



Top Talent Agency Marks 10 Years By Inspiring Kenya's Next Generation Of Leaders
The spirit of leadership, empowerment, and global connection swept through Kenyan schools this month as the Top Talent Agency, an international organization known for mentoring leaders and entrepreneurs, marked its 10th anniversary with an unforgettable nationwide tour. 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 Creative Rewards
MT. KENYA TIMES
Daily ePAPER

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 No. 01408 www.mountkenyentimes.co.ke themtkenyentimes



News>>.Kindiki Calls Out Opposition For Politicizing Raila's Health

P. 8. Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has called out opposition leaders for playing cheap politics with the health of Orange Democratic Movement party leader Raila Odinga.



News>> Indigenous Seed Fair 2025 To Celebrate Seeds, Food And Culture

P. 12. The 4th Indigenous Seed and Food Harvest Fair will be held today and tomorrow at the Governor's Grounds in Laikipia county, aims at celebrating Kenya's rich heritage of indigenous seeds, traditional foods and cultural practices.

State House Breach

In a swift and decisive response to a disturbing incident that unfolded yesterday, the National Police Service (NPS) has confirmed the arrest of a suspect now being held at Kilimani Police Station. The police has launched a full-scale investigation to uncover the motive behind what officials have described as a "heinous act."

Police Spokesperson Muchiri Nyaga addressed the media yesterday, stating that the suspect was apprehended shortly after the incident and is currently in custody as detectives begin piecing together the circumstances surrounding the attack.



The main suspect in the arrow attack which saw the death of a GSU officer

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"

Phase One of Konza's State-Of-The-Art Infrastructure Commissioned

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

The Konza Technopolis is steadily taking shape as a thriving hub of technology, research, and enterprise that will power Kenya's transition to a digital economy and a first-world nation. Yesterday, President William Ruto commissioned Phase One of Konza's state-of-the-art infrastructure, including 40km of modern road, 170km of water and drainage systems, 6km of utility tunnels housing fibre optics, a 120MW smart power sub-station, among others. "I reaffirm the government's full commitment to completing and operationalising Konza Technopolis to lay the country's foundation of digital transformation and create jobs for our young people," the Head of State said as he thanked development partners, especially the Governments of Italy, South Korea, China and the United States, for working with his administration to make Africa's Silicon Savannah a reality.



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



Chief Justice Martha Koome yesterday presided over the swearing-in ceremony of Ms. Claris Awuor Ogangah as Chairperson of Kenya National Commission on Human Rights; Mr. John Cox Lorionokou and Ms. Agatha W. Wahome as Registrar and Assistant Registrar of Political Parties; and Mr. Billy Komintai Konchellah as a Member of the National Heroes Council. In her address, Chief Justice Koome reminded the appointees that the oath they had taken binds them not only in law but in conscience; a daily reminder that public office is a sacred trust. The Oaths of Office were administered by the Chief Registrar of the Judiciary, Winfridah Mokaya. In attendance were Principal Administrative Secretary in the Office of the President Arthur Osiya and Chairperson Heroes Council Jimmy Angwenyi among others.



Council of Legal Education (CLE) led by the CEO, Prof. Jack Mwimali convened a consultative roundtable with Deans of Law Schools from various universities across the country. The engagement provided a platform for open dialogue on different issues arising from CLE's engagement with the Legal Education Providers and the draft regulations currently being developed by CLE. This engagement is aimed at strengthening the governance and quality assurance framework of legal education and training in Kenya. It also explored avenues for deeper collaboration between CLE and Legal Education Providers in promoting standards and ensuring alignment with the evolving needs in the sector.



Principal Secretary for Energy Alex Wachira yesterday officially commissioned the Tuvali Village Last Mile Connectivity Project, implemented under the AFD/EU & EIB Last Mile Programme in Kitui South Constituency. The PS and his team toured the Tuvali Dispensary, which has now been connected to the national grid which is a major milestone in enhancing healthcare service delivery within the community. The project has further connected 72 households, expanding electricity access across rural communities and reaffirming the government's commitment to achieving universal electrification and improving the quality of life for all Kenyans. The PS was accompanied by among others Kitui South MP Rachel Nyamai, Dr. Rose Mkalama, CEO Rural Electrification & Renewable Energy Corporation and Eng. Simon Kamau, Regional Manager Kenya Power Care.



The Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) Nationwide Recruitment Exercise 2025 officially kicked off yesterday and will be conducted across all the 47 counties over the next two weeks. The event was officially launched by the Cabinet Secretary for Defence Soipan Tuya at KDF headquarters at Hurlingham, Nairobi. She was accompanied by among others, Principal Secretaries Patrick Mariru, the Vice Chief of the Defence Forces, Lieutenant General John Omenda; Assistant Chief of the Defence Forces in charge of Personnel and Logistics, Major General Edward Rugendo; Chief Recruitment Officer, Brigadier Samuel Kimani and other senior officers.



The Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation, Mr. Julius Korir, together with the Water Secretary Eng Sam Alima yesterday chaired the wrap-up meeting for the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water and Sanitation Program (KTSWSSP), implemented in partnership with the African Development Bank Group (AfDB). The mission noted steady progress across project sites, with the Bomet-Longisa-Mulot Water Supply Project improving from 40% in April to 63% completion, contributing to the program's overall completion rate of 91%. The meeting reviewed key findings, addressed emerging issues, and agreed on the way forward to fast-track remaining works. The PS appreciated AfDB's one-year extension of the program and reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to complete all pending works by June 2026, ensuring expanded access to clean water and sanitation services in Kenya's growing towns.



Kenya is reaffirming its leadership in advancing a health-centred climate agenda at the ongoing World Health Summit 2025 in Berlin, Germany. Speaking at the Summit's opening, Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards, Mary Muthoni, emphasised that climate action without health is incomplete. She noted that Kenya is embedding health within climate policy, planning, and financing; with a focus on clean energy for health facilities, strengthened disease surveillance, and early-warning systems. The PS highlighted Kenya's continued continental leadership through the upcoming Pan-African Conference on Climate and Health 2025, which will bring together governments, experts, and partners to forge a unified African roadmap towards 2030; ensuring that health remains central to the UNFCCC process. She further underscored the need for predictable and inclusive climate-health financing, both domestic and international, to support community-anchored and evidence-based solutions. As she affirmed, "Health is not a peripheral outcome of climate policy; it is the measure of its success."

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>

Protests In Kirinyaga As Residents Rally Behind Waiguru, Condemn Gachagua's Disrespectful Remarks

By: MKT Correspondent

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- They expressed outrage over Gachagua's claims that Governor Waiguru was being 'used politically by President William Ruto' saying, the former DP has no moral authority to lecture other leaders over their association with the Head of State.
- One of the protesters, Beth Wanjiru, said the statement was in bad taste and amounted to an insult not just to the governor but to all women leaders across the country.



Residents of Kirinyaga County have come out strongly to defend Governor Anne Waiguru following recent attacks by former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

Speaking at Kutus town during street demonstration against Gachagua, the residents described the remarks as disrespectful, demeaning, and reflective of a deep-seated contempt for women in leadership.

They expressed outrage over Gachagua's claims that Governor Waiguru was being 'used politically by President William Ruto' saying, the former DP has no moral authority to lecture other leaders over their association with the Head of State.

One of the protesters, Beth Wanjiru, said the statement was in bad taste and amounted to an insult not just to the governor but to all women leaders across the country.

"This was not just an attack on Governor Waiguru- it was an attack on every hardworking woman in leadership," said one of the speakers. Governor Waiguru has earned her place through performance, integrity, and vision with her leadership track speaking for itself and as such she need not take directives from anyone," Wanjiru remarked.

The residents praised Waiguru as a trailblazer who has redefined women's leadership in Kenya citing her historic achievements as the only woman to be elected governor twice, as well as her two-term tenure as Chairperson of the Council of Governors, positions they said she earned through competence and national recognition.

"You can't diminish Governor Anne Waiguru's proven track record," they emphasized. "Her transformation of Kirinyaga is visible, from modern markets and thriving towns to a world-class referral hospital. Results speak louder than insults," Wanjiru added.

The residents further accused Gachagua, who was last year impeached from his position as Deputy President, of resorting to divisive politics and personal attacks instead of focusing on constructive leadership.

They said that since his ouster, Gachagua has been traversing the country campaigning against President Ruto, coercing and bullying elected leaders to join his political party and attempting to consolidate an opposition force under his control.

"He has turned his energy to incitement and intimidation," said Joseph Mbucho. "He is imposing leaders on the people and fighting anyone who

dares to hold an independent opinion. That is not leadership — it is political blackmail."

They further accused Gachagua of displaying bias against women-led counties, noting that his attacks have mostly been directed at leaders such as Governor Waiguru in Kirinyaga and Governor Cecily Mbarire in Embu, while remaining unusually reserved when visiting male-led counties.

"It's clear he has a problem with women in leadership," said Mbucho. "When he visits women-led counties, he becomes combative and insulting. His kind of politics have no place in modern Kenya."

The protesters also dismissed Gachagua's efforts to crown himself as the Mt. Kenya political kingpin, saying leadership cannot be imposed but must be earned through service and respect. "Leaders like Mwai Kibaki and Uhuru Kenyatta became regional kingpins because they were respected for their leadership, not because they forced people to follow them," Jane Njeri said. "Even today, Uhuru remains the undisputed Mt. Kenya leader. Gachagua should stop trying to impose himself on people's throats. Loyalty cannot be demanded- it is earned."

Glady's Wangui commended Governor Waiguru for maintaining her focus on service delivery despite political attacks, citing her achievements in building modern hospitals, empowering farmers and women groups, developing infrastructure, and transforming Kirinyaga's economy.

"While Gachagua throws insults, Waiguru continues to build. True leaders don't belittle others; they build people and communities," said Wangui.

On her part, Rose Mavuti, called for respect towards women in politics, urging leaders to rise above personal vendettas and focus on national unity.

"If Gachagua truly wants to unite the region, he should start by respecting women leaders. You cannot demand partnership while insulting others. Leadership requires humility, not hostility," Mavuti said.

They maintained that history will remember those who built and served, not those who insulted and divided noting that Governor Waiguru's legacy is already written in the transformation of Kirinyaga.

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 eCOMMERCERCE



www.gotyou.co.ke

**NOW
OPEN**

Call/Text/WhatsApp: +254 714 090 155

Kindiki Calls Out Opposition For Politicizing Raila's Health

By: DPCS
@themkenyaintimes

Worth Noting:

- The Deputy President yesterday in Alego Usonga, Siaya County during Resource Mobilization for Boda Boda Saccos in the County.
- The event was hosted by Siaya Senator Oburu Oginga.
- He said he had spoken with the leader, who hails from the County, affirming he is steady and strong and keen on the development of the nation.
- "I have spoken with him and he is fine and resting. He has welcomed us to Siaya and he will be back soon to face those who wished him bad," DP noted.
- Under the Broad-Based government, DP stated that every part of the country will be developed in spite of political, regional and religious affiliations. He said the government was fully behind President Ruto's collaboration with Mr. Odinga and other allied leaders.

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has called out opposition leaders for playing cheap politics with the health of Orange Democratic Movement party leader Raila Odinga.

Prof. Kindiki said it is shameful and un-African for leaders to make the health of a senior and respected national leader a derogative topic in their political rallies.

"Mzee Raila Odinga is safe and healthy. Those who are wishing him ill are not good people because it is against African tradition to wish anybody ill even your worst enemy," said Prof. Kindiki.

The Deputy President yesterday in Alego Usonga, Siaya County during Resource Mobilization for Boda Boda Saccos in the County.

The event was hosted by Siaya Senator Oburu Oginga.

He said he had spoken with the leader, who hails from the County, affirming he is steady and strong and keen on the development of the nation.

"I have spoken with him and he is fine and resting. He has welcomed us to Siaya and he will be back soon to face those who wished him bad," DP noted.

Under the Broad-Based government, DP stated that every part of the country will be developed in spite of political, regional and religious affiliations. He said the government was fully behind President Ruto's collaboration with Mr. Odinga and other allied leaders.

"We respect them. They are working together, leading us and we are following them. We respect them, make no mistake the future of Kenya is broad-based," he affirmed.

Prof. Kindiki also praised Siaya Governor James Orengo, who was present and earlier hosted the DP at his office, for working with the broad-based government to ensure faster development of the County.

"Governor James Orengo is a towering figure, larger than life, an impeccable, successful and accomplished senior counsel who we respect immensely and we will work together to develop this County," he said.

Siaya County is one of the biggest beneficiaries of the broad-based arrangement having received multiple projects worth billions of shillings that have boosted incomes for locals.

Together with the other counties along Lake Victoria, they have benefited from Sh3.1 billion for fish landing sites and associated infrastructure in Migori, Homa Bay,



Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki (centre) in Siaya yesterday.

Kisumu, Busia and Siaya as a commitment to the economic development of the Nyanza region.

Presently, nine fish landing sites are under construction in the region. They include Luanda-Kotieno fish landing site worth Sh134 million which has been completed and is operational. Two more in Kokach, Wichlum each costing KSh150 million are underway. Siaya County is also among the counties that have received the highest number of markets being constructed with 25 of them in various stages of completion. They are being built in Siaya,

Usenge, Yala, Bondo, Ukwala among others.

Affordable houses and institutional hostels are also coming up in various sites bringing to a total of Sh35 billion worth of investment in the County by the Ruto administration.

"A total of KSh35 billion has been set aside to develop institutional housing, affordable housing and modern markets in Siaya, making the County one of the biggest beneficiaries of the affordable housing program in the country," DP noted.

Also KSh1.5 billion has been allocated for last mile electricity con-

nection targeting powering 16,200 additional households in Siaya.

Siaya Stadium is also being revamped at a cost of KSh550 million to elevate it to international standards.

"There is no other government that has invested heavily in the blue economy in Lake Victoria and Coastal regions like Ruto's government," Prof. Kindiki indicated.

The DP also urged the residents to continue registering for SHA medical cover saying 430,000 residents had already enrolled out of 995,000.



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki addressing the meeting yesterday.

State House Breach: Bow And Arrow Attack Sparks Police Probe

By: Kamau Njuguna
 @themkenyentimes



President William Ruto walking with a cup of tea at State House, Nairobi. Photo | Courtesy

Worth Noting:

- The incident, which occurred in the early hours of Sunday morning, has left residents of the surrounding community shaken. Eyewitnesses reported hearing loud commotion followed by the rapid arrival of law enforcement officers. Thanks to their prompt action, further escalation was avoided.
- “I was just getting ready for work when I heard shouting and saw police vehicles speeding down the road,” said one local resident who asked not to be named. “It was frightening. We didn’t know what was happening, but we’re grateful the officers acted quickly.”
- The suspect, whose identity has not yet been released pending further investigation, was reportedly subdued without resistance and taken into custody. Authorities have remained tight-lipped about the details of the attack, citing the sensitivity of the ongoing inquiry.

In a swift and decisive response to a disturbing incident that unfolded yesterday, the National Police Service (NPS) has confirmed the arrest of a suspect now being held at Kilimani Police Station. The police has launched a full-scale investigation to uncover the motive behind what officials have described as a “heinous act.”

Police Spokesperson Muchiri Nyaga addressed the media yesterday, stating that the suspect was apprehended shortly after the incident and is currently in custody as detectives begin piecing together the circumstances surrounding the attack. “The National Police Service condemns this heinous act and commends the officers for their swift response, which prevented further harm,” Nyaga said in an official statement. “An investigation is ongoing to establish the motive behind the attack.”

The incident, which occurred in the early hours of Sunday morning, has left residents of the surrounding community shaken. Eyewitnesses reported hearing loud commotion followed by the rapid arrival of law enforcement officers. Thanks to their prompt action, further escalation was avoided.

“I was just getting ready for work when I heard shouting and saw police vehicles speeding down the road,” said one local resident who asked not to be named. “It was frightening. We didn’t know what was happening, but we’re grateful the officers acted quickly.”

The suspect, whose identity has not yet been released pending further investigation, was reportedly subdued without resistance and taken into custody. Authorities have remained tight-lipped about the details of the attack, citing the sensitivity of the ongoing inquiry.

The NPS has reiterated its commitment to maintaining public safety and ensuring justice is served. In the wake of the incident, the service has emphasized the importance of community vigilance and cooperation with law enforcement agencies.

“This is a reminder that security is a shared responsibility,” Nyaga added. “We urge members of the public to report suspicious activity and to remain alert. The safety of our communities depends on our collective efforts.”

The spokesperson also praised the officers involved in the operation, noting that their rapid response was instrumental in preventing further harm. “Their professionalism and courage are commendable. We are proud of their dedication to duty,” he said.

Following the arrest, specialized units from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) were dispatched to Kilimani Police Station to begin interrogations and gather forensic evidence. Sources within the department revealed that investigators are exploring multiple angles, including possible personal grievances, mental health issues, or links to organized crime.

“We are not ruling anything out at

this stage,” said a senior officer familiar with the case. “Our goal is to understand what led to this incident and ensure that justice is served.”

The Internal Affairs Unit (IAU) has also been looped into the investigation to ensure transparency and accountability throughout the process. The collaboration between various branches of the police service underscores the seriousness with which the matter is being handled.

As news of the incident spread, public reaction has been mixed. While many have expressed relief that the suspect was apprehended without further violence, others have called for more transparency from the police regarding the nature of the attack.

“We appreciate the quick action, but we also want to know what happened,” said a local community leader. “People are scared, and they deserve answers.”

Civil society organizations have echoed these sentiments, urging the NPS to provide regular updates and ensure that the investigation is conducted with integrity.

This incident has reignited conversations about public safety and the role of law enforcement in preventing violent acts. Experts have pointed out that while police response is critical, proactive measures such as community policing, mental health support, and early intervention programs are equally important.

“Security isn’t just about reacting to crime—it’s about preventing it,” said Dr. Miriam Wanjiku, a crimi-

nologist and lecturer at the University of Nairobi. “We need to invest in systems that identify risks before they escalate.”

Dr. Wanjiku also emphasized the importance of trust between the police and the public. “When communities trust the police, they are more likely to cooperate and share information. That trust is built through transparency, accountability, and consistent engagement.”

As the investigation continues, the NPS has assured the public that all necessary steps are being taken to ensure a thorough and impartial inquiry. The suspect will remain in custody at Kilimani Police Station until formal charges are filed.

Meanwhile, the community remains on edge, hoping for clarity and resolution. For now, the swift action of the police has prevented a potentially tragic situation from spiraling out of control.

The incident serves as a sobering reminder of the unpredictable nature of violence and the critical role of law enforcement in maintaining peace. It also highlights the need for continued dialogue between citizens and security agencies to build safer, more resilient communities.

As the nation awaits further details, one thing is clear: the commitment of the National Police Service to uphold justice and protect the public remains unwavering.

Message From The Elders And Seers Of Mt. Kenya Region

To the People of Kenya and the Government of the Republic.

We, the elders and seers from the sacred lands of Mt. Kenya, speak with deep concern and spiritual insight on the suffering of our people. Through careful observation and divine revelation, we raise a solemn warning about the alarming rise of cancer in Nyeri, Meru, and even parts of Ukambani.

In Nyeri and Meru, we believe that underground minerals, such as oil and other natural resources, have remained buried and untapped for decades. These minerals, under pressure and deep underground, are now contaminating our water, soil, and environment. This silent poisoning is manifesting in the form of increased cancer cases across the region.

However, this is not a natural curse. It is our belief that some of these cases are a result of government neglect or direct involvement, either through inaction, poor environmental policies, or suppression of the truth about the wealth hidden in our lands. Our people are suffering while our resources

lie dormant or are extracted in secrecy.

We also recognize that this is not isolated to Mt. Kenya. In Ukambani, our brothers and sisters are experiencing high rates of skin cancer, believed to be caused by exposure to dangerous minerals used in burning metals and other industrial activities again, without proper safeguards or community protection.

Therefore, as elders and seers, we make the following call to action:

1. We demand a full and transparent investigation by the Government of Kenya into the connection between underground mineral deposits, industrial activity, and the rising cases of cancer in Mt. Kenya, Ukambani, and other affected regions.

2. We urge the government to come clean on any involvement or negligence that has exposed citizens to these health risks.

3. We call for the immediate review and reform of outdated colonial mining laws that deny communities access to and benefit from their own natural resources.



4. We propose that local communities be empowered to acquire mining equipment, or to form legal partnerships with reputable companies under government oversight to extract and manage these resources safely, transparently, and equitably.

5. We ask that Kenya use its own mineral wealth to fund national devel-

opment and end the reliance on foreign loans that have kept the nation in debt for generations.

Our forefathers fought for independence so that we could govern ourselves and manage our resources with wisdom, fairness, and respect for future generations. That vision must not die.

Let the truth be revealed. Let justice be done. Let healing begin.

Yours faithfully

Elders and Seers of Mt. Kenya Region

The Mt. Kenya Times



Medics Urge Men Not To Shy Away From Breast Cancer Screening

By: John Kamau
@themtkenyatimes



The medics led by Kenyatta University Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital (KUTRRH) Chief Executive Officer Dr Zainab Gura at the institution yesterday.

Worth Noting:

- Dr Abeid Athman, head of oncology department at kutrrh said that most men seek treatment late because they are shy and afraid of the stigma. Since they don't seek help early, this makes the disease management very challenging.
- The medic noted that even though men rarely contract the malady, they too are prone to being affected and therefore should go for screening for early detection.
- He averred that breast cancer in men spreads faster than in women due to the size of the breast.
- "Men's breasts are small in size, which makes cancer spread faster to other organs. Cases of men contracting breast cancer are usually serious and that's why we are advising them to seek screening for early detection which is very vital," he noted.

Men face an increasing risk of dying from breast cancer, contrary to common opinion.

A symposium on breast treatment comprising medical experts from across the country identifies breast cancer for men as a growing concern since most of them shy away from being tested.

The precision treatment conference for doctors is taking place at the Kenyatta University Teaching Referral and Research Hospital (KUTRRH) as the world marks the Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Dr Abeid Athman, head of oncology department at kutrrh said that most men seek treatment late because they are shy and afraid of the stigma. Since they don't seek help early, this makes the disease management very challenging.

The medic noted that even though men rarely contract the malady, they too are prone to being affected and therefore should go for screening for early detection.

He averred that breast cancer in men spreads faster than in women due to the size of the breast.

"Men's breasts are small in size, which makes cancer spread faster to other organs. Cases of men contracting breast cancer are usually serious and that's why we are advising them to seek screening for early detection which is very vital," he noted.

While noting that the cancer scourge is the third leading cause of death after infectious and cardiovascular diseases, Dr Athman said that early diagnosis, treatment and emotional support from the society is imperative in reducing the mortality rate.

"Breast cancer has been claiming over 3000 lives in a month followed by cervical, esophageal, colorectal and prostate cancers. We should focus our resources on early screening, diagnosis, treatment to save lives. We are urging our people to not just wait for symptoms but go for early screening," he said.

However, the oncologist said the prevalence is still low for men at 1 percent nationally, but at KUTRRH, it is quite high at 5 percent which is higher than the global standards, an incidence he attributed to cases

referred there from other medical facilities.

As for women breast cancer cases, Dr Athman noted that 45 percent of African females aged below 45 are diagnosed with breast cancer compared to 5 to 10 percent of their peers in Europe and the US.

According to the medical experts attending the symposium, breast cancer for men, just like women, is treatable when diagnosed early and may not necessarily lead to death.

Prof Daniel Ojuka, a breast surgeon and associate professor at University of Nairobi attributed the rise in breast cancer cases to lifestyles like smoking and consumption of alcohol.

"Alcohol consumption is a risk factor as well as smoking. For every unit of alcohol consumed the chances of getting breast cancer is between 1 and 7 percent whereas smoking interferes with the endocrine system in the body or the estrogens which increases chances of getting the disease," Prof Ojuka explained.

However, he pointed out that

whereas the majority of new cancer cases are genetic, changes in lifestyles can help minimize infections, including early detection or testing, diet and physical exercises.

The hospital chief executive officer Dr Zainab Gura who officially opened the three-day conference said the occasion offers specialists a chance to discuss the cutting-edge technology and innovations in treatment and management of breast cancer which is the leading form of cancers in Kenya.

She observed that most of the patients die because of late diagnosis and emphasized the need for awareness creation and early testing of breast cancer.

Dr Gura also explained that while breast cancer treatment is covered by the Social Health Authority the facility will be offering free screening, mammography tests and biopsy for women as part of the breast cancer awareness activities.

Indigenous Seed Fair 2025 To Celebrate Seeds, Food And Culture

By: Anita Omwenga
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The 2025 edition will feature exhibitions of indigenous seeds, plants and livestock, as well as workshops, presentations, keynote addresses, plenary discussions and an award ceremony.
- Participants will include farmers and stakeholders from across Kenya's diverse agro-ecological zones and beyond.
- The event aligns with the 2025 World Food Day theme: Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future, highlighting the vital role of seeds in ensuring food security, nutrition and climate resilience.
- In Kenya, Farmer Managed Seed Systems (FMSS) provide 80-100 per cent of seeds for smallholder farmers, who are responsible for about 70 percent of agricultural production and 75 percent of national food supply.

The 4th Indigenous Seed and Food Harvest Fair will be held today and tomorrow at the Governor's Grounds in Laikipia county, aims at celebrating Kenya's rich heritage of indigenous seeds, traditional foods and cultural practices.

This year's event themed: Collaborating to Nurture Indigenous Seeds and Foods for a Better Future, focuses on enhancing collaboration between different stakeholders to promote access and utilization of indigenous seeds and foods for better foods and future.

The Seed Fair provides a unique and dynamic platform to sensitize the public and stakeholders on the need for conservation of indigenous seeds and appraise the efforts made, while highlighting the outstanding challenges facing the sector.

The event is organized by the Inter-Sectoral Forum on Agrobiodiversity and Agroecology (ISFAA) in partnership with the Laikipia county government, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD) and other stakeholders.

The 2025 edition will feature exhibitions of indigenous seeds, plants and livestock, as well as workshops, presentations, keynote addresses, plenary discussions and an award ceremony.

Participants will include farmers and stakeholders from across Kenya's diverse agroecological zones and beyond.

The event aligns with the 2025 World Food Day theme: Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future, highlighting the vital role of seeds in ensuring food security, nutrition and climate resilience.

In Kenya, Farmer Managed Seed Systems (FMSS) provide 80-100 per cent of seeds for smallholder farmers, who are responsible for about 70 percent of agricultural production and 75 percent of national food supply.

FMSS supports seed saving, sharing, and exchange of cultural practices deeply rooted in Kenyan communities.

These rights are backed by Article 9 of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and by Article 11(3)(b) of Kenya's Constitution, which mandates the protection of indigenous seeds and traditional knowledge.

However, several challenges persist including the Seeds and Plant Varieties Act (2012), which still restricts the exchange or sale of uncertified indigenous seeds, limited government support and data on indigenous seed systems, inadequate funding and recognition for community seed banks



ISFAA Coordinator Dr. Martin Oulu while speaking during a past event. Photo/Anita Omwenga.

and low public awareness on the value of indigenous seeds and related policy issues, among others.

ISFAA Coordinator Dr. Martin Oulu said that indigenous seeds, handed down through generations, are specifically suited to thrive in local environments. Compared to commercial seeds, they tend to be more resistant to harsh weather, pests, and diseases, making them especially valuable in the face of climate change and growing uncertainty in agriculture. Oulu said that protecting these traditional seeds helps communities maintain biodiversity and secure their food rights. Recognition of the role played by community seed banks is key to sustainable and resilient food systems, including the conservation of plant genetic resources, provision of nutritious and diverse diets, climate adaptation and resilience

“Community-based seed systems and seed banks give farmers the ability to preserve and manage their own crop varieties,” he said, adding that this access to a wide range of nutritious crops not only supports a reliable food supply, but also enhances the community's ability to recover from environmental or economic disruptions.

Oulu stated that the annual seed fairs began in 2022, with the previous one held in Kisumu County at the Nyan-do community seed bank, in a push to realize the potential of indigenous seeds and foods, contribution to a better future, which requires collaborations, partnerships, and working together.

He observed that past Seed fairs have sparked positive developments including a review of the Seed Policy 2010, ongoing consultations on the

Seeds and Plant Varieties (Conservation, Access and Benefit Sharing) Regulations 2024, establishment of new community seed banks and increased participation of women and youth in seed conservation.

“This year's seed fair is particularly significant since it marks the beginning of the review of the Seeds and Plant Varieties Act (2012), which ISFAA and other partners have for long advocated for its review, as it currently does not recognize and protect indigenous seeds and Farmer Managed Seed Systems (FMSS)” he said.

He said that ISFAA and other stakeholders invites participation from youth, farmers, media, policymakers, civil society, the private sector, community members and consumer organizations to collectively advocate for sustainable, inclusive and resilient food systems.



Some indigenous seeds

Economic Policy: Local Think-Tank Unveils Fireside Chat Series To Deepen Thought Leadership

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Local economics and public policy think-tank Mentoria Economic Ltd has unveiled a new fireside chat series focusing on international relations with a bias on local economic partnerships.

Speaking when he confirmed the launch of the new Mentoria Fireside Chat Series, the firm's Managing Director, Mr Ken Gichinga, said plans are at an advanced stage to host the first event mid-month.

The first Mentoria Fireside Chat, Mr Gichinga said, will be hosted on Friday at the Baraza Media Lab under the theme: Indo-Kenya Economic Imperatives.

The fireside chat will explore the salient advantages that Indo-Kenya relations enjoy and bring to the broader economy, and will address the question: India and Kenya—beacons of democracy. Can they be leaders of economic growth in the global south? "The first Mentoria Fireside Chat is a platform for thought leaders to



Mr Ken Gichinga

share insights and will feature a rich panel consisting of eminent social and economic experts to explore the dynamics surrounding the Indo-Kenya economic and social partnerships," he said.

He added, "For Economic Affairs enthusiasts, International Relations Scholars and Public Policy Analysts,

this will be an opportunity to join in the chat that will highlight the historical relations that have shaped Kenya's economic development and the support provided by India in the Infrastructure, Health, Education and related sectors."

Mentoria Economics Ltd is a Kenyan-registered and headquartered



regional economic and social policy analysis consulting house. The firm provides boutique intelligence, advisory, and applied economics research solutions to discerning clients seeking to invest or gain a deeper understand-

ing of the unique insights that drive regional economies.

Mentoria Economics delivers strategic, independent, and insightful analysis to guide and inform business decision-makers.

Murang'a Police Educate Pupils On Road Safety Measures

By: Purity Mugo and Magdalene Wainaina
 @themtkenyatimes

Police officers in Murang'a, led by County Police Commander Kemboi Kimaiyo, have launched a road safety sensitisation campaign targeting primary school children to curb the growing number of traffic accidents involving learners.

The officers visited Technology Primary School yesterday, where they engaged pupils in interactive sessions on safe road use and personal safety. The initiative follows a worrying trend of accidents that have claimed the lives of school children in the county.

"We have had a chance to visit Technology Primary School to sensitize pupils on road safety measures," said Commander Kimaiyo. "There have been several accidents involving school children, and we saw the need to come to this school."

He revealed that in July 2025, two pupils, one in Grade Two and another in Grade One, lost their lives in separate road accidents, while at

least five other incidents involving children were reported across Murang'a County.

Apart from road safety, the officers also took the opportunity to address issues such as drug abuse, gender-based violence, and crime prevention. "We have cautioned children against loitering, accepting gifts from strangers, and separating from their parents or guardians," Kimaiyo explained. "Such behaviors expose them to danger, and we want to ensure they understand how to protect themselves."

He expressed hope that the initiative would have a lasting impact, encouraging pupils and teachers to spread the message to others. Kimaiyo also appealed to motorists and cyclists to observe traffic regulations and remain vigilant near schools to prevent further tragedies.

Deputy Police Commander Geoffrey Ruheni emphasized the importance of early awareness, saying education is key to prevention. "We have told the children about the dangers of technology such as cyberbullying, unsafe websites, and exposure to harmful online content,"



he said. "By teaching a few, we hope the message spreads to their siblings and peers."

Ruheni urged drivers to adhere to speed limits, avoid drunk driving, and ensure they are well-rested before taking the wheel. "Simple discipline on the road can save lives," he added.

County Traffic Enforcement Officer Stephen Wainaina called on parents, teachers, and the community to make

road safety part of everyday conversations. "Children must be taught how to use roads carefully and how to cross safely, even where there are no zebra crossings," he advised.

He further urged motorists to slow down near schools and residential areas, stressing that a child's safety depends on a driver's vigilance. "Everyone must take responsibility — we must all be keepers of our children," he said.

Technology Primary School Head Teacher, Beatrice Wachira, expressed gratitude to the police officers for their efforts, noting that hearing the message from law enforcement reinforces what learners are already taught. "When children hear these messages from police officers, it strengthens the lessons we teach them in school," she said.

Silence Is The Best Answer For Those Who Don't Value You



Silence is the Best Weapon
Which Hurts Without Any Blood.
Brings Pain Not in Body, But in Heart,
To Those Who Don't Value Your Thoughts and
Advice.

It's Better to Be Silent,
That is the Right Punishment.
For Silence Hurts a Lot,
It Has So Many Meanings.
Your Valued Words Should Not Go to Swine,
Keep It Safe as It Is Precious.

In Silence You Stand Tall,
Let Others Know Your Dignity in Silence.
No Need to Beg or Plead or Explain or Justify,
However You Explain, You Can't Defend
Yourself.
But Silence Can Do Wonders.

Try and See, Follow the Path of Mahatma
Gandhi,
Silence Speaks Volumes, Where Words Are not
powerful
Silence Holds Strength, It Shows Grace,
In silence You'll Find Your right Place.

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

Please Tell Me



Please tell me
Say it to my ears
Speak it that i may hear
Don't keep the words away from me
I promise you that your words i will bare

Your silence is driving me crazy
I just can hold to it
For a precious stone you are to me
Its a feeling i can't describe
Ever since i saw you
Butterflies flutter their wings inside my stomach
Leaving me craving for your voice

Why do i care for you so much
Is it love if just Friendship
And why are you mad at me
Is it hatred or enmity

Am jealous over you seeing someone
And your cold fingers touching someone else
gives me fear
Just say a word
Your silence is driving me crazy

If this is love
Please speak just a word
Lets suppliment each other
By my heart lets sharpen or flesh
Even when we bleed
Lets discover something new
If this is Friendship
Come and take a vacation with me
Lets build our Friendship ties
Lets not wait for so long
Come we discover something new

If its hatred and enmity
Please come that i may die
Die in your precious arms
That my dreams may be fulfilled
That in your arms i will always sleep never to
wake up

Dr Wanjohi. P. Mugambi
The Weeping Onion

Unsung Heroes Around Us



He who serves every day,
All people show their togetherness with gay.
I can step with pride and grace,
My shoes fail to tell his hidden trace.

My beauty is enhanced by wearing my attire,
The woven threads never reveal his tire.
I wear the antique that makes me glow,
The hands of the workman stretch but never
show.

I push up for my protection From heat and
shower,
Yet fail to thank the maker of that bower.
We live and sleep happily with our family,
But how many of us think about his poverty?

I travel anywhere, even during rainy days,
Yet forget to thank those hardest hands.
Moulding and melting under heavy heat,
They sit nearby and bear it, shaping what helps
my feet.

Though the wheel was man's first invention,
The softness of fingers and hands brings out
handy pots.
To enjoy the taste of traditional food,
We forget to keep them near as our dude.

Unsung heroes are many,
A few words about them taste like honey.
Their stories are not comedy
Their's should never end in tragedy.

A. Suseela
B. T Assistant (English)
P. U. M. S. Eripatti
Pollachi north
Coimbatore Dt.
Tamil Nadu
India

Philosophy From The Kitchen



Pop out negativity as a spluttering mustard seed
Sweeten others life as sugar in water
Live in harmony as a mixer that blends
Spread your love as butter on a bread
Don't hurt anyone as spicy Chilli

Bring healing as intake of pepper does
Don't be carried away by words as melted ghee
in oil
Confer your aura as coriander does to the hand
that holds
Mix all virtues well as a ladle
And drain bad from good thoughts as a filter

A. Mabel Judy Fernando
B. T Asst English
Chennai Middle School
T.S.M Nagar,
Thiruvottiyur, Chennai -19.

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

City Nights-lights



Beneath the hum of crowded streets,
where dreams and sorrows often meet,
the city breathes in silver glow,
its lights—soft stories we'll never know.

Each flicker tells a tale untold,

of hearts grown tired, of hands grown cold,
yet in the glass of every tower,
hope still blooms like a midnight flower.

The moon hides shy behind the haze,
as stars get lost in neon blaze,
but still, the weary soul can see,
a spark of faith in each marquee.

For city lights don't chase the dark,
they teach us how to bear the mark—
that even when the night feels long,
our glow remains, forever strong.

— Vidhya Nair

DO YOU WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?

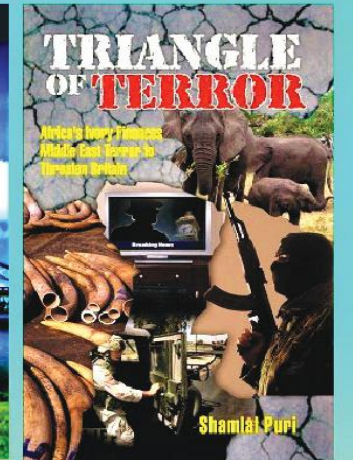
ARE YOU A WRITER OR CORPORATE?

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

HEALTH

Mama Ngina University Organizes Medical Camp For Gatundu Residents As Lifestyle Diseases Surge

By: John Kamau
@themtkenyentimes

Health experts have raised the alarm over an alarming increase in lifestyle-related diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and various forms of cancer that are devastating families across villages in Gatundu South.

The concern emerged during a free medical camp organized by Mama Ngina University College in partnership with several healthcare institutions.

The camp revealed that many residents are silently battling chronic illnesses due to poor access to quality healthcare and the high cost of medical services.

Residents who spoke during the event led by Gabriel Kariuki lamented that inefficient operations within the Social Health Authority (SHA) and prohibitive medical expenses have discouraged many from seeking timely checkups and treatment.

“People are really suffering and struggling with illnesses silently in their home. The cost of treating and managing some illnesses is costly and the Social Health Authority is not catering for many services. This has been a major blow especially to the elderly,” Kariuki said.

They appealed to the government to streamline the healthcare system and improve SHA services to make medical care affordable and accessible.

“The government should look into issues like requiring us to pay SHA annually to make it more affordable to us. again, let our facility be stocked with enough drugs to reduce the burden of buying them at private institutions at high costs,” resident Ruth Mungai said.

The locals hailed Mama Ngina University College for the initiative terming it a shot-in-the-arm for hundreds of locals who are suffering from diverse ailments.

Dr. Ruth Mbugua, the head of medical studies at the University, urged locals to adopt healthier lifestyles, including balanced diets and regular physical activity, to combat the rising disease burden.

She noted that many lifestyle illnesses are preventable by people avoiding excessive carbohydrates, eating more vegetables and fruits, reducing meat consumption, and keeping off alcohol, a move that can improve health outcomes.

Dr Mbugua noted that overcoming lifestyle diseases requires both individual commitment to healthier habits and collective action, including



A Gatundu resident is attended to during the free medical camp organized by Mama Ngina University College.

public health initiatives and government support.

She averred that individuals can focus on diet, exercise, stress management, quitting smoking, limiting alcohol, and getting regular health check-ups. Public measures include legislation, food labeling, supportive infrastructure, and educational campaigns.

“We’ve attended to over 600 patients today and we are shocked by the rate at which most of them are suffering from lifestyle diseases. It’s high time people go back to organic farming to grow and eat organic foods for the sake of their health and to keep these

diseases at bay. We must reduce and end the habit of consuming processed foods and also uphold exercises for our health’s sake,” she said.

Her sentiments were echoed by Dr. Wagiita Maina, an obstetrics and gynecology resident at the Aga Khan University Hospital, who expressed concern over the low rate of cancer screening in the region.

Dr. Maina noted that cases of breast and cervical cancer are rising because most people only seek medical attention when it’s too late.

The medic averred that detection of the disease in its early stages including stage one and two will enable pa-

tients survive and beat the malady.

“Patients seeking healthcare services when the disease has advanced to the fourth stage, usually have a slim chance of surviving and it’s costly to manage and treat it. We are pleading with our people to go for early screening so that they can get help in earnest,” he said.

The medics also encouraged residents to revive traditional practices such as home-grown food consumption and community exercises, saying these habits contributed to better health in the past.



Dr Ruth Mbugua, the head of medical studies at Mama Ngina University College speaking at the sidelines of the free medical camp organized by the institution.

Worth Noting:

- The camp revealed that many residents are silently battling chronic illnesses due to poor access to quality healthcare and the high cost of medical services.

- Residents who spoke during the event led by Gabriel Kariuki lamented that inefficient operations within the Social Health Authority (SHA) and prohibitive medical expenses have discouraged many from seeking timely checkups and treatment.

- “People are really suffering and struggling with illnesses silently in their home. The cost of treating and managing some illnesses is costly and the Social Health Authority is not catering for many services. This has been a major blow especially to the elderly,” Kariuki said.

- They appealed to the government to streamline the healthcare system and improve SHA services to make medical care affordable and accessible.



WEB SOLUTIONS



Oracom Web Solutions

Relax....we take the worries out of web

Web Design

- Modern and classy website
- Easy to navigate
- Mobile ready and cross browser friendly

Web maintenance

- Search Engine Optimization
- Content Management Services
- Social Media Marketing

And many much more...

0729990583 | fb: Oracom kenya web solution | www.oracom.co.ke

Top Talent Agency Marks 10 Years By Inspiring Kenya's Next Generation Of Leaders



By: Elizabeth Angira

The spirit of leadership, empowerment, and global connection swept through Kenyan schools this month as the Top Talent Agency, an international organization known for mentoring leaders and entrepreneurs, marked its 10th anniversary with an unforgettable nationwide tour. Schools such as Amasege Secondary School, Sironga Girls High, Cardinal Otunga, Mobamba, and Statehouse Girls were among the many institutions that welcomed the initiative with enthusiasm and pride.

Addressing the press, led by its dynamic CEO, Isabel Donadio, the agency brought together 15 speakers, authors, entrepreneurs, and captains of industry under the Kenya Keynote Tour initiative. Their mission: to inspire, empower, and ignite a spirit of possibility among Kenya's youth. For Donadio, Kenya represents far more than just another destination. It symbolizes resilience, brilliance, and hope.

"Our job here is to give to the people," she said, "but no matter how much we give, we realize we get even more in return. That's the magic of Kenya."

The team's visit coincided with Top Talent Agency's 10th anniversary a decade dedicated to connecting business leaders and innovators from across the world.

Since its inception, the agency has collaborated with nearly 100 global leaders across diverse industries, nurturing a generation of high-performing individuals committed to service and transformation.

Over the course of one week, the delegation visited schools across Kenya, from bustling towns to rural communities, reaching an estimated 20,000 students. The impact was immediate and emotional.

Everywhere they went, the team received warm welcomes from teachers, faculty, and students. Classrooms were filled with cheers, tears, and heartfelt gratitude. In many schools, the visitors were greeted with songs, poems, and heartfelt speeches from learners who expressed how much the visit meant to them.

"Oftentimes, our people have been

VOICES OF CHANGE



TOP TALENT IN ACTION

stunned into silence," Donadio reflected. "It's overwhelming to feel so much love and appreciation. The students' hunger for knowledge, their sharp minds, and their big dreams remind us why we do what we do."

The group's commitment went beyond motivation. Several visiting leaders pledged to sponsor individual students, ensuring they can continue their education and pursue their dreams.

Dominic Obadia from Civility Voice Diplomats, speaking on behalf of Top Talent Agency and the Kenya Keynote Tour, described the initiative as a movement of "doers, not seers."

"We believe dreaming is good, but doing is better," he said. "Service to humanity is service to God and that's what defines both Top Talent Agency and the Kenya Keynote Tour."

Obadia noted that leadership is most meaningful when it is shared.

"It's lonely at the top if you don't raise another leader with you," he explained. "That's why we're here to raise leaders who can carry Kenya forward for generations to come."

For Dr Collete Wayne, CEO of Oceans of Grace, the visit to Kenya was a deeply personal journey.

"It's been a lifelong dream to come here," she said with emotion. "I came to offer hope and inspiration, but I received so much more. The youth of Kenya are clever, bright, and full of potential. They are not just the future of Kenya they are the future of the world."

Wayne emphasized that the tour's impact extends beyond inspiration it is about creating pathways for global employment and empowerment.

"The talent we have found here in Kenya is mind-blowing," she added. "The smiles, the love, the brilliance it's overwhelming."

Among the delegates was Dr. Patricia Scipio from Maryland, on her first mission with Top Talent Agency. She described her time in Kenya as both humbling and inspiring.

"It was amazing to interact with students from primary schools to universities," she said. "Everywhere we went, the enthusiasm was infectious. We wanted to show them that they can achieve anything, that they can advance and we're here to support them with knowledge, encouragement, and mentorship."

The CEO and founder of Evolve Advisory Group, Craig Bruce, who mentors high-performing executives globally, said Kenya's readiness for a new style of leadership was evident everywhere.

"What I found here is truly inspiring," they said. "From universities to Parliament, leaders are ready to lead differently to take Kenya into the future as a global powerhouse. The hunger to grow and innovate is real."

For Flossie Njama, a Kenyan living in the United States, the trip carried special significance.

"I am one of you," she told students. "If I can make it, you can make it. Everything starts at home."

Njama expressed pride in seeing

how her homeland continues to nurture brilliance and resilience.

"This group has made such a huge difference," she said. "They've left their families behind because they love Kenya. They love our children, and they bring greatness, opportunity, and hope."

Njama even announced her plan to sponsor an aspiring author from one of the schools visited, underscoring the tangible impact of the tour.

Another first-time visitor to Kenya, Melanie Soloway, who was born in South Africa and now lives in the U.S., shared her admiration for the warmth and unity she experienced.

"What struck me most was the spirit of Ubuntu 'I am because we are.' It's not just a South African philosophy; it's alive here in Kenya"

Roosevelt Williams III, representing America's Young, Black, and in Business, praised Kenya's culture, creativity, and ambition.

"Kenya forever," he proclaimed. "Kenya is richer than ever in color, culture, and consciousness. With ambition and loyalty, comes success."

Williams said his team's goal was to help Kenyans access educational and entrepreneurial content to elevate their skills and global competitiveness.

During the tour, the President and CEO of NuCalm, Jim Poole, a leading neuroscience company, announced new efforts to engage Kenyan youth in global enterprise.

"This is my third visit to Kenya, and every time, I see more growth, more

promise," he said. "Your hearts are full of love, your minds full of ambition. We are here to serve you and to accelerate your rise."

Poole added that his company is hiring Kenyan youth to work in American industries, helping to expand Kenya's global footprint and economic reach.

Justine Reese, founder and CEO of The Empowered Voice, highlighted the transformative power of giving people especially women and children a voice.

"When you empower someone from the inside out, they become unstoppable," she said.

Reese, who is also affiliated with CouldYou.org, announced a groundbreaking partnership aimed at tackling period poverty.

"We are donating menstrual cups to Kenyan girls," she explained. "Each cup costs just \$10 and lasts 10 years. Keeping girls in school can add between \$30 to \$50 trillion to Kenya's economy. When you empower a woman, you empower a generation."

The Top Talent Agency team has reaffirmed their commitment to returning to Kenya, mentoring young leaders, and nurturing partnerships that open global doors for Kenyan youth.

"Kenya is on the rise," Donadio concluded. "And we want to rise with it together, hand in hand with the next generation of dreamers and doers."

Cameroonian Women Rebuild Livelihoods Through Empowerment Projects In Conflict Zones

By: Xinhua
 @themtkenyatimes

In a quiet village in northern Cameroon, a group of women gather around baskets of sweet potatoes, peeling, drying, and grinding them into enriched baking flour. It is a rare scene in the country's northern regions, where more than 80 percent of people depend on agriculture, yet years of conflict between government forces and Boko Haram militants, coupled with worsening humanitarian crises, have left the sector struggling to recover. For women and girls, the toll has been particularly severe.

Among those determined to help them rebuild is Rachel Yaoudam, who two years ago founded Sahel Solidaire²⁴, a non-governmental organization that supports and empowers women in disadvantaged communities and conflict zones in Cameroon. "Helping women to transform sweet potatoes into flour is part of my project. I want to see every woman and girl happy," said the 34-year-old woman who supervised the potato transformation process in Ngaoundere, the main town of the mountainous Adamawa region. Born and raised in Moskota, a small village in the country's Far North

bordering Nigeria -- a region often targeted by Boko Haram -- Yaoudam knows hardship firsthand. She was once kidnapped by armed men and later released after a ransom was paid. Growing up in a male-dominated society where many believed a woman's place was at home, she faced immense challenges. "We used to take long walks to fetch water. We had limited access to basic needs, and the constant struggle to survive in a place often forgotten by the rest of the world," recalled the mother of two.

Education, she said, felt like her only hope. "My father, a teacher, never let us forget that. He would tell us, 'Go to school, learn, read, and one day you will change the story of our family and our village,'" she said. Taking her father's advice to heart, Yaoudam pursued her studies abroad and later worked with several international organizations, including the Economic Community of West African States. Today, she is an international actress, teacher, and passionate advocate for women's empowerment. The organization she founded now stands at the forefront of efforts to promote social and economic equality for Cameroonian women, particularly those in the Far North, where Yaoudam has witnessed with her bare eyes the hardships and inequalities they



Rachel Yaoudam (4th R) poses for a group photo with members of her organization during an agricultural training session in a field in Ngaoundere, Adamawa Region, Cameroon last week. (Xinhua/Kepseu).

endure. "We provide support for agro-pastoral projects, legal rights awareness on gender based violence, income-generating cooperatives, scholarships for children, and mentoring in sewing and information and communications technology for women, and advocate for women's rights and promote women in peace-building," Yaoudam said.

Yet beyond its programs, what

members value most is the organization's role as a safe space -- a place of comfort, solidarity, and personal growth for the women it serves. "One key factor is that women feel supported by fellow women," Yaoudam said. What began as a small initiative to tackle gender inequality and empower women has grown into a symbol of resilience and renewal. "More than 25,000

women and men have been directly impacted, and more than 200 children have received scholarships in just two years," she said proudly. As the Global Leaders' Meeting on Women opens in Beijing, China, on Oct. 13, Yaoudam said she hopes the gathering will shine a spotlight on advancing gender equality and empowering women across Africa.

Palestinian Prisoners Being Released From Israeli Jails

By: Xinhua
 @themtkenyatimes

Israeli authorities have begun freeing Palestinian prisoners from jails as part of an exchange deal after Hamas released 20 Israeli hostages, Palestinian sources said yesterday.

According to the deal agreed by Israel and Hamas, about 2,000 Palestinian detainees and prisoners are to be freed. Earlier in the day, Israel confirmed that 13 hostages, the last living Israelis held by Hamas in Gaza, had been handed over to the Red Cross. The 13 men are currently being accompanied by soldiers and Shin Bet agents on their way back to Israel, where they will undergo an initial medical assessment and reunite with their families, said the Is-

raeli military in a statement. Hamas confirmed in a statement that it has released all 20 living Israeli hostages, as a step to implement a truce pact with Israel. The group reaffirmed commitment to fulfilling its obligations, stressing the importance of the mediators' work to compel Israel to fulfill its obligations under the deal and complete the implementation of all its provisions. A Hamas official told the Saudi Asharq News TV that several deceased hostages will be rendered later on Monday. There are a total of 28 deceased hostages that Hamas is required to return to Israel under the ceasefire agreement. Israel released the first photos of the hostages arriving in the country and meeting Israeli officers, showing all of them standing and without any visible injuries.



Polygamy In Africa: A Lost Cultural Root Or A Practice To Be Reformed?



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande
@themtkenyatimes

Polygamy In Africa: A Lost Cultural Root Or A Practice To Be Reformed?

By Silas Mwaudasheni Nande
Polygamy, particularly polygyny - the practice of one man marrying multiple women - has long been a cornerstone of many African societies. Rooted in indigenous customs, spiritual beliefs, and socio-economic structures, it was not merely a marital arrangement but a system of kinship, labor distribution, and social status. However, the arrival of Christianity, colonial legal frameworks, and modern human rights discourses disrupted its legitimacy and practice. Today, polygamy stands at a crossroads: some view it as a cultural relic worth preserving, while others see it as a patriarchal institution incompatible with gender equality and modern governance.

This article explores whether polygamy is a lost African root or a practice that should be reformed or abandoned. It examines its historical significance, legal status across Africa and globally, and the evolving gender dynamics that challenge its traditional structure. It also presents a balanced analysis of its positive and negative aspects, offering insights for policymakers, educators, and cultural leaders committed to inclusive and equitable development.

Different Forms of Polygamy
To fully understand the complexities of polygamy and its place in African and global societies, it is essential to distinguish between its various forms. While the term "polygamy" is often used broadly, it encompasses several distinct marital arrangements, each with unique cultural, legal, and social implications. These include polygyny (one man with multiple wives), polyandry (one woman with multiple husbands), and more rare configurations such as group marriage and symbolic polygamy. Some forms are deeply rooted in customary or religious traditions, while others challenge conventional norms and reflect evolving gender dynamics. The following table outlines these types, providing clarity on their definitions, characteristics,

and contexts in which they are practiced or debated.

Historical and Cultural Foundations of Polygamy in Africa
Kinship, Economy, and Social Status

In pre-colonial Africa, polygamy was not merely a personal choice - it was a strategic institution. Among the Yoruba, Hausa, Zulu, Ovambo, and many other African ethnic groups, polygamy served as a mechanism for expanding family networks, increasing labor capacity, and securing social alliances. A man with multiple wives could cultivate larger fields, raise more livestock, and ensure a steady lineage. Wives were integral to the household economy, contributing to food production, child-rearing, and artisanal work.

Polygamy also reinforced social hierarchies. Chiefs, elders, and wealthy men often had multiple wives as a symbol of status and responsibility. The number of wives a man had was often proportional to his wealth, influence, and ability to provide. In many communities, polygamy was seen as a sign of generosity and leadership, not exploitation.

Spiritual and Religious Dimensions
Polygamy was deeply intertwined with African spiritual beliefs. In many traditional religions, fertility and lineage were sacred. Ancestors were honored through the continuation of family lines, and having multiple wives was seen as fulfilling divine obligations. Rituals around marriage, childbirth, and ancestral veneration often assumed polygamous structures.

Islam, which spread across North and West Africa centuries before Christianity, also permits polygyny under specific conditions. The Qur'an allows a man to marry up to four wives, provided he treats them equally and can support them financially. This religious endorsement reinforced polygamy in Muslim-majority regions such as northern Nigeria, Senegal, and Mali.

Colonialism, Christianity, and the Legal Disruption of Polygamy

Christian Missionary Influence
The arrival of Christian missionaries in the 19th and 20th centuries marked a turning point in the perception of polygamy. Missionaries viewed polygamy as incompatible with Christian teachings on monogamy, fidelity, and marital sanctity. Converts were often required to renounce polygamous unions, leading to familial disruptions and moral dilemmas. Churches refused to baptize polygamous individuals, and Christian marriage laws strictly enforced

Polygamy remains legal or widely practiced under customary or religious law in several African nations. According to the World Population Review and other sources:

Country	Legal Status of Polygamy
Nigeria	Legal under customary and Islamic law
Mali	Legal and widely practiced
Burkina Faso	Legal under customary law
Gambia	Legal under Islamic law
South Africa	Illegal under civil law, allowed under customary law
Kenya	Legal under customary law
Tanzania	Legal under customary and Islamic law
Uganda	Legal under customary law
Senegal	Legal under Islamic law
Zambia	Legal under customary law
Namibia	Illegal under civil law, but customary unions persist
Malawi, Liberia, Sierra Leone	Similar dual systems exist

monogamy.

This religious imposition created a cultural rift. Many Africans were forced to choose between spiritual salvation and cultural identity. The rejection of polygamy by Christian institutions contributed to its stigmatization and gradual decline in urban and educated circles.

Colonial Legal Systems
Colonial administrations codified marriage laws that privileged European-style monogamy. Customary marriages, including polygamous unions, were either marginalized or subjected to bureaucratic registration systems that undermined their legitimacy. In many cases, polygamous marriages were not recognized for inheritance, property rights, or legal protection.

This legal dualism persists in many African countries today. Civil law may prohibit polygamy, while customary or religious law permits it. This creates confusion and inequality, especially for women and children in polygamous households who may lack legal recognition and protection.

Contemporary Legal Status of Polygamy in Africa and Beyond
African Countries Where Polygamy Is Legal or Practiced

These legal frameworks often coexist uneasily with civil law, creating challenges for enforcement, rights protection, and social cohesion.

Global Landscape

Globally, polygamy is legal or tolerated in several countries, mostly in the Middle East and parts of Asia:

- Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, and Kuwait: Legal under Islamic law.
- Indonesia and Malaysia: Legal with restrictions, often requiring court approval or consent from existing spouses.
- India: Legal for Muslims under personal law; illegal for Hindus and Christians.
- Pakistan: Legal with court

permission and financial proof.

- Afghanistan and Iran: Legal under Islamic law.
- Tibet and Nepal (historically): Polyandry practiced in some communities.

In contrast, polygamy is illegal and criminalized in most Western countries, including the United States, Canada, and European Union nations. However, informal polygamous communities exist, especially among religious sects such as Fundamentalist Mormons in North America.

Positive Aspects of Polygamy

1. Social Security and Support Networks

Polygamous households often function as extended families, providing emotional, financial, and logistical support. Co-wives may share child-rearing duties, household chores, and agricultural labor. Children benefit from multiple maternal figures and a broader sibling network, which can foster resilience and communal identity.

In rural settings, this structure can be a source of stability. Elderly parents are cared for by multiple adult children, and crises such as illness or death are mitigated by the collective strength of the household.

2. Economic Productivity

In agrarian economies, polygamy enhances labor capacity. More wives mean more hands to cultivate land, manage livestock, and produce goods. This was especially vital in pre-industrial societies where manual labor was the backbone of survival.

Even today, in some rural communities, polygamous households are more economically productive than nuclear families. They can pool resources, diversify income streams, and share risks.

3. Cultural Continuity

Polygamy preserves cultural heritage and rituals tied to marriage, fertility, and kinship. It reinforces

communal values, intergenerational bonds, and traditional roles. In societies where lineage and ancestry are central, polygamy ensures the continuation of family lines and the honoring of ancestors.

4. Male Responsibility

Contrary to stereotypes, traditional polygamy often came with strict expectations. Men were required to provide equally for each wife, maintain harmony, and resolve disputes fairly. Failure to do so could result in social sanctions or loss of status.

This sense of duty fostered accountability and leadership. Polygamy was not a license for indulgence but a test of character and capability.

Negative Aspects of Polygamy

1. Gender Inequality

Polygamy, especially polygyny, reinforces patriarchal norms. Women are often denied equal agency in choosing partners, and their status may depend on birth order, fertility, or favor from the husband. Co-wives may compete for resources, attention, and inheritance rights.

This asymmetry violates modern principles of gender equality and human dignity. The United Nations Human Rights Committee has called for the abolition of polygamy, citing its impact on women's rights.

2. Emotional and Psychological Strain

Jealousy, rivalry, and favoritism among co-wives can lead to emotional distress. Children may experience divided loyalties or unequal treatment. Marital harmony is difficult to maintain, and unresolved tensions can escalate into abuse or neglect.

Mental health challenges in polygamous households are often underreported and poorly understood,

Polygamy In Africa: A Lost Cultural Root Or A Practice To Be Reformed?

Contd from page 20

.....
 especially in rural areas with limited access to counseling and support services.

3. Economic Burden

Modern economies do not support the traditional polygamous model. Urbanization, wage labor, and rising living costs make it difficult for men to sustain multiple households. Education, healthcare, and housing expenses strain family budgets, leading to poverty and social exclusion.

In some cases, polygamy becomes exploitative, with men marrying multiple women without the means to support them adequately.

4. Legal and Inheritance Conflicts

Polygamous families often face disputes over property, inheritance, and custody. Civil law may not recognize all spouses, leading to marginalization and legal ambiguity. Children from unrecognized unions may be denied access to education, healthcare, or inheritance.

Gender Dynamics and the Rise of Polyandry Debates

Challenging the Asymmetry of Traditional Polygamy

In recent decades, the gendered structure of polygamy - where men are permitted multiple wives but women are not allowed multiple husbands - has come under increasing scrutiny. Feminist scholars, human rights advocates, and progressive thinkers argue that this asymmetry reflects entrenched patriarchal norms rather than cultural necessity. The question arises: if polygyny is culturally acceptable, why is polyandry - one woman with multiple husbands - so vehemently rejected?

This debate is not merely theoretical. In urban African contexts, where women increasingly attain economic independence, educational parity, and leadership roles, the traditional rationale for polygyny - male provision and protection - loses its persuasive power. Women now ask: if I can support a household, why should I be limited to one partner while men are not?

Arguments in Favor of Polyandry Gender Equality and Reciprocity

Advocates argue that true gender parity requires symmetrical marital rights. If men can marry multiple women, women should be allowed the same freedom. This reciprocity challenges the notion that marital structures must be male-dominated and opens the door to more egalitarian family models.

Type of Polygamy	Definition	Key Characteristics	Examples / Contexts
Polygamy (General)	A marital system where a person has more than one spouse at the same time.	Umbrella term that includes both polygyny and polyandry.	Practiced in various forms across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.
Polygyny	One man is married to multiple women simultaneously.	Most common form of polygamy; often linked to patriarchal traditions, lineage expansion, and economic productivity.	Common in many African societies (e.g., Nigeria, Mali, Kenya). Islamic law permits up to four wives.
Polyandry	One woman is married to multiple men simultaneously.	Rare; often practiced for economic or land preservation reasons; challenges traditional gender norms.	Found among the Nyinba of Nepal, some Tibetan communities.
Group Marriage (Polygynandry)	Multiple men and multiple women form a single marital unit.	All members are considered married to one another; emphasizes communal living and shared parenting.	Extremely rare; theorized in some utopian communities and anthropological studies.
Serial Polygamy	A person has multiple spouses over time, but only one at a time (through divorce or widowhood).	Not simultaneous; reflects legal monogamy but practical polygamy over a lifetime.	Common in Western societies where remarriage is frequent.
Customary Polygamy	Polygamy practiced under traditional or customary law, often without formal civil registration.	Recognized by communities but may lack legal protection under national law.	Widespread in rural Africa, including Namibia, Zambia, and Uganda.
Religious Polygamy	Polygamy practiced as part of religious doctrine or belief.	Often regulated by religious texts and authorities; includes conditions for fairness and consent.	Islamic polygyny; Mormon fundamentalist communities in the U.S.
Symbolic Polygamy	Cultural or spiritual unions that are not legally recognized but function as polygamous relationships.	May involve informal cohabitation, spiritual marriages, or traditional rites.	Seen in some African and diasporic communities where legal barriers exist.

Economic Rationality

In some cases, women are the primary breadwinners. Polyandry could allow for shared economic responsibilities among multiple husbands, reducing the financial burden on one individual and promoting cooperative household management.

Cultural Precedents

Polyandry is not entirely foreign to human societies. Among the Nyinba people of Nepal and certain Tibetan communities, polyandry has existed for centuries, often as a strategy to prevent land fragmentation and maintain family unity. These examples demonstrate that polyandry can be culturally viable under specific conditions.

Autonomy and Choice

The rise of individual rights and personal autonomy in modern societies supports the idea that marital arrangements should be based on consent and mutual benefit, not rigid tradition. Polyandry, when consensual and legally recognized, could be a legitimate expression of personal freedom.

Counterarguments and Cultural Resistance

Paternity and Lineage Concerns

Traditional societies emphasize clear lineage and inheritance. Polyandry complicates paternity, raising questions about legal responsibility, inheritance rights, and social identity. In cultures where lineage is central to identity and property rights, this ambiguity is a major obstacle.

Social Acceptance and Stigma

Polyandry faces stronger cultural

resistance than polygyny. It is often viewed as immoral, unnatural, or destabilizing. Women who advocate for polyandry may face ostracism, ridicule, or violence, especially in conservative communities.

Legal Frameworks and Institutional Inertia

Most legal systems are not equipped to handle polyandrous unions. Marriage laws, inheritance codes, and family courts are structured around monogamy or polygyny. Legalizing polyandry would require significant institutional reform, which many governments are reluctant to undertake.

Religious Opposition

Major world religions - Christianity, Islam, Hinduism - do not endorse polyandry. Religious leaders often oppose its legalization, citing doctrinal prohibitions and moral concerns. This opposition carries significant weight in societies where religion shapes law and public opinion.

Is Polygamy a Lost African Root or a Practice to Be Reformed?

Cultural Preservation vs. Human Rights

Polygamy is undeniably part of Africa's cultural heritage. It reflects historical realities, spiritual beliefs, and social structures that shaped communities for centuries. However, heritage alone cannot justify practices that conflict with contemporary human rights standards. The challenge lies in balancing respect for tradition with the need for reform.

Cultural practices must evolve



to reflect changing realities. Just as traditional governance systems have adapted to democratic norms, marital institutions must adapt to principles of equality, consent, and dignity. This does not mean erasing history - it means reinterpreting it in ways that empower all members of society.

Reform, Not Rejection

Rather than abolishing polygamy outright, some scholars and policymakers advocate for regulated plural marriage systems that ensure:

- Informed consent of all parties
- No individual should be coerced into a polygamous union. Consent must be explicit, informed, and continuous.

Equal rights and responsibilities

All spouses should have equal access to resources, decision-making, and legal protection. This includes property rights, inheritance, and parental authority.

Legal recognition and protection

Polygamous unions must be registered and regulated to prevent exploitation, abuse, and marginalization. Legal frameworks should be inclusive and enforceable.

Gender-inclusive frameworks

If polygyny is permitted, polyandry should be considered under similar conditions. This promotes fairness and challenges patriarchal bias.

This approach respects cultural diversity while promoting fairness and dignity. It allows communities to retain their identity while aligning with global human rights norms.

The Role of Education and Dialogue

Education is key to transforming perceptions of polygamy. Schools, universities, and community forums can foster open dialogue about marriage practices, gender roles, and cultural evolution. Curriculum should include both the historical context and ethical implications of polygamy, encouraging critical thinking and informed choices.

Religious leaders, traditional au-

thorities, and civil society organizations must also engage in this dialogue. Their voices carry moral authority and can guide communities toward more inclusive and respectful practices.

In Namibia, where customary law coexists with civil law, educators and policymakers have a unique opportunity to lead this conversation.

By integrating cultural studies, legal literacy, and gender education into school programs, institutions like Kornelius Combined School can empower youth to navigate these complex issues with wisdom and integrity.

Conclusion: Navigating Tradition and Transformation

Polygamy in Africa is neither a relic to be discarded nor a sacred tradition immune to scrutiny. It is a complex institution shaped by history, culture, religion, and economics. As societies evolve, so too must their institutions. The future of polygamy lies not in rigid preservation or wholesale rejection, but in thoughtful reform that honors cultural identity while advancing human dignity.

For leaders who champion inclusive governance, educational equity, and cooperative development, this debate is not merely academic - it is a call to action. By fostering respectful dialogue, legal clarity, and gender-sensitive reforms, Africa can navigate this terrain with wisdom and integrity.

Polygamy must be understood not as a static tradition but as a dynamic social practice. Its reform requires courage, compassion, and collaboration. Whether through legal innovation, educational outreach, or cultural dialogue, the goal must be to build marital institutions that reflect the values of justice, equality, and shared humanity.

Collaboration, Compliance, and Purpose Take Center Stage at the 7th FITSPA Fintech Conference 2025



By: Daniel Tusiimukye K'abaasa
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The headline fireside chat, "Navigating New Frontiers as Architects of Transformation," featured three of Africa's most influential digital finance leaders — Sylvia Mulinge, CEO of MTN Uganda; Richard Yego, CEO of MoMo by MTN; and Sitoyo Lopokoiyit, Managing Director of M-Pesa Africa. The session was moderated by Peter Kawumi, Managing Director, Interswitch East Africa.
- The panel explored how Africa's fintech sector can move from transactional services to transformational impact — redefining inclusion, trust, and leadership in the digital age.
- Mulinge highlighted MTN's evolution from a traditional telecommunications company to a fully integrated technology provider.
- "You have to lead by design, not by default," she said. "Build a business deeply rooted in purpose. The outcomes you want to achieve come from understanding and committing to your mission."

KAMPALA — The 7th FITSPA Annual Fintech Conference 2025, held at the Sheraton Kampala Hotel under the theme "Fintech for Sustainable Growth: Innovations, Investments & Inclusion," reaffirmed Uganda's growing influence as a regional fintech hub and Africa's rising potential in digital financial transformation.

The two-day summit, powered by MTN Uganda, Bank of Uganda, UNCDF, Stanbic Bank Uganda, aBi Finance, M-KOPA, and the Capital Markets Authority, among others, brought together fintech innovators, investors, regulators, and policymakers from across Africa for a vibrant exchange on driving sustainable digital inclusion through innovation, collaboration, and trust.

Purpose, Innovation and the Human Side of Fintech

The headline fireside chat, "Navigating New Frontiers as Architects of Transformation," featured three of Africa's most influential digital finance leaders — Sylvia Mulinge, CEO of MTN Uganda; Richard Yego, CEO of MoMo by MTN; and Sitoyo Lopokoiyit, Managing Director of M-Pesa Africa. The session was moderated by Peter Kawumi, Managing Director, Interswitch East Africa.

The panel explored how Africa's fintech sector can move from transactional services to transformational impact — redefining inclusion, trust, and leadership in the digital age.

Mulinge highlighted MTN's evolution from a traditional telecommunications company to a fully integrated technology provider.

"You have to lead by design, not by default," she said. "Build a business deeply rooted in purpose. The outcomes you want to achieve come from understanding and committing to your mission."

She called on innovators to align their solutions with Uganda's national development agenda, including the Government's 10x Growth Strategy, which aims to accelerate economic inclusion and digital productivity.

Richard Yego emphasized the growing role of trust in an era of rapid digital expansion and rising cyber threats.

"What we offer our customers is trust. Without it, the entire system collapses," he remarked, noting that MoMo continues to invest in advanced anti-fraud systems and secure processes to ensure mobile money remains safe, transparent, and accessible.

Mulinge added that innovation must be driven by empathy — fo-

cus on human experiences, not just technology.

"Innovation must be about designing experiences that matter — that truly make a difference in people's lives."

Sitoyo Lopokoiyit urged African fintech leaders to move from imitation to creation.

"Africa should no longer just be catching up. We have the opportunity to lead the world in inclusive, mobile-first innovation if we make deliberate, strategic choices now," he said.

Regulation, Risk, and Responsible Growth

Another standout discussion — "Compliance and Consumer Protection in a Digital Economy" — examined how regulation, data protection, and responsible innovation are critical to building a sustainable fintech ecosystem.

Panelists included Tracy Bagonza, Compliance Manager (CAFCA) at M-KOPA Uganda; Brenda Nambalirwa, Managing Director, M-KOPA Uganda; and Aaron Akampa, Head of Enterprise Banking, Stanbic Bank Uganda.

Bagonza emphasized that compliance is not a barrier to innovation but a foundation for trust.

"The future of fintech lies in responsible innovation — building systems that protect consumers, ensure data privacy, and still allow creativity to flourish," she said, underscoring the importance of proactive risk management and regulatory alignment.

Nambalirwa showcased M-KOPA's model of combining technology and insurance to make essential services more affordable for underserved communities.

"At M-KOPA, we believe a phone is more than a device — it's an opportunity to thrive," she noted. "Through partnerships like ours with Turaco Insurance, we're demonstrating that access, protection, and dignity can go hand-in-hand."

From a banking perspective, Akampa reflected on how traditional financial institutions can support small businesses through products designed for inclusion. He pointed to Stanbic's Pamoja Account as an example of customer-centered innovation.

"Many small business owners struggle with formalization and lack a strong credit profile to qualify for loans. Our goal is to bridge that gap by offering digital, low-cost financial solutions tailored for them," he said.

Collaboration as the Cornerstone of Growth



Launching the FITSPA Deal Book



Unveiling the CMA Regulatory Sandbox



Collaboration, Compliance, and Purpose Take Center Stage at the 7th FITSPA Fintech Conference 2025

Across sessions, speakers consistently returned to one unifying message: collaboration is the lifeblood of Africa's fintech revolution. Whether between startups and banks, regulators and innovators, or telcos and insurtechs, the conference emphasized that collective effort — guided by shared purpose and responsible governance — is what will define Africa's fintech trajectory in the coming decade.

As the conference concluded,

FITSPA Executive Director Moses Abindabizemu reiterated the association's commitment to fostering a connected, resilient, and inclusive fintech ecosystem.

The 2025 conference closed on a high note, with participants leaving inspired to pursue fintech solutions that are secure, compliant, and human-centered — transforming Africa's digital future one innovation at a time.

MKU Boosts Early Childhood Education In Rwanda

By: James Wakahiu
@themkenyatimes

Mount Kigali University has donated funds to Imbuto Foundation for construction of new nursery schools in Gasabo District

The university's founder, Prof Simon Gicharu, joined the Imbuto Foundation, Gasabo District, and the Kinyinya community last Thursday to lay the foundation stone for the upcoming Murama Early Childhood Development Centre (ECD) in Kinyinya Sector, Gasabo District.

The new centre, established in partnership with the Imbuto Foundation, aims to provide a nurturing and stimulating learning environment for children aged six years or younger, in line with Rwanda's commitment to holistic early childhood development. The foundation aligns with Rwanda's Vision 2050 by prioritising human capital development to build a healthy, educated and skilled workforce for achieving the country's goals.

As a demonstration of his continued dedication to this cause, Prof Gicharu pledged continued partnership with Imbuto Foundation to support the construction of the Murama ECD Centre.

"Our partnership with Imbuto Foundation is built on a shared dream to give every Rwandan child a fair and equitable start in life," said Prof Gicharu. "By investing in quality early childhood development and family empowerment, we are investing in the future of Rwanda," he added.

The delegation comprising Prof Gicharu, Imbuto Foundation's Director General Elodie Shami, and the District Executive Administrator of Kicukiro, Mr Antoine Mutsinzi, also officiated the inauguration of the Masaka Early Childhood Development and Family (ECD&F) Centre in Masaka Sector, Kicukiro.

The Masaka ECD&F Centre stands as a flagship project of the partnership between Mount Kigali University and Imbuto Foundation, aimed at ensuring children not only survive, but thrive in their formative years. The facility features modern classrooms that can accommodate 40 students each, a kitchen and a spacious assembly area.

Beyond physical infrastructure, the centre will provide essential services in early learning, nutrition, healthcare, hygiene, child protection, and parenting education.

Prof. Gicharu highlighted that Mount Kigali University had so far constructed and operationalized the Masaka ECD&F Centre, reaffirming the institution's pledge to contin-



Founder and chairman Prof Simon Gicharu during the donation for the construction of nursery schools in Gasabo District.

ue supporting early childhood initiatives nationwide. "When I look around this facility, I see children learning, playing, and thriving in an environment that is safe and inclusive," he said. "At Mount Kigali University, we are not just builders of structures; we are builders of people and communities."

The founder said Mount Kigali University, through its training hotel – Kigali Paramount Hotel – will offer full tuition scholarships to beneficiaries selected by Imbuto Foundation, to pursue short courses in hospitality-related fields such as culinary arts, event management, food and beverage service, restaurant operations, and housekeeping. This initiative aims to empower young people with practical skills essential for Rwanda's growing hospitality industry.

Ms Elodie Shami, the Director General of Imbuto Foundation, said the day was a celebration of partnership, purpose and shared vision. "What we inaugurate today is more than a building. It is a dream brought to life; a living symbol of what happens when vision meets action," she said. "Since 2013, Imbuto Foundation has been committed to early childhood development because we believe that investing in the first years of life is invest," she added.

Shami thanked Mount Kigali University for its steadfast partnership and confirmed that the new Murama ECD Centre in Kinyinya, will be completed and inaugurated next

year.

The District Executive Administrator of Kicukiro, Mr Antoine Mutsinzi, commended the partnership for its tangible impact on the community. "Masaka is one of the sectors within Kicukiro District, and it is among the most populated areas," he said. "Over the past decade, the population has almost doubled, which has greatly increased the need for essential infrastructure, including the Early Childhood Development and Family Centre we are inaugurating today," he added.

Mutsinzi said the new facility represents a major upgrade from the previous structure, which had only two small rooms. The number of children enrolled has grown from 25 to over 125, showing the demand and impact of such projects. "We sincerely thank Mount Kigali University and Imbuto Foundation for their continued collaboration and support, not only for the infrastructure, but also for providing vital learning equipment," he said.

The centre will also help mothers and fathers learn how to continue supporting their children's development at home. "The model we are launching here is one we aim to replicate across other sectors of the district," said the administrator.

Ms Beline Nirangira, the Vice-President of Parents at Masaka ECD&F appreciated the centre's positive impact on both children and families. "We started here with only 23 children and it was difficult because

some had to walk long distances to other ECD centres. Today, we are very grateful for this expansion. My child could not speak or interact with others when they first joined, but now they communicate confidently and play well with other children. As parents, we are committed to supporting the centre, contributing to programmes and ensuring it continues to grow and improve," said Nirangira.

The collaboration between Imbuto Foundation and Mount Kigali University, which began in 2018, has already yielded significant impact. Together, the institutions have supported 200 girl-child students across Rwanda to pursue secondary education and have embarked on the construction of two model ECD&F Centres in Masaka (Kicukiro) and Kinyinya (Gasabo).

These initiatives align with Rwanda's Vision 2050 and the National Early Childhood Development Policy, both of which emphasise that national prosperity begins with investing in the well-being and education of children.

Worth Noting:

- The new centre, established in partnership with the Imbuto Foundation, aims to provide a nurturing and stimulating learning environment for children aged six years or younger, in line with Rwanda's commitment to holistic early childhood development. The foundation aligns with Rwanda's Vision 2050 by prioritising human capital development to build a healthy, educated and skilled workforce for achieving the country's goals.
- As a demonstration of his continued dedication to this cause, Prof Gicharu pledged continued partnership with Imbuto Foundation to support the construction of the Murama ECD Centre.
- "Our partnership with Imbuto Foundation is built on a shared dream to give every Rwandan child a fair and equitable start in life," said Prof Gicharu. "By investing in quality early childhood development and family empowerment, we are investing in the future of Rwanda," he added.

Nyoro Urges Government To Boost Funding For NYOTA Youth Program

By: Purity Mugo and Bernard Munyao
 @themkenyatimes

Kiharu Member of Parliament Ndingi Nyoro has called on the government to consider topping up funds for the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) program to enable more unemployed youth to benefit.

Speaking during a church service at the Christian Foundation Fellowship in Mukuyu, Nyoro said that matching the amount provided by the World Bank would significantly expand the program's reach.

"NYOTA has been funded by the World Bank, so if they are giving us five billion, the government can match the amount," he said.

The MP noted that additional funding could either help more youth join the program or allow existing beneficiaries to receive higher support to start larger businesses.

Nyoro further emphasized the need for sound financial management, noting that economic challenges require

strategic, not political, solutions.

"If you are building a house and you see cracks, you don't call a painter; you call a structural engineer," he remarked.

He urged leaders to focus on addressing the country's financial issues, saying that political maneuvering alone cannot resolve underlying economic concerns.

Nyoro also expressed concern about the level of national debt, citing figures from the Central Bank of Kenya and government reports that indicate the country has borrowed about one trillion shillings in the past eight months.

"Kenya is currently borrowing between 3.5 billion and 4 billion shillings every day, which translates to roughly Sh.150 million every hour," he said.

He observed that a significant portion of national revenue is directed toward debt repayment, with about 76 percent of recent collections going to service existing loans.

"In August, for example, the government collected about 157 billion shillings in ordinary revenue, out of



Kiharu MP Ndingi Nyoro when he addressed the congregation at Christian Foundation Fellowship (CFF) In Mukuyu over the weekend.

which 120 billion went toward repaying accrued interest," he said.

Nyoro urged prudent financial management to prevent Kenya from facing a potential debt crisis, while

acknowledging the Treasury's efforts to manage national debt through re-financing; taking new loans to repay older ones.

"We must ensure that our borrowing

supports growth and development, just as past administrations used funds for transformative projects like the Thika Superhighway and rural electrification," he added.

Tessie Musalia Champions Advancing Technology In Schools

By: PCS PS
 @themkenyatimes

The Mudavadi Memorial Foundation Trust Fund (MMFTF) has rolled out an initiative to support schools advance their Digital Literacy Programmes.

The foundation in collaboration with Ushiriki Wema, an economic empowerment programme, aims at advancing technology in schools through the provision of computers and other digital learning materials.

This is to enhance learning through personalized lessons, increased engagement, and broader access to digital resources by learners.

Madam Tessie Musalia, the Co Founder & Managing Trustee said the programme is targeting to aid students have instant access to vast amounts of information, e-books, online libraries, and real-world learning through various digital platforms.

"We believe that every child deserves access to quality education as envisaged in our Constitution 2010,

regardless of their background or circumstances. By us donating computers to schools especially in the rural areas, it is a step towards bridging the digital divide and ensuring that every student has the chance to explore, learn, and grow in this digital driven era," she said.

Tessie the spouse to Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi said the initiative is being supported by the United Nations through the partnership of the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary.

She was speaking over the weekend when she donated 30 desk tops and 2 lap tops to Mudavadi Girls High School, Madzuu in Vihiga County.

"These computers are part of 70 laptops and 30 desktops that were donated by the United Nations through the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary towards promotion of IT in schools. I encourage students not only to use them only schoolwork, but also to follow your curiosity and learn about the world, and to dream big" she said.

She said online platforms allow students to learn at their own pace and from different locations, accommo-



Managing Trustee of Mudavadi Memorial Foundation Trust Fund & Chair of Ushiriki Wema Foundation, H.E. Tessie Musalia M.B.S, handing over desktop computers and laptops to the School Management of The Salvation Army Mudavadi Girls School, Madzuu in Vihiga County to support digital learning. Also present was Dr. Jeniffer Otolo, The Principal Mudavadi Girls, Madzuu. Photos/Courtesy.

dating various schedules and learning preferences.

She further encouraged teachers to equip the students to connect with peers and experts globally through online tools, enabling collaborative projects and discussions across different locations.

"Technology has become an essential tool in education as it opens doors to knowledge beyond classrooms. When we invest in education, we invest in a stronger, smarter, and more hopeful tomorrow," added Tessie.

The programme will also be a boost to the ongoing government initiative

that is focusing on building computer labs in schools across the country as the foundations seeks to bring on board more partners and donors both locally and internationally to support the course.

Kiambu MCAs Condemn Doctors' Street Protests, Accuse MPs Of Politicizing Health Crisis

By: Felix Njenga
@themkenyatimes

The Kiambu County Assembly members have sharply criticized the recent demonstrations led by the Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union (KMPDU) in Kiambu town, accusing the organizers of hiring impostors to pose as doctors.

Led by Geoffrey Muceke, the Kalimoni Ward MCA and Leader of Majority, the lawmakers termed the protests as "shameful and disruptive," claiming that the noisy chants and vuvuzelas outside Kiambu Level Five Hospital disturbed patients seeking treatment.

"We saw people wearing lab coats demonstrating outside Kiambu Hospital, which is shameful. This was a disturbance to the patients who had come for medical care," said Muceke.

Muceke further alleged that KMPDU's dispute with the county government stems from the administration's refusal to remit union dues on behalf of the doctors.

"We will not collect union fees for KMPDU, and that is why they have

a problem with the county government," he added.

The majority leader also took issue with Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale, accusing him of meddling in county affairs without first verifying facts on the ground.

"The Health CS should not make statements from Nairobi. He should visit Kiambu hospitals to see how they are operating instead of playing into the gallery of Kiambu MPs," said Muceke.

He further alleged that several Kiambu Members of Parliament funded the protests as part of a wider political scheme against Governor Kimani Wamatangi.

"We are aware that MPs have ganged up against our Governor. Staff from MPs' offices participated in the demonstrations, and we know that Ksh 750,000 was contributed to fund the protests," claimed Muceke.

Deputy Speaker John Njiru, who represents Hospital Ward, downplayed claims of deaths in county hospitals, saying the facilities are operational and data shows no unusual mortality.

"We have visited Kiambu hospitals and confirmed that there are no deaths occurring as alleged. Three-quarters of the doctors are still working, alongside nurses,



Kiambu MCAs led by Geoffrey Muceke, Leader of Majority during the press briefing.

clinical officers, and other medical staff. Kiambu residents should have confidence and continue seeking treatment in county hospitals," said Njiru.

Health Committee Chairperson Joseph Muhinja, the MCA for Githunguri, echoed similar sentiments, insisting that claims of hospital dysfunction are politically motivated.

"As the Assembly Health Committee, we assure Kiambu residents that hospitals are running well. We have conducted site visits, and the allegations being spread are mere rumours.

Anyone is free to visit and see the reality," said Muhinja.

Grace Hinga, MCA for Kabete Ward, dismissed reports that women seen in Thika Level Five Hospital were hired as part of a public relations gimmick.

"The mothers you saw at Thika Hospital had genuinely given birth. There was no public relations stunt," she clarified.

Wainaina, MCA for Karuri Ward, urged CS Duale to avoid being swayed by politicians and instead support the county's health efforts.

"Health is a devolved function. As Kiambu leaders, we should unite to strengthen the sector, not politicize it. CS Duale should stop listening to MPs who are undermining the county government's progress," said Wainaina.

Despite the assurances from county leaders, the health crisis in Kiambu remains unresolved, with doctors still on strike and both the county government and KMPDU refusing to compromise, leaving thousands of patients in continued distress.

Kiambu Healthcare Crisis Deepens As Doctors Protest Over Seven Months Of Unpaid Salaries

By: Felix Njenga
@themkenyatimes

The prolonged healthcare crisis in Kiambu County reached a boiling point yesterday as doctors, supported by activists and a significant number of residents, staged a forceful demonstration at the Governor's office.

The protest, led by Dr. Davji Atella, Secretary General of the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Union (KMPDU), marked a critical escalation in the 138-day industrial standoff, with medics demanding the immediate payment of seven months' salary arrears.

The day began with a demonstration outside the Kiambu County Referral Hospital before protesters marched toward the Governor's premises. The unionists fiercely accused Governor Dr. Kimani Wamatangi of deliberately neglecting the health sector and refusing to honor a legally binding Collective Bargain Agreement (CBA) signed with the doctors.



Doctors and union officials demonstrating yesterday.

The doctors aired their grievances, highlighting the immense personal and professional strain caused by the county government's inaction:

"Seven months without pay is a complete disregard for human dignity and the essential service we provide," stated Dr. Atella. "We are here because Governor Wamatangi has refused to cease moving in circles and comply with a contract that is legally binding."

The protest took a grim turn with demonstrators carrying caskets to symbolize the reported deaths of infants at facilities like Kiambu Level

Five Hospital. A protesting doctor stated, "Our hospitals are failing, and the Governor is downplaying these tragic reports. He seems to prioritize publicity stunts over addressing the dire state of healthcare services in Kiambu."

The KMPDU remains resolute, vowing to intensify their protests until the Governor addresses their demands. Dr. Atella announced further measures, including a nationwide strike notice to be issued on the 24th of the month. "If this Kiambu crisis is not resolved, every single doctor across the country will join this in-

dustrial action," he warned.

Upon reaching the Governor's office, the protesters were not met by Governor Wamatangi. Instead, they were confronted by a counter-group, allegedly sponsored to block access. Police intervention was required to prevent any physical altercation, allowing the doctors to air their grievances peacefully.

In separate forums, Governor Wamatangi dismissed the entire demonstration as "politically instigated," maintaining that the KMPDU is being used to advance rival political interests. Wamatangi asserted

he would not be "intimidated or coerced" by the pressure.

Despite the aggressive stance on both sides, the medics have publicly reiterated their willingness to engage in dialogue to finally end the protracted impasse, which has severely paralyzed health services across the county. The union also plans to collect signatures to petition President William Ruto to recall Governor Wamatangi.



SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> *The Federation's #KenyaYetuMsituWetu campaign aligns sports with environmental sustainability ahead of World U-21 Championships

Kenya Taekwondo Federation Leads Green Charge With Mazingira Day Tree-Planting Drive

The Federation's #KenyaYetuMsituWetu campaign aligns sports with environmental sustainability ahead of World U-21 Championships

The Federation's #KenyaYetuMsituWetu campaign aligns sports with environmental sustainability ahead of World U-21 Championships

By MKT Correspondent

The Kenya Taekwondo Federation (KTF) joined the rest of the country in marking Mazingira Day by launching a major tree planting initiative as part of its commitment to environmental conservation.

It's also the federation's preparation for the upcoming World U-21 Taekwondo Championships to be held in Nairobi from 3rd to 6th December 2025.

Billed as the world's first carbon-neutral taekwondo championship, it is expected to draw global attention with participants drawn from 140 countries.

Unveiled in partnership with the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the upcoming World U-21 Taekwondo Championships, the campaign dubbed #KenyaYetuMsituWetu, symbolises unity, discipline, and environmental responsibility.

The initiative, which targets to plant 11,000 trees, supports Kenya's national goal of planting 15 billion trees by 2032 and aligns with the World Taekwondo Federation's global sustainability agenda, which champions climate resilience and youth empowerment through sport.

Speaking during the event, KTF President Major (Rtd.) Suleiman Sumba said the federation was proud to contribute to Kenya's green agenda.

"Every tree we plant is a reflection of the Taekwondo spirit - discipline, endurance, and respect for life. As we prepare



Kenya Taekwondo Federation President Major (Rtd.) Suleiman Sumba plants a tree assisted by members of the Local Organising Committee to mark the launch of the initiative. Looking on are Kevin Kiarie, Legal Advisor Ministry of Sports (in suit), and Department of Sports Representative Ms. Juliana Murugi.

to host more than 3,000 athletes and officials from 140 countries this December, we want the world to see Kenya not just as a sporting nation but as a champion for sustainability," he said.

Kevin Kiarie, Legal Advisor State Department of Sports, lauded the federation's initiative, describing it as a model for sports-driven environmental action that demonstrates how sports can inspire national pride and environmental consciousness.

"As we launch this initiative, I reiterate the Ministry's commitment to supporting the govern-

ment's target of planting 15 billion trees by 2032. By 2028, the Department of Sports will plant five million trees while the Ministry as a whole will achieve 10 million trees", he said.

Juliana Murugi from the Department of Sports echoed Kiarie's sentiments, saying: "The federation's initiative beautifully demonstrates how sports can inspire national pride and environmental consciousness. The Ministry fully supports such programs that link athletic excellence with ecological responsibility."

The launch of the initiative was

hosted by Sports Kenya Acting Director General Gabriel Komora at the Moi International Sports Centre Kasarani.

Through this initiative, KTF aims to leave behind not just sporting memories but a green legacy that reinforces Kenya's leadership in both sports and sustainability.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Global champions Faith Kipyegon, Beatrice Chebet and Emmanuel Wanyonyi are the only Kenyans shortlisted for the 2025 Track Athlete of the Year World Athletics Awards.

Kipyegon, Chebet, Wanyonyi Make 2025 World Athletics Awards Shortlist



Faith Kipyegon and Beatrice Chebet after competing in 5000m Tokyo World Championships. Photo/WORLD ATHLETICS

Global champions Faith Kipyegon, Beatrice Chebet and Emmanuel Wanyonyi are the only Kenyans shortlisted for the 2025 Track Athlete of the Year World Athletics Awards.

Chebet was nominated after grabbing double gold at the Tokyo World Athletics Championships, winning the 5000m and 10,000m. Kipyegon on the other hand, bagged a historic fourth world 1500m title and silver in 5000m.

The two Kenyan track queens will battle it out with the American duo of Melissa Jefferson-Wooden, who won three gold medals

in Tokyo, clinching 100m, 200m, 4x100m, and Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone, who took the 400m and 4x400m title.

Another nominee to make it into the shortlist is Femke Bol, of the Netherlands, after winning World and Diamond League 400m hurdles titles.

-Men's Awards-

Wanyonyi, who won gold in Tokyo Worlds and Diamond League in the 800m will face stiff competition in the men's award from the American trio of, Noah Lyles who won three medals; gold in

200m and 4x100m, bronze in 100m, 400m hurdles champion Rai Benjamin and Cordell Tinch, who won the World and Diamond League in 110m hurdles.

Also in contention is history maker frenchman Jimmy Gressier who won 10,000m gold and bronze in 5000m.

The vote to determine the Track Athlete of the Year finalists is now open on World Athletics social media platforms – on Facebook, Instagram and X. It will close on 19 October.

The nominees for the Field Athlete of the Year awards will be

announced on October 20 and the nominees for the Out of Stadium Athlete of the Year awards will be announced on October 27.

The overall women's and men's World Athlete of the Year award winners will be selected from among the track, field and out of stadium category winners.

Capital Sport

SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



A Shining Diamond In The Darkness



By: Anila Bukhari

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Dr. Wofford's life is a tapestry woven with remarkable accomplishments across multiple domains. As a dynamic entrepreneur, she has founded and successfully managed numerous ventures, including *All Bets On Me Academy*, *EmpowerHer Legacy: Purposeful Collective*, and *Akins Global Diagnostics Laboratory Solutions*. Her entrepreneurial spirit is complemented by her philanthropic endeavors, notably her former ownership of *Akins Helping Hands*, a thriving seven-figure home care business based in North Carolina. Her ventures reflect her passion for empowering others, fostering community development, and creating opportunities where few others dare to venture.
- As a transformational leader and faith-based master empowerment coach, Dr. Wofford's influence extends far beyond business. She is a certified award-winning strategist in transformational leadership, an esteemed speaker, and a prolific author—her words inspiring thousands worldwide.

Biography of Dr. Wofford

In a world often shadowed by challenges and setbacks, there emerges a rare light—bright, unwavering, and transformative. Dr. Wofford is that luminous beacon, a shining diamond in the darkness, sent by divine purpose to inspire, uplift, and transform lives. Her journey exemplifies resilience, faith, and exceptional achievement, making her a true testament to the power of perseverance and divine guidance.

Born and raised with a heart full of dreams and a spirit fueled by faith, Dr. Wofford's early life was marked by adversity. Yet, from a tender age, she exhibited an indomitable spirit and an unwavering belief that she was destined for greatness. Her pursuit of excellence led her through rigorous academic paths, culminating in earning a PhD in Christian Education—an achievement that set her apart as a scholar, leader, and servant of faith.

Dr. Wofford's life is a tapestry woven with remarkable accomplishments across multiple domains. As a dynamic entrepreneur, she has founded and successfully managed numerous ventures, including *All Bets On Me Academy*, *EmpowerHer Legacy: Purposeful Collective*, and *Akins Global Diagnostics Laboratory Solutions*. Her entrepreneurial spirit is complemented by her philanthropic endeavors, notably her former ownership of *Akins Helping Hands*, a thriving seven-figure home care business based in North Carolina. Her ventures reflect her passion for empowering others, fostering community development, and creating opportunities where few others dare to venture.

As a transformational leader and faith-based master empowerment coach, Dr. Wofford's influence extends far beyond business. She is a certified award-winning strategist in transformational leadership, an esteemed speaker, and a prolific author—her words inspiring thousands worldwide. Her mission is rooted in empowering individuals to unlock their potential, overcome obstacles, and walk boldly in their divine purpose.

Her dedication to personal development is evident through her creation

of the *All Bets On Me* platform on Facebook, a vibrant community where she encourages women to invest in themselves, embrace their worth, and conquer life's challenges. Her message resonates deeply, rooted in her own story of resilience—rising from hardship to create a legacy of hope and empowerment.

Dr. Wofford's academic pursuits further enhance her impact. Her certifications include roles as an *Executive Leadership Coach*, *Life Recovery Coach*, *Mental Health Counselor*, *Trauma-Informed Coach*, and many others. She is also a prolific author, with seventeen international bestsellers to her name, including titles like *Blessed Not Broken*, *Igniting Your Purpose*, *Pain Equals Purpose*, *From Brokenness To Brilliance* and *Breaking The Chains*. Her literary contributions span genres of faith, empowerment, healing, and personal growth, earning her numerous accolades such as the *2022 ACHI Award for Public Service*, *Author of the Year (2023)*, and *Trailblazer Award (2025)*.

Her influence also extends into the realm of community service. She volunteers with the *Cape Fear Valley NODA (No One Dies Alone)* program, providing comfort and companionship to individuals in their final moments—a sacred calling that reflects her compassionate heart and unwavering faith in the dignity of every human life.

Dr. Wofford's voice and message have reached national and international audiences through prominent media outlets, including *The New York Times*, *CBS*, *FOX News*, and various magazines. Billboard features in Time Square in New York City. Her interviews and features amplify her message of faith, resilience, and empowerment, inspiring countless individuals to pursue their purpose with confidence and courage.

Despite her many professional achievements, Dr. Wofford remains grounded in her faith and family. She and her husband are active members of *Mt. Zion AME Zion Church*, where she seeks to live out God's purpose for her life by serving others with humility, love, and



Dr. Wofford.

integrity. Her devotion to her family is a source of strength and inspiration—cherishing moments with her grandchildren and prioritizing self-care through reading, reflection, and prayer.

Her legacy is one of hope, faith, and transformational impact—an enduring testament to the idea that with divine guidance and relentless perseverance, anyone can rise above adversity to shine brightly like a diamond in the darkness. Dr. Wofford embodies resilience, brilliance, and faith—a woman sent by God to illuminate the world and lead others to their divine destiny.

In recognition of her extraordinary contributions, she has received numerous awards and honors, including *Presidential Lifetime Achievement Awards*, *Black Diamond Awards*, and *International Impact Book Awards*. Her story continues

to inspire a new generation of leaders, entrepreneurs, and believers to walk boldly in their purpose and leave a lasting legacy of faith, love, and empowerment.

In conclusion, Dr. Wofford is not just a successful woman; she is a divine masterpiece—a shining diamond crafted by faith, resilience, and purpose. Her life is a testament to the transformative power of divine grace and the incredible potential within each of us to shine brightest in the darkest of times. Her journey encourages us all to embrace our unique brilliance, serve with love, and walk in our divine light—becoming shining diamonds in the darkness, sent by God to illuminate the world.