrepreneurial ecosystem, positioning Kenya's youth as key drivers of economic transformation and social stability.

Youth unemployment in Kenya remains a critical socio-economic issue with deep-rooted causes including a mismatch between education and market needs, limited formal job creation, and structural economic barriers. Millions of young people face despair as the formal sector shrinks relative to the youth population entering the job market every year. In this context, entrepreneurship emerges not as just an alternative avenue but a vital necessity for survival and growth.

The NYOTA programme takes a localized, inclusive approach by directing resources to young people at the grassroots level. By empowering 70 youths per ward, the programme ensures broad coverage—offering opportunities not only in urban centers but importantly, in rural and marginalized areas too, where youth often face the steepest barriers to economic participation.

The grant of KSh 50,000 acts as crucial seed capital that has the potential to jumpstart micro and small businesses—from agribusiness and retail to technology services and creative industries. This funding often represents the difference between a promising idea remaining dormant and a venture taking off. Importantly, by providing direct grants rather than loans, the programme helps young entrepreneurs avoid the trap of high-interest borrowing that can

stifle business growth or lead to debt accumulation. This form of capital injection empowers a generation that might otherwise remain stuck in informal, unstable income activities to access the resources needed to build sustainable enterprises.

However, capital alone is only one ingredient in the recipe for entrepreneurial success. Past programmes in Kenya and beyond have demonstrated that youth businesses require ongoing mentorship, skills training, and strong access to markets to thrive. The ability to manage finances effectively, understand customer needs, adapt to changing markets, and scale operations requires continual capacity building. The NYOTA initiative's impact will be deepened greatly if it integrates comprehensive business advisory services, connects young entrepreneurs to market networks, and fosters partnerships with experienced business leaders who can mentor the youth through challenges and opportunities.

The transparency and integrity of the selection and oversight processes are critical determinants of the programme's success. The risk of corruption or elite capture—where resources slip away from intended beneficiaries—looms large in large-scale public programmes unless stringent checks and community involvement are instituted. Engag-

ing local civic organizations, county governments, and broader civil society in the identification and monitoring of beneficiaries can enhance fairness and accountability, ensuring that the most deserving and dedicated young entrepreneurs benefit. This participatory approach also deepens community ownership and support for the enterprises, reinforcing a culture of collective responsibility and pride in success.

Strategically, the NYOTA programme aligns perfectly with Kenya's Vision 2030 and the Big Four Agenda, which prioritize inclusive growth and youth empowerment as central pillars of sustainable national development. Investing in young entrepreneurs benefits not just the beneficiaries themselves but also generates wider economic multipliers including job creation, increased household incomes, and expanded tax bases. Kenya's youthful demographic represents both a challenge and an unprecedented opportunity—the key is to harness the talents and ideas of its young people into productive ventures that can sustain livelihoods and energize local economies.

Equally important is the partnership with the World Bank, which lends substantial technical and financial support, ensuring that best practices guide programme implementation

and that monitoring and evaluation frameworks are rigorous. This partnership underscores international confidence in Kenya's leadership and development trajectory while bringing in global experience that can be adapted to Kenyan realities.

As interviews begin this Monday, sustained collaboration among all stakeholders is essential. Government agencies, county officials, private sector players, and community organizations must work hand in hand to put in place complementary systems such as entrepreneurship training centers, market access platforms, and digital business services that amplify the impact of the grants. Private sector engagement, particularly in offering incubation and technology transfer services, can exponentially increase success rates and business scalability for young entrepreneurs.

The societal benefits of thriving youth enterprises go beyond economics. Entrepreneurship instills a sense of dignity, independence, and hope in young people, keeping them engaged constructively and away from social vices that often accompany joblessness. It builds resilience within communities by generating local solutions to local challenges, from food security through agribusiness to climate-smart innovations and the development of digital econ-

omies in remote areas.

In conclusion, the NYOTA programme is a beacon lighting a new pathway for Kenya's youth—one that combines targeted investment, inclusivity, and strategic support to revolutionize the entrepreneurial landscape. It exemplifies what can be achieved when a nation commits resources and political will to empower its youth at scale. Proper execution, continuous stakeholder engagement, and rigorous oversight will ensure that the promise of this programme translates into real impact, transforming thousands of lives and positioning Kenya on a sustainable growth trajectory.

This initiative goes beyond a mere concessional grant; it embodies hope, opportunity, and empowerment. As the nation watches the selection process unfold, the future of many young Kenyans hangs in balance—a future poised not on dependency but on self-reliance, innovation, and leadership. The NYOTA programme has the potential to be a landmark chapter in Kenya's development story, turning youthful ambition into entrepreneurial success and ultimately, national renewal.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and Communication Practitioner.



Kindiki: Our Development Record Is Extensive, Unmatched

By: DPCS
@themtkenyatimes

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki said Kenya Kwanza's development record is unmatched, challenging opposition leaders to get ready to account for their time in public service when the time comes.

The DP said President Ruto's government is wholly focused on fulfilling its expansive development agenda covering every part of the country, reiterating its commitment to serve all Kenyans equally.

"We are doing a lot to develop every part of the country. The President is working hard to ensure every region is developed. No part will be left behind because of how they voted or where they are located or which tribe. We have one President serving all Kenyans. It doesn't matter how the people voted. We have one country, one President and we are moving forward as one nation," he noted.

The DP spoke on Saturday at Enooseiya, Narok East, Narok County during a resource mobilization event to raise funds for 23 churches in the Constituency.

He said the opposition will have a tough time convincing Kenyans to support them, highlighting the government's strong development record in roads, water, electricity and empowerment.

"When the time comes, all of us will face wananchi and explain to them what they did to improve their lives when they were in office. Some have occupied senior and influential offices but have nothing to show. The President and I will fully

account for what we have done for the people of Narok and the whole country," he added.

In Narok, the government has revived roads abandoned by previous administrations and has planned the tarmacking of new ones. Among them is completion of Ngong-Suswa Road and construction of Nairragie Enkare-Suswa Roads among others. The County is also a beneficiary of fresh produce markets with 17 in various stages of completion including Suswa and Ntulele which have been finished and awaiting official opening.

The government has also allocated Sh2.4 billion for last mile electricity connection in the County, of it Sh213 million for Narok East Constituency. Prof. Kindiki promised to push for more allocations to ensure more residents get access to power.

The Narok International Airport is also being fast-tracked as well as the Leather tannery factory coming up in the devolved unit.

"We are developing Narok county so it rises to the level of other counties," he stated.

He urged the residents not to be incited against each other stressing the importance of communities coexisting for the nation's prosperity.

"We must live in peace, compete on policies, not resort to violence and other retrogressive things," DP said.

Present were National Assembly Majority Leader Kimani Ichungwah, National Assembly Majority Whip Silvanus Osoro, MPs Ken Aramat (Narok East) and Gabriel Tongoyo (Narok West) among others.



Kithure Kindiki.

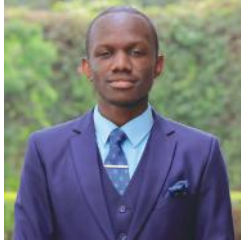


Kithure Kindiki, Kimani Ichung'wa with Maasai morans



Kithure Kindiki greeting some of the locals who attended the event. Photos/DPCS

Voluntary Early Retirement In Kenya: A Legal Overview



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Under the Kenyan Employment Act, any termination of employment including retirement must be done in accordance with fair labor practices. Section 45 of the Act requires that termination must be for valid reasons and follow due process. Although VER is initiated by the employee, it must not be a result of coercion or disguised redundancy. Employers must ensure that employees are not pressured into early retirement under the pretext of voluntariness. The process must be transparent, fair, and properly documented.
- The key feature of VER in Kenya is that it must be mutually agreed upon and documented in writing. The employee should be provided with all relevant information regarding the benefits, implications, and consequences of early retirement.



Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) in Kenya is not expressly provided for in the Employment Act, 2007, but it is a recognized practice within employment relationships. VER refers to an arrangement where an employee opts to retire before the mandatory retirement age, usually set by the employer, commonly between 55 and 60 years. In Kenya, the Employment Act does not set a specific retirement age, leaving it to be determined by contract, policy, or collective bargaining agreements. Therefore, the legality of VER depends largely on mutual agreement between the employer and employee. This flexibility allows employers and employees to agree on retirement terms, as long as the process respects the law.

Under the Kenyan Employment Act, any termination of employment including retirement must be done in accordance with fair labor practices. Section 45 of the Act requires that termination must be for valid reasons and follow due process. Although VER is initiated by the employee, it must not be a result of coercion or disguised redundancy. Employers must ensure that employees are not pressured into early retirement un-

der the pretext of voluntariness. The process must be transparent, fair, and properly documented.

The key feature of VER in Kenya is that it must be mutually agreed upon and documented in writing. The employee should be provided with all relevant information regarding the benefits, implications, and consequences of early retirement. Such agreements often include terminal dues such as accrued leave, gratuity, and possibly a golden handshake, if offered. The agreement should also indicate that the employee is retiring voluntarily and waives further claims against the employer. This protects both parties from future disputes.

The Employment Act requires that upon termination, all dues owed to the employee be paid promptly. Section 18(4) mandates that an employee's wages and other entitlements be paid not later than seven days after the end of employment. In VER cases, this includes all agreed-upon retirement benefits. Where an employer fails to meet these obligations, the employee has the right to file a complaint with the Labour Office or seek redress in the Employment and Labour Relations Court. Compliance with these

provisions ensures legal closure of the employment relationship.

Employees considering VER in Kenya should evaluate the long-term financial impact. Early retirement may limit access to full pension benefits under schemes like the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) or private pensions. It may also affect health insurance coverage and future job opportunities. Legal or financial advice is recommended before accepting an early retirement offer. Careful consideration ensures that the decision is made in the employee's best interest. Employers offering VER must do so equitably and with respect for labor laws. Selective targeting or discriminatory offers could amount to unfair labor practices under Kenyan law. Any criteria used to determine eligibility for VER must be objective and consistently applied. Employers should also engage in consultation with trade unions or staff associations where applicable. A clear policy on VER helps to avoid disputes and builds trust among employees.

It is important to distinguish VER from redundancy, resignation, or dismissal. Redundancy must follow the strict requirements under Section 40

of the Employment Act, including notice to the Labour Officer and fair selection criteria. VER, being voluntary, does not require these steps, but still demands good faith and legal compliance. Unlike resignation, VER typically includes a retirement package or incentive. Employers must avoid misclassifying terminations to escape statutory obligations.

In conclusion, Voluntary Early Retirement in Kenya is governed by principles of contract and fairness under the Employment Act, 2007. Though not specifically detailed in the Act, VER is valid where both parties consent and all entitlements are paid. Employers must act transparently and avoid any form of coercion or discrimination. Employees should make informed decisions, considering both legal and financial implications. When handled properly, VER can be a mutually beneficial option in workforce management.

The writer is a legal researcher

A Taste Of ‘Whispers Of Shadows’



By: Wanjohi. P. Mugambi
@themkenyaintimes

I will weep no more. Why should I weep for the souls that were lost. The souls that are deep in the graves. I do not have tears anymore. I wept in my young age and today I will not. Life is strong in me and I cannot grieve for what was and might have been. This is a different path. I look at the window onto my friends of flowers. I see them blossoms like a golden sea. Dry leaves are all over. In them I hear again the voices of my people calling to me in my young days. I do not want to hear. I close my eyes and I see my mother stand before me. I do not want to remember anything from my earliest memories. But the voices are strong in every minute that counts. I enter once more to the grand time when I was young. Even before the first appearance of the eclipse. During the prophecies of the big snake on the prophets lips.

It was a time of peace in all land especially the land between the two rivers as narrated by Ngugi wa Thiong'o. Peace was everywhere and no one had hatred with another. The gods were happy with the sacrifice offered on top of the mountain and the people prospered. We children played beneath the big mugumo trees and our limbs grew strong and strong. We were taught work. Working to every African child was mandatory and we had no intentions to refuse. During our free time we sang our songs to please the gods to continue blessing us, grant us the peace we needed and fulfill our dreams of joy. In this days we lived in a land rich with great love, peace, comfort and in our thoughts thinking it would never change.

I was still staring at the window when I heard the voice again. The voices of my departed mother spoke with great echo like she was with me. "Tell it to the world. Educate them, Tell our story,"

Tremors of fear and confusion filled my heart as I listened keenly to the instruction. As an African I believed in life after death. I believed those that died were ancestors and would act as mediator between the gods and the living. Would that be a sign to me.

When growing up we were taught to believe in spirits. Good and evil

spirits. We were told to believe in offering sacrifice to please Ngai to continue showering us with his love. We were told always not to joke with the sacred caves of worship and so believing about spirits it was normal, but this was a very new experience. For almost two years I have been hearing voices. Weeping for the lost souls in the deep graves. Crying without knowing the reason I am crying for. Today I face outside from my window and the voice of my departed mother has been speaking. Speaking and giving instruction. For the last two days it has scarcely stopped but today it is not giving me the peace I need. Once it starts I cannot be able to sleep than to stay awake.

I tried not to listen but it had no difference. The voice continued to persist. Coming inside my head and other times seeing her picture. I knew not about the source for long ago we were taught that evil spirits would take a body of someone you loved when they die.

"I do not know what you want." I said loud. "I do not understand the instructions you are giving and how you can to my head and mind. You leave me the most confused man in the universe."

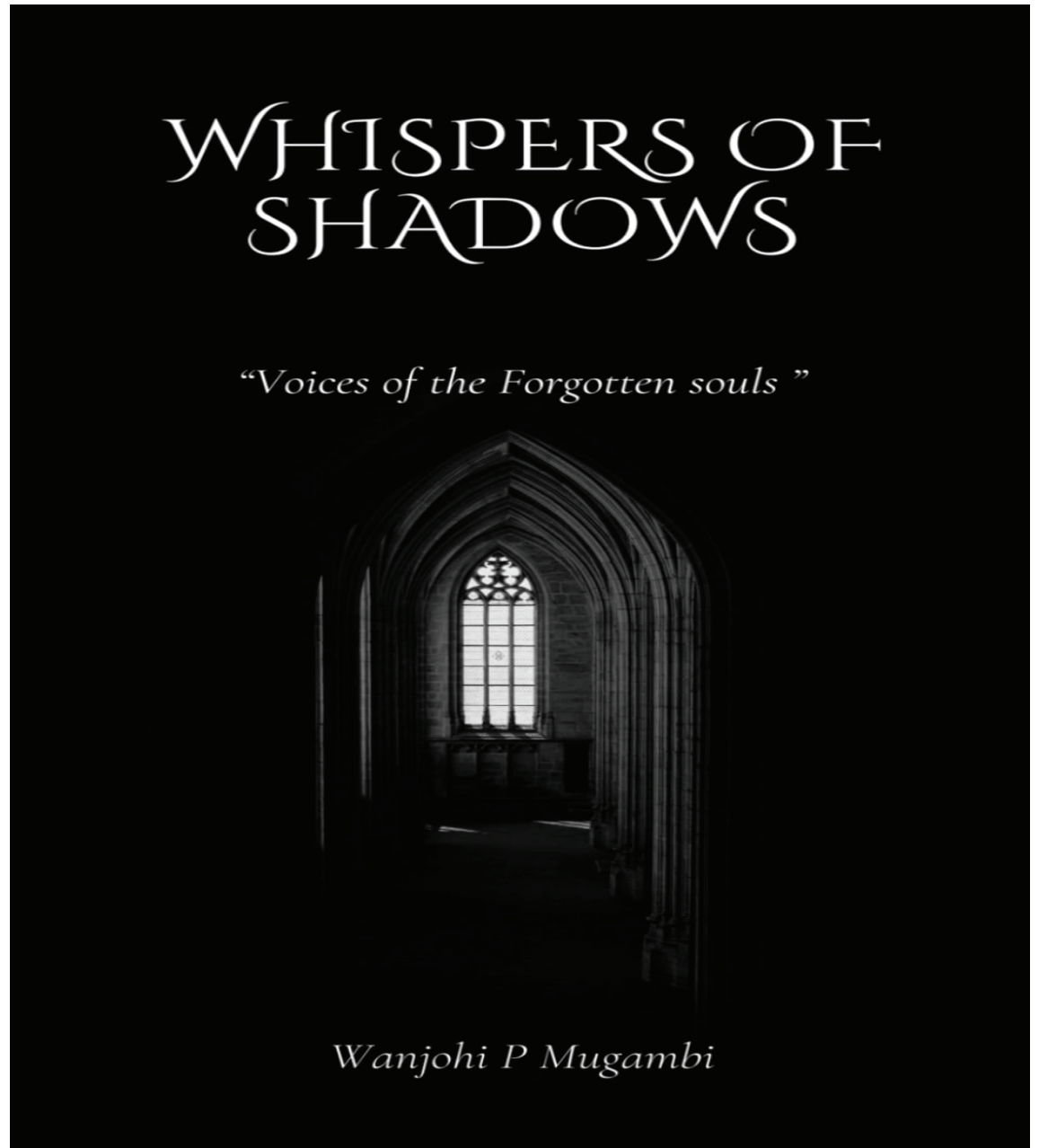
"You did not choose me son." It was my mother's voice that spoke. I was left without words only to listen. "You did not choose me but I chose you. Tell our story and I will lead you."

"Yes Yes.... Yes, let it be so," I said weariness being evident in my tone. "I can no longer go against your wish mother. I shall tell your story. I shall go mad if I do not hid to what you want."

"Do not be afraid son. Do as I say and a great reward will come to you." The voice of my mother said.

I dropped in my knees. I didn't want to struggle against the voice of her again. Even if I had left the traditional worship I had to do as the voice said. Recently I had shared it with Priest Morris and he had told me those were evil spirits. We had prayed with him and even instructed me to pray and fast and still the voice did not stop to torment me. I had no otherwise than to hid to the voice though it was insane. Quite insane because no one would believe that a voice from the dead would tell me something in the current generation of technology.

I took my pen and I begin to write. Perhaps putting it in writing will be easier to tell the story to many generations. Maybe the words of my narration will earn me peace from the voice and it will let me go. Perhaps it will give me confinement and allow



me to rest.

"Tell me your story and I will write" I said instructing the voice. I said this with a high tone. The voice had made me a captive. A prisoner in my own life. And so I write, not from the joy of heart but from the bitterness of the feelings of lack of peace. "Write my son write. Not only for yourself son but for those who come after. And for every voice that cry out not to be totally forgotten."

Men called it a nation near the Ethiopian islands. It was a nation with many rivers and with a great mountain. It was covered with slopes leading them to the great city that was called Nairobi. Indeed it was a nation pleasing to the eyes of every colonial power during the scramble and partition of Africa. The mountain side had been occupied by the dialect of Agikuyu community. The coastal part the Swahili with its famous word Mashallah had occupied it after the Arabs left. The Nilotes especially the Luo community occupied the western and lake region areas. Nairobi was for everyone but before the colonial period it was an area for the Maasai.

On the high terrace, the mountain place Muigai was born. A cool and young man. The seers of the community had believed that he was a reincarnation of the first president of Kenya. He had everything similar. When he was just six years you would say he was in his fifties. He schooled like a normal child until he his university level where his life began. He had eventually relocated to the city the famous Nairobi.

On a sunny day Muigai leaned against a column gazing out across the rooftops of the city. He loved watching the sunlight glimmer on the glasses of different buildings in the city. Nairobi was a busy city. It was as big as the nation itself. Blessed with different kinds of people and large buildings in the Eastern African countries. Just like any other kingdom the king of the nation lived in the city. Even those in the political sectors and represented those in the village lived here. What irony it was. It was normal and everyone got used to that.

Muigai was then joined by his friend Katherine. The two were in love. They had schooled in the same

school since childhood, taught all basic things from their community and today they were gazing at the city together. They enjoyed the coolness though the city was filled with pollution of any kind. They had plans. Plans waiting for them to take actions. Muigai sighed and returned his eyes to the great city.

"Has something stirred you from your heart. I want a child." Katherine said

"Is this sarcasm. You know in our community we can't until we perform rario (dowry payment)" Muigai explained.

Katherine mimicked his expression. This made Muigai laugh.

"Have you been using this as an excuse without my consent and just keeping me here as your girlfriend." She laughed. "I need a great assurance to see what is before my own eyes. I saw the love and affection, I need to see my own blood now." She said.....

Whispers of Shadows by Dr. Wanjohi. P. Mugambi

Tanzanian Initiative Helps Deaf Women Break Silence Through Entrepreneurship

By: Xinhua
@themtkenyetimes

In Tanzania's bustling port city of Dar es Salaam, a quiet yet powerful movement is redefining opportunities for women with hearing disabilities.

Tanzania Joy Women Entrepreneurship for the Deaf, popularly known in the Swahili language as FURaha ya WANawake wajasiriamali kwa VIziwi Tanzania (FUWAVITA), is empowering deaf women to become business leaders, breadwinners, and changemakers in their communities. Founded in 2010 by Aneth Gerana Isaya, the first deaf woman to graduate from the University of Dar es Salaam, FUWAVITA was born out of necessity. After being denied employment because of the perceived cost of hiring a sign language interpreter, Aneth decided to take action. "I was told I couldn't be hired because communication would be too difficult," Aneth, who is currently pursuing a master's degree in international development, told Xinhua recently in a written interview. "That moment pushed me to create some-

thing that would prove our worth and potential," she added. From that determination grew a nationwide movement that now supports more than 3,500 women with disabilities across Tanzania. FUWAVITA's mission is clear: to equip deaf and disabled women with the tools they need to achieve economic independence and social dignity. Through hands-on training in skills such as peanut butter production, poultry farming, handicrafts, and even wine and chili making, the organization provides not just knowledge but also startup capital and equipment. As a result, women who once relied on family support are now running their own businesses and making significant contributions to their communities.

Among them is 45-year-old Mwajuma Ally Mwambo, the FUWAVITA secretary who now runs a thriving peanut butter and wine business. "Before FUWAVITA, I depended on others for survival. Now, I support my family and have hope for the future," she said. Seated beside her colleague and fellow trainer, Mwambo spoke to Xinhua through a sign language interpreter. She joined the group in 2016 after learning about it through friends and social media,

and has since been deeply involved in passing on the experience to other women with hearing disabilities. "Through these activities, I am now able to earn an income to support my children's education and meet other family needs," Mwambo said. Despite the successes, challenges remain. Communication remains a significant hurdle, especially when marketing products in communities with a limited understanding of sign language. "If more people in society learned sign language, many of these barriers would disappear," Mwambo said.

Looking ahead, FUWAVITA plans to establish a large-scale production facility to expand operations and employ more individuals with disabilities. Mwambo believes such initiatives will not only improve livelihoods but also break stereotypes about dependency. "For women facing challenges, whether deafness or otherwise, FUWAVITA is a place where you can learn skills, create products, and contribute meaningfully to your family and society," she said. The impact stretches far beyond income generation. FUWAVITA actively combats gender-based violence and exploitation by fostering self-reliance. It also advocates



Mwajuma Ally Mwambo, a deaf entrepreneur and secretary of FUWAVITA, has an interview with Xinhua in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, last month. (Photo/Emmanuel Herman/Xinhua)

for the recognition of Tanzanian sign language and partners with institutions such as the University of Dar es Salaam to expand interpreter services and enhance access to education. Aneth's advocacy has already yielded lasting change. She successfully pushed for the hiring of the university's first sign language interpreter, paving the way for future deaf students. "True success isn't just about earning certificates. It's

about the mark you leave behind," she said

Today, FUWAVITA operates in several regions, including Dodoma, Mbeya, Iringa, Coast and Shinyanga. Its model, combining training, startup support and advocacy, is increasingly seen as a blueprint for inclusive development. "Our disabilities do not define us. We are defined by our courage to rise above them," Aneth said.

Indian Pilots' Body Demands Grounding Of Air India's Boeing 787 Fleet For Electrical Checks

By: Xinhua
@themtkenyetimes

The Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP) has demanded that the federal government ground the private airline Air India's entire Boeing 787 fleet for electrical checks, following recurring electrical glitches and maintenance concerns in the said aircraft.

The Federation wrote a letter to India's Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu, expressing concerns in the aftermath of two major incidents within a span of one week involving Air India's AI-117 and AI-154 aircraft. Earlier this month, an un-commanded deployment of Ram Air Turbine (RAT) on Air India flight AI-117 was reported at Birmingham.

Following the incident, India's civil aviation regulator, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), asked the private airline Air India to reinspect the RAT on planes with replaced power conditioning modules. Simultaneously, the DGCA also sought a "comprehensive report" from the U.S. aircraft maker Boeing on the preventive measures to be implemented with respect to the un-commanded RAT deployment incident, said media reports. Speaking to Xinhua over the phone, FIP president R.S. Randhawa said that repeated technical problems, particularly electrical glitches, besides other safety concerns, were reported in the said aircraft fleet. He confirmed the FIP's demand for grounding Air India's Boeing 787 fleet for electrical checks. Referring to the June 12 air crash involving AI-171 aircraft, a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, in India's

western state of Gujarat, the FIP chief said that the way the Aircraft Investigation Bureau was conducting the inquiry was "dissatisfactory." Demanding a judicial probe into the air crash killing over 260 people, Randhawa said that comprehensive electrical checks on the entire fleet of Boeing 787 were required urgently in order to ensure air travel safety.



Air India's Boeing 787

A World Where Mothers Exist...



By: Yasmina Olimova
@themtkenyatimes

We know that there is no one on earth as dear, trustworthy, or great as a mother. Every person has a mother whom they miss the most, whose love is special and whom they appreciate the most. For them, life seems interesting, purposeful, and colorful when they have mothers. They cannot even find the courage to say a word without them. There are mothers who believe that life is worthy of love, compassion, and respect. Without them, the world is like a dark, frozen heart. All mothers in the world live for their children. When water comes, it nourishes, when stone comes, it erodes. That is why they are sacred and words cannot describe them.

It is known that since all times, only mothers have been considered sacred and trustworthy people. All mothers have children who respect them. A clear example of this is a blessed, selfless person who carries her children in her womb for nine months, takes care of them, and says, "Let my child eat, even if she herself does not eat." No matter how you talk about them from every angle, it is difficult to fully understand this topic.

However, for mothers, the fact that they are mothers and live in such a status is like a miracle. It is not for nothing that the wise men of the past said, "When a person asks three times who I should do good to, he should answer, "Your mother," and on the fourth, "Your father and your close relatives." Therefore, it should be a habit to always have the right opinion about mothers. The upbringing they give, the white milk they give, is so pure and honest that no one can dare to do bad things, treat their mothers badly, and go astray.

When we honor them, parents become younger, more beautiful, and their faces are filled with light. Their tears only lead the child to disaster. Because no matter what mothers say or do, they are obeyed. Therefore, it is the duty of every servant to always make them happy and to bring a smile to their faces. For these people, every poet has waved his pen, singers have sung, and artists have

Painted, but even these cannot be compared to their hard work and patience.

A person who has lost his mother is like a living corpse. Such people live only by remembering their fragrance, their memories, and their laughter. But even then, it is very difficult for these broken hearts to find peace. Because a person is connected to one soul through the umbilical cord and is born by breathing from it for nine months. Then he comes into the world through the mother's strong labor.

Then the child sees the world, and the air, the ego, and the elimination of all kinds of bad things are created through the one mother's God. Through God, goodness, love, and compassion are instilled in him. Through this God, he understands how beautiful it is to tune in and listen, and he falls in love with this voice and melody. Time passes and grows, and this voice lives in his heart forever. Most importantly, he understands himself, begins to set goals, and this soft, mournful voice accompanies him from the depths of his heart, comforts him.

Even the initial period of the first schoolboy, who understands that his first teacher is his mother, is seen through a person who has gone through the greatest hardship in his life and is tired of worldly worries. This is a strange feeling for a person. Those who think about it are filled with thoughts. And only one person comes to life in his imagination.

A voice rises from the depths of his heart with enthusiasm, and immediately this word sounds from the heart, MOTHER. Yes, of course, it is very easy to feel and understand this. Everyone loves their mother, because she is the first love.

In the Holy Quran, a special chapter called "An-Nisa" (Women) has been dedicated, and through this chapter it is mentioned how women should be treated and respected. So, treating every woman in the world like a mother is a great virtue. A righteous woman can always be a strong mother.

In addition, in all countries there are Mother's Days and they are celebrated in different interpretations. For example, Mother's Day - a day of gratitude to mothers, modern Mother's Day, appeared in the United States of America and began to be celebrated with great solemnity on the second Sunday of May every year.

Usually, mothers receive gifts on this day, and carnations are considered flowers dedicated to mothers. At the same time, Mother's Day



is celebrated in Uzbekistan in an unparalleled way. On March 8, all women and mothers receive various gifts and flowers on this day. Various events are organized in their honor. Poems and songs are sung, and it is always a memorable day, imprinted in everyone's memory. Some people leave their mothers alone when they get old, without even thinking about what will happen to them, and do not even have time to check in or call.

As a result, they are unaware that their mothers have died. However, the poor mother, waiting for her child to return, waits for his call, and leaves this world with white hair, wrinkles on her face, and tears in her eyes. But is it right to do this for a mother who raised them and sacrificed her life? Sometimes they hear such things, and there are children who do not even know their mothers' birthdays. For such people, kindness and compassion are alien. They continue to live in this world, caught up in the desires and troubles of the world.

In the end, they realize that this path will not end well, but it will be too late. The mother will have lived in the fire of longing for her child. Even then, she does not hate her child, she thinks, she grieves, but some unfortunate people take a long time to understand this, and some leave this world without understanding it at all.

Usually, mothers receive gifts on this day, and carnations are considered flowers dedicated to mothers. At the same time, Mother's Day is celebrated in Uzbekistan in an unparalleled way. On March 8, all women and mothers receive various gifts and flowers on this day. Various events are organized in their honor.

Poems and songs are sung, and it is always a memorable day, imprinted in everyone's memory. Some peo-

ple leave their mothers alone when they get old, without even thinking about what will happen to them, and do not even have time to check in or call. As a result, they are unaware that their mothers have died. However, the poor mother, waiting for her child to return, waits for his call, and leaves this world with white hair, wrinkles on her face, and tears in her eyes. But is it right to do this for a mother who raised them and sacrificed her life? Sometimes they hear such things, and there are children who do not even know their mothers' birthdays. For such people, kindness and compassion are alien.

They continue to live in this world, caught up in the desires and troubles of the world. In the end, they realize that this path will not end well, but it will be too late. The mother will have lived in the fire of longing for her child. Even then, she does not hate her child, she thinks, she grieves, but some unfortunate people take a long time to understand this, and some leave this world without understanding it at all.

In conclusion, it is worth saying that every believing servant has no right to be unjust to the mother who gave birth to him and raised him. This soul is superior to any other soul. No matter what kind of servant he is, there is no one who can be equal to a mother. People who live with the prayers of their mother, you breathe, laugh, and enjoy with them. Losing them is painful and no human heart can bear the loss of a mother. There are lines written by every poet. The late Muhammad Yusuf also said in his poem:

Usually, mothers receive gifts on this day, and carnations are considered flowers dedicated to mothers. At the same time, Mother's Day is celebrated in Uzbekistan in an unparalleled way. On March 8, all

women and mothers receive various gifts and flowers on this day. Various events are organized in their honor. Poems and songs are sung, and it is always a memorable day, imprinted in everyone's memory. Some people leave their mothers alone when they get old, without even thinking about what will happen to them, and do not even have time to check in or call. As a result, they are unaware that their mothers have died. However, the poor mother, waiting for her child to return, waits for his call, and leaves this world with white hair, wrinkles on her face, and tears in her eyes. But is it right to do this for a mother who raised them and sacrificed her life? Sometimes they hear such things, and there are children who do not even know their mothers' birthdays. For such people, kindness and compassion are alien. They continue to live in this world, caught up in the desires and troubles of the world. In the end, they realize that this path will not end well, but it will be too late. The mother will have lived in the fire of longing for her child. Even then, she does not hate her child, she thinks, she grieves, but some unfortunate people take a long time to understand this, and some leave this world without understanding it at all.

If my heart is left with a nightingale or a flower,

If I am left with a tongue one day,

If someone cries with all their heart,

My mother cries, my mother cries, my mother...

Olimova Yasmina is a 1 year student at the Faculty of Philology and Arts of Urganch State University named after Abu Rayhon Beruniy.

SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> *The sixth leg of the Sunshine Development Tour – East Africa Swing, the Johnnie Walker Classic, is scheduled to tee off today, at the Royal Nairobi Golf Club.

Indiza Leads 82 Golfers In Battle For KSh 2mn Prize Purse At Sixth Leg Of The Sunshine Development Tour In Royal Club

The sixth leg of the Sunshine Development Tour – East Africa Swing, the Johnnie Walker Classic, is scheduled to tee off today, at the Royal Nairobi Golf Club.

The highly anticipated event, featuring a Ksh. 2 million prize purse, will see a strong field of 82 professional and elite amateur golfers from across Africa battle for top honours, world ranking points, and a share of the prize money.

The event also marks the first time the Sunshine Development Tour (SDT – EAS) is being staged at Royal Nairobi Golf Club, one of the oldest and most prestigious courses in the region.

As part of the tournament build-up, the venue hosted a ProAm on the eve of the event, attracting a total of 186 players, including 34 professionals and 152 amateurs.

The Pro-Am served as both a curtain-raiser and a celebration of community engagement in the sport, giving amateur golfers the unique opportunity to play alongside some of the region's top professionals.

The day belonged to Rose Wanjiru (handicap 31), who put in a composed and consistent performance to emerge as the overall winner with 42 points, finishing ahead of a strong field.

Fred Kithinzi, playing off handicap 19, was in fine form as well, taking home the men's title with 40 points, finishing ahead of Lawrence Njue (hcp 13) who finished as the men's runner-up after carding 38 points.

Betty Maina (handicap 31) produced an equally impressive round to claim the ladies' crown with 40 points, beating Jinnel Mwangi taking the ladies' runner-up position with 39 points.

At the same time, Isiah Masinde and Liqing Yang won the First and Second Nine Challenges respectively, after strong performances across their halves of the course.

The long-hitting Fred Mugambi won the men's longest drive,



Dismas Indiza tees off during the 2025 MKO Qualifier Tournament at Sigona Golf Club

while professional golfer Naom Wafula claimed the ladies' longest drive honours. Kennedy Gachanja showed great precision to take the nearest-to-the-pin prize.

In the team's category, the combination of Pro Kibirige Marvin, Kevin Juma, Patrick Musingimba, and Felix Midikira took top honours with an impressive 84 points, edging out Pro Philip Kasozi's team of Philemon Kipkemoi, Fred Mugambi, and Lesley Mugambi, who posted 81 points.

Finishing third with the same total were Pro Celestin Nsanzuwera, Michael Mutiga, Victor Kyalo, and Charles Gacheru, whose steady teamwork and consistency rounded off the podium places.

Speaking after the Pro-Am, Tournament Charles Gacheru, Promoter of the Sunshine Development Tour – East Africa Swing said:

"Today's Johnnie Walker Classic Royal Pro-Am has been an exciting prelude to the main tournament of the sixth leg of the Sunshine Development Tour East Africa Swing that tees off

on Monday to Wednesday next week. The Pro-Am provides a unique opportunity for amateur golfers to share the fairways with top professionals from across Africa."

"Since our launch earlier this year, we've hosted successful events in Thika Greens, Ruiru, Nyalii, Diani, and Kigali, and now we're proud to bring the sixth leg to Royal Nairobi Golf Club. The Tour provides a clear pathway for our golfers, both professional and elite amateurs, to earn Official World Golf Ranking (OWGR) and World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR) points, helping them transition to higher-tier tours such as the Sunshine Tour and eventually the global stage," he added.

The Royal event has received significant backing from Johnnie Walker, which holds the title naming rights for this leg, and from Vivo Energy Kenya, the official sponsor of the Royal tournament.

The Johnnie Walker Classic officially tees off on Monday, 13th October, featuring a talented field of 82 golfers from Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania,

Zimbabwe, Malawi, Nigeria, Burundi, and South Africa.

Among those expected to challenge for the title are Celestin Nsanzuwera (Rwanda), current leader of the SDT-EAS Order of Merit with 789 points and recent winner of the Kigali leg; Njoroge Kibugu and Dismas Indiza from Kenya; Visitor Mapwanya from Zimbabwe; Adam Breen and Haydn Porteous from South Africa; and Phillip Kasozi from Uganda.

The women's field also promises excitement, with Naom Wafula, Angel Eaton, Margaret Njoki, Ashley Awuor, and Kellie Gachaga among those expected to feature, a reflection of the Tour's growing commitment to inclusivity and women's participation in professional golf.

The 54-hole event will see the top 30 players and ties making the cut after the second round to contest the final day on Wednesday, 15th October 2025.

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Kenya relinquished the Chicago Marathon titles after Amos Kipruto settled for second in the men's race won by Uganda's Jacob Kiplimo on Sunday while the women missed the podium.

Kenya's Kipruto Settles For Second As Uganda's Kiplimo Wins Chicago Marathon



Jacob Kiplimo finished second on his marathon debut in London (Getty Images).

Kenya relinquished the Chicago Marathon titles after Amos Kipruto settled for second in the men's race won by Uganda's Jacob Kiplimo on Sunday while the women missed the podium.

Kiplimo dominated the race from the 35th kilometre to stop the

time in 2:02:23 and win his first ever World Marathon Majors after coming second on his marathon debut in London this year.

Kipruto recorded 2:03:54 ahead of compatriot Alex Masai who crossed the finish line second in 2:04:37.

In the women's race, the first Kenyan came fourth courtesy of Loice Chemnung (2:18:23) as Ethiopian Hawi Feysa won in 2:14:56, beating compatriot Megertu Alemu to second (2:17:18) while Tanzania's Magdalena Shauri closed the podium in 2:18:03.

Capital Sport

SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



The Mt Kenya Times



A Compassionate Leader And Global Humanitarian



By: Anila Bukhari

@themkenyatimes

Dr. Marietta A. Reformado (hc) embodies the spirit of service, compassion, and unwavering dedication to humanity. As a Filipino-Malaysian entrepreneur, diplomat, and humanitarian, her life's work has been guided by a profound commitment to creating positive change, empowering marginalized communities, and fostering peace and understanding across nations. Her journey reflects a resilient pursuit of justice, equality, and community development, inspiring countless individuals worldwide.

Born into a nurturing environment that valued education and compassion, Dr. Reformado's early years were marked by a deep curiosity about the world and a desire to make a difference. Her multicultural background—Filipino roots intertwined with Malaysian influence—instilled in her a unique perspective on diversity and intercultural dialogue. From a young age, she recognized the importance of unity amid diversity, a principle that would underpin her lifelong endeavors.

Her academic pursuits laid a solid foundation for her humanitarian work. She earned advanced degrees in international relations, community development, and business administration. Her scholarly pursuits were not merely academic but driven by a genuine desire to understand societal challenges and craft sustainable solutions. This blend of education and empathy positioned her as a leader capable of bridging gaps between different communities and fostering dialogue where discord might otherwise prevail.

As a successful entrepreneur, Dr. Reformado established MWorldwide Holdings, a conglomerate

dedicated to social enterprise and community empowerment. Her leadership exemplifies a rare combination of corporate excellence and social responsibility. Through her enterprise, she has pioneered initiatives that promote economic development, technological innovation, and environmental sustainability, especially in underserved regions. Her business ethos is rooted in the belief that economic growth should go hand-in-hand with social good, a principle she actively champions across her ventures.

Beyond her corporate achievements, Dr. Reformado's humanitarian efforts have garnered international recognition. She serves as Kenya Chairperson and Global Goodwill Ambassador for Loani International, roles that exemplify her steadfast commitment to fostering peace, gender rights, and community resilience. Her diplomatic approach and compassionate leadership have helped bridge divides and promote understanding in conflict-affected areas.

Throughout her journey, Dr. Reformado has been a fierce advocate for gender equality and the rights of marginalized groups. She has initiated and supported numerous programs aimed at empowering women and persons with disabilities, believing that true progress is rooted in inclusivity. Her work in this area includes establishing educational scholarships, vocational training centers, and advocacy campaigns that amplify the voices of the vulnerable.

Her dedication extends to environmental sustainability, recognizing that the health of the planet is inherently linked to human well-being. She has spearheaded initiatives promoting sustainable farming, renewable energy, and conservation efforts, especially in rural communities. Her vision is to create a future where economic development does not come at the expense of ecological integrity.

As a global ambassador for peace and goodwill, Dr. Reformado ac-

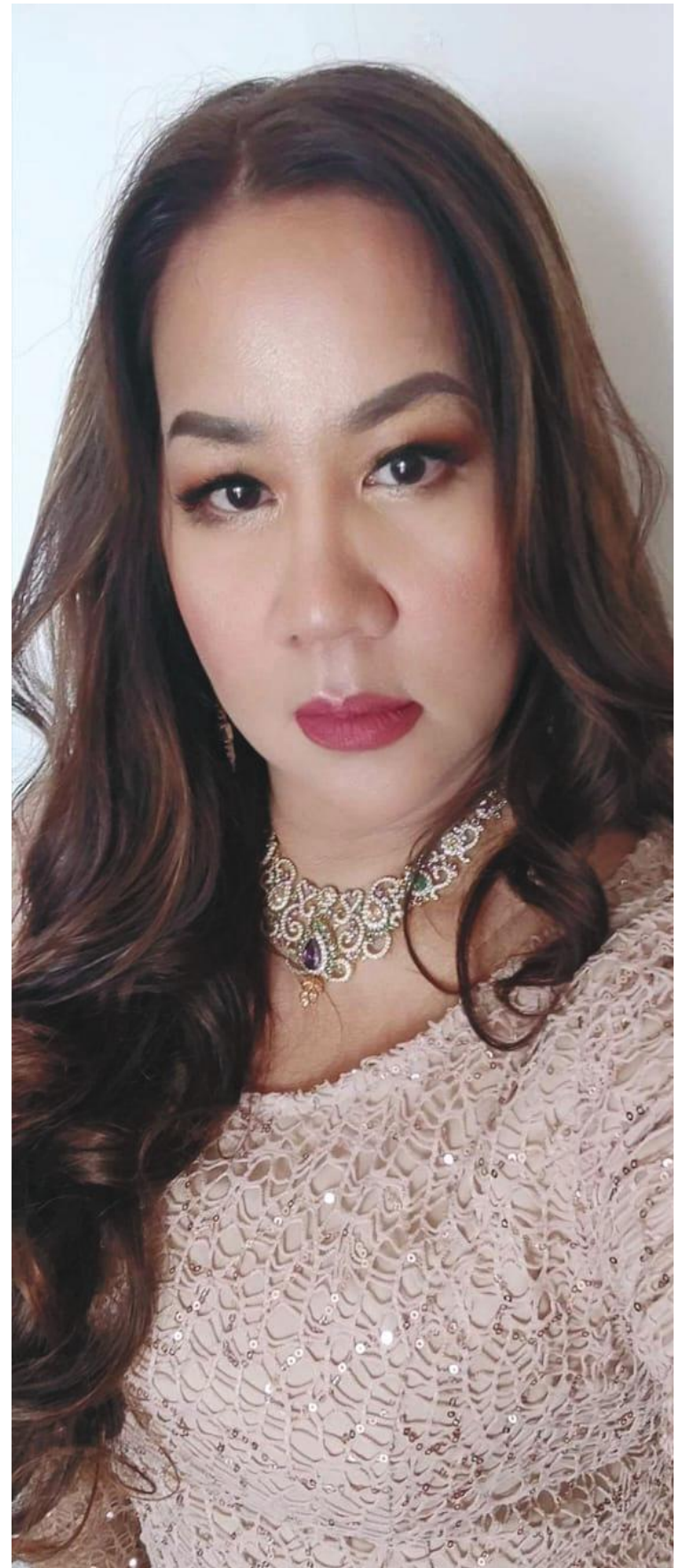
tively engages with international organizations, governments, and civil society. Her diplomatic skills and compassionate approach have facilitated dialogues on conflict resolution, refugee support, and global security. She believes that peace is not merely the absence of conflict but a proactive effort to build understanding, respect, and shared prosperity.

Her online platforms—ranging from www.hoogkamerallp.nl to www.aihuniiversity.org—serve as vital tools in her mission to disseminate knowledge, foster collaboration, and inspire action. These websites reflect her multifaceted approach to development, integrating education, technology, and community engagement to address complex global challenges.

Despite her numerous accomplishments, Dr. Reformado remains grounded in her core values of humility, service, and empathy. Her leadership is characterized by a genuine concern for the welfare of others, a quality that has earned her respect and admiration from peers and beneficiaries alike. Her life's work exemplifies the transformative power of compassion-driven leadership.

Dr. Marietta A. Reformado's legacy is one of hope, resilience, and unwavering dedication to the betterment of humanity. Her story encourages individuals and organizations worldwide to embrace a humanitarian approach, reminding us all that true leadership is rooted in service and a heartfelt commitment to creating a more just, equitable, and peaceful world.

In conclusion, Dr. Reformado's inspiring journey underscores the profound impact that compassionate leadership and unwavering dedication can have on communities and nations. Her life's work continues to inspire a global movement towards peace, equality, and sustainable development—an enduring testament to the transformative power of humanitarian service.



Dr. Marietta A. Reformado