



The Servant Statesman: How Harison Ochieng Yogo Redefined Public Service and Rose to National Heroism
 Every year on October 20th, Kenya pauses to celebrate its heroes on Mashujaa Day, a national holiday that honors men and women who contributed to the country's struggle for independence and those who have made outstanding contributions to the nation since. The day celebrates modern day heroes' individuals who have served with distinction in public service, education, sports, the arts, and human rights
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News>>Nyeri Governor Apologies Over Raila Death Remarks As Leaders Call For His Resignation

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Digital Gag Law On Ice

In a landmark ruling that has sent ripples through Kenya's legal and digital landscapes, the High Court has issued a conservatory order suspending the enforcement of a contentious section of the newly enacted Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes (Amendment) Act, 2025. The suspended provision, Section 27, criminalizes cyber harassment, but critics argue it poses a grave threat to freedom of expression and digital rights.



President William Ruto signing Bill into law

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Kikuyu Elders Visits Raila's Gravesite, Family In Bondo

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

A group of Kikuyu community elders who are members of 'Kiama Kia Ma' yesterday paid homage to former Prime Minister Raila Odinga. The elders, from all parts of Central Kenya, led by Ndia Member of Parliament GK Kariuki condoled with the late Raila's family after being received by several family members who include the widow Mama Ida and her son Raila Odinga Jnr. We conveyed our heartfelt sympathies and assured the family and friends that the Kikuyu community stands firmly for peace, unity, and harmony in our beloved nation," the MP noted after the successful event.



Editor's Desk



The Mt. Kenya Times

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NEWS IN BRIEF



A section of Nyeri Town residents and the local business community yesterday condemned the utterances made by Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga over the demise of former Prime Minister Raila Odinga. They expressed their disappointment over the remarks, emphasizing the need for sensitivity and respect during such critical times.



Zimbabwe President Emmerson Mnangagwa of yesterday visited Kenya's Embassy in Harare to condole with Kenyans following the demise of opposition leader Raila Odinga. President Mnangagwa, who was accompanied by Zimbabwe's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Trade Sheillah Chikomo, was received at the Embassy by Kenya's Ambassador to Zimbabwe Gertrude Angote.

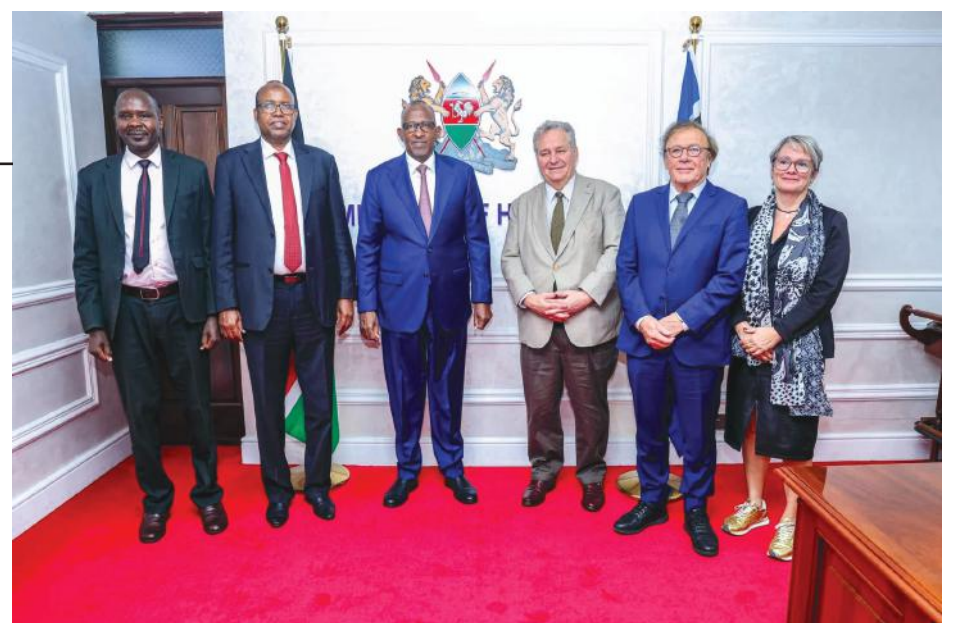


The Uasin Gishu county government has reaffirmed its resolve to make energy the new driver of social and economic transformation. Speaking on behalf of governor Jonathan Chelilim, deputy governor Evans Kapkea indicated that they were currently implementing the Stima Mashinani and Transformer Maximization Program in collaboration with REREC, which had already connected over 900 households across all the six sub-counties including Lelmokwo in Kesses, Siliboi in Ainabkoi, Mobet in Soy, Kapchemaget in Turbo, Kabiyeet in Moiben, and Koshin Kaptien in Kapseret. The second phase of the project is underway, targeting more homes, schools, and enterprises to ensure no household in our county remains in darkness.



Leaders from Embu County have joined other Kenyans in condemning Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga over his "celebratory" remarks concerning the late former Prime Minister Raila Odinga's death. Led by Governor Cecily Mbarire, the leaders termed the remarks as reckless and insensitive and not in line with principles of leadership and governance as stipulated in the constitution. Mbarire said the comments were in bad taste and disrespectful to a man whose contribution to Kenya's democracy, constitutionalism and devolution was internationally recognized. Speaking to residents of Mbeere North Constituency at Kanyuambora Market, Governor Mbarire accused Kahiga of lacking dignity and empathy during a time when the country was still mourning the death of ODM leader Raila.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale yesterday held a bilateral meeting with Peter Maddens, the Belgian Ambassador to Kenya, to reinforce collaboration under the Inter-Party Participating Agreement (IPA) between the Ministry of Health and the Council of Governors. The partnership focuses on expanding the Medical Waste Microwave Project, now entering Phase III, to ensure nationwide safe medical waste disposal across all counties. Supported by the Government of Belgium, the project enhances environmental health, strengthens infection prevention, and supports local pharmaceutical manufacturing—all aligned with Kenya's Universal Health Coverage (UHC) agenda. Duale commended Belgium's sustained partnership and reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to completing key health infrastructure projects and advancing collaboration in sustainable healthcare systems. He was accompanied by Mr. Adan Harakhe, Secretary Administration, and Mr. Lollem Lokolile, Environmental Safeguards and Waste Specialist at the Ministry.



NEWS PAPER

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United Opposition Condemns Nyeri Governor Over Hate-Speech Remarks

By: MKT Correspondents

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Governor Kahiga, who was elected on a United Democratic Alliance (UDA) ticket, made the remarks on Tuesday at a burial ceremony in his county. The comments surfaced in a video widely shared on social media and later broadcast across major outlets.
- At the ceremony, Governor Kahiga (speaking in his native Kikuyu) suggested that the death of late Raila was “God’s plan to help the Mt Kenya region regain access to State resources that had allegedly been diverted elsewhere.

The United Opposition strongly condemned Nyeri County Governor Mutahi Kahiga’s remarks over the death of former Prime Minister Raila Odinga.

In a statement issued yesterday, the coalition rejected both the governor’s comments and his subsequent apology, saying they violated Article 33 of the Constitution of Kenya (2010), which limits freedom of expression to exclude hate speech and incitement.

The statement, signed by Dr Mukhisa Kituyi, the Opposition’s spokesperson, accused the governor of making “despicable and reckless” remarks that threaten national unity. “Governor Kahiga’s sentiments should, in one accord, be wholly condemned by all Kenyans,” the statement said, adding, “UDA should by now have issued a censure and a public apology.”

Governor Kahiga, who was elected on a United Democratic Alliance (UDA) ticket, made the remarks on Tuesday at a burial ceremony in his county. The comments surfaced in a video widely shared on social media and later broadcast across major outlets.

At the ceremony, Governor Kahiga (speaking in his native Kikuyu) suggested that the death of late Raila was “God’s plan to help the Mt Kenya region regain access to State resources that had allegedly been diverted elsewhere.

“You guys can see; you can see what had been planned, but God came and brought this thing. ... All goodies were being directed there because of tomorrow’s plans, because it seemed like they did away with us, but God came and brought this thing.”



Leaders of United Opposition caucus. Photo/Courtesy.

“But who is God? Does he take ugali at somebody’s house or sleep in Kayole? ... He came through in his own way. He saw up there people in heaven are disagreeing a lot and came for Baba so that he can go and smooth things up there.”

The remarks triggered widespread outrage.

The Council of Governors (CoG) yesterday convened an extraordinary meeting, describing the remarks as “reckless, insensitive, sad and unfortunate.”

“It is inhumane and unacceptable to celebrate his death on account of perceived political calculations,” the Council stated.

From within his own party, UDA Chairperson Cecily Mbarire said:

“Let it be clearly understood: Governor Kahiga’s remarks do not reflect the views of the Mount Kenya region.”

On the opposition side, Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) Chairperson Gladys Wanga condemned the remarks as: “primitive, insensitive, and insulting ... A new low in our politics.”

“As Kahiga’s colleague, I am ashamed of his words. I am offended as the Chairperson of ODM and as a believer in Raila Odinga and what he stood for.”

Early yesterday, Kahiga convened a media briefing at his residence in

Nyeri town where he apologised over the remarks and further resigned as the Vice-Chair of the CoG. But the United Opposition dismissed the move as “hurried and insufficient,” calling for decisive action from UDA and the Council of Governors.

The coalition called on UDA leadership; including President William Ruto, chairperson Cecily Mbarire and Secretary-General Hassan Omar to publicly condemn the governor’s statements and reaffirm the party’s commitment to peace and unity.

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Nyeri Governor Apologies Over Raila Death Remarks As Leaders Call For His Resignation

By: Rodgers Wagura
@themtkenyatimes

Nyeri Governor Dr. Mutahi Kahiga yesterday issued a public apology following widespread outrage over remarks he made, which many Kenyans perceived as insensitive to the late former Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga's death.

In a press briefing at his residence in Nyeri town, Kahiga apologised and sought forgiveness from the Odinga family, the ODM fraternity and Kenyans at large, stating that his words were misunderstood and not meant to celebrate the opposition leader's demise.

"I want to sincerely apologize to our mourning nation, to the family of the Rt. Hon. Former Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga, Mama Ida Odinga, her children Rosemary, Junior and Winnie, Hon. Senator Oburu Odinga, Hon. MP Ruth Odinga, and the larger ODM fraternity," said Kahiga.

He clarified that his comments, made in Kikuyu language were meant to reflect on the political implications of Raila's death, not to demean his legacy.

"My remarks were in no way celebratory. What I meant is that under the current broad-based government, we have seen skewed development, and politically, the loss of the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga sends everyone back to the drawing board," he explained.

The governor emphasized that his remarks were personal opinions and not representative of the Nyeri community, his political party, or the Council of Governors (CoG).

At the same time, Kahiga announced his resignation as Vice Chair of the Council of Governors, taking "full responsibility for the real and perceived meaning" of his words. "With immediate effect, I step down as Vice Chair of the Council of Governors," he stated, adding, "May the soul of the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga continue resting in eternal peace."

However, the apology did little to quell the growing political storm across the country.

From his backyard, a section of leaders across the political spectrum condemned the governor's remarks, terming them reckless, disrespectful, and unbecoming of a county leader.

Nyeri Senator Wahome Wamatinga led the charge, describing Kahiga's statement as "unbefitting of a leader of such standing." He called on Kahiga to take the next step and resign as governor. "The first step he has taken is to resign as CoG deputy chair. The second should be to resign as governor. Nyeri cannot be led by someone who makes such reckless utterances," Wamatinga said.



Governor Mutahi Kahiga addressing journalists at his Nyeri town residence.

Worth Noting:

- "I want to sincerely apologize to our mourning nation, to the family of the Rt. Hon. Former Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga, Mama Ida Odinga, her children Rosemary, Junior and Winnie, Hon. Senator Oburu Odinga, Hon. MP Ruth Odinga, and the larger ODM fraternity," said Kahiga.
- He clarified that his comments, made in Kikuyu language were meant to reflect on the political implications of Raila's death, not to demean his legacy.
- "My remarks were in no way celebratory. What I meant is that under the current broad-based government, we have seen skewed development, and politically, the loss of the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga sends everyone back to the drawing board," he explained.

Wamatinga noted that Nyeri residents revere Raila for his role in Kenya's democracy, especially in the struggle for the 2010 Constitution.

"We disassociate ourselves completely from his remarks. As Nyeri, we mourn with the family of Raila Odinga and the rest of the country," he said.

Kieni MP Njoroge Wainaina accused Kahiga of dishonouring the dead and called for his resignation, citing a pattern of divisive statements.

"This is not the first time. He once said 'kama mbaya ni mbaya,' and made comments about a certain community that were derogatory. This is the third time he's being reckless,"

Wainaina said, urging the DCP party, which Kahiga supports, to take disciplinary action.

Nyeri Town MP Maina Mathenge observed, "Nyeri has produced great leaders like Wangari Maathai, Mwai Kibaki, and Dedan Kimathi. Kahiga has shamed our county. We call for his resignation with immediate effect."

Othaya MP Wambugu Wainaina echoed similar sentiments, saying Kahiga's remarks had "messed Nyeri's reputation nationally." He urged the governor to vacate office, adding, "There's no shortage of good leaders in Nyeri. He should just resign."

Mathira MP Eric Wamumbi termed

the remarks "a mockery of the dead," warning that such utterances could ignite ethnic tension. "In our culture, it is taboo to mock the dead. What he did is disrespectful not only to the Odinga family but to all Kenyans," he said.

Wamumbi also revealed that Nyeri leaders, accompanied by cultural elders and women groups, plan to visit Mama Ida Odinga to convey their apologies on behalf of Nyeri residents.

"We shall personally visit Mama Ida and the family to express our condolences and say sorry for the governor's statements," he said.



Nyeri MPs from left; Njoroge Wainaina (Kieni), Wahome Wamatinga (Senator), Eric Wamumbi (Mathira) and Wambugu Wainaina (Othaya) during the press briefing yesterday.

Digital Gag Law On Ice: Court Halts Controversial Cyber Harassment Clause

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes

In a landmark ruling that has sent ripples through Kenya's legal and digital landscapes, the High Court has issued a conservatory order suspending the enforcement of a contentious section of the newly enacted Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes (Amendment) Act, 2025. The suspended provision, Section 27, criminalizes cyber harassment, but critics argue it poses a grave threat to freedom of expression and digital rights.

The ruling, delivered yesterday, by Justice Lawrence Mugambi at the Milimani Law Courts, comes in response to a constitutional petition filed by the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) and former presidential aspirant and human rights advocate Reuben Kigame. The petition challenges the constitutionality of the amended law, particularly Section 27 (1)(b), (1)(c), and (2), which they claim are overly broad, vague, and susceptible to abuse by state actors.

Justice Mugambi's ruling temporarily halts the enforcement, implementation, and operation of these clauses pending the full hearing and determination of the petition. The court emphasized the need to preserve constitutional rights while the matter is under judicial consideration. "Pending the hearing and determination of this application, a conservatory order is hereby issued suspending the enforcement, implementation, and operation of Section 27 (1)(b), (c), and (2) of the Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes (Amendment) Act, 2025," Justice Mugambi stated in his ruling.

The petition was spearheaded by Reuben Kigame, a gospel musician, activist, and former presidential candidate, alongside the KHRC. In their submission, they argued that the amended law infringes on fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Constitution, including the right to freedom of expression, access to information, and media freedom. Kigame, who has long championed civil liberties, expressed concern that the law could be weaponized to silence dissent and criminalize legitimate criticism of public officials. "This law is a digital muzzle. It criminalizes speech under the guise of protecting against harassment, but in reality, it threatens the very fabric of our democracy," Kigame said in a statement following the court's decision.

The Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes (Amendment) Act, 2025, was signed into law by President



President William Ruto signing Bill into law.

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William Ruto on October 15, 2025. The government has defended the amendments as necessary tools to combat the rising tide of cyberbullying, online fraud, and digital misinformation. Proponents argue that the law is designed to protect citizens—especially women and children—from online abuse and to ensure responsible use of digital platforms. However, critics say the law's language is too vague and could be interpreted to criminalize satire, parody, or even investigative journalism.

Legal scholars and digital rights advocates have welcomed the court's decision as a timely intervention. According to constitutional lawyer Mercy Wanjiku, the ruling underscores the judiciary's role as a guardian of civil liberties. "The court has rightly recognized that laws affecting fundamental freedoms must meet the highest standards of clarity and necessity. Vague laws are dangerous because they give too much discretion to law enforcement," Wanjiku explained. Others have pointed out that the law's broad definitions could have a chilling effect on online discourse, particularly in an era where social media has become a vital platform for political engagement and activism.

Kenya has long been viewed as a regional leader in digital innovation, with a vibrant tech ecosystem and a highly engaged online population. However, the country has also witnessed increasing attempts to regulate online spaces, often under the pretext of national security or public morality. This is not the first time the Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Act has come under legal scrutiny. In 2020, parts of the original Act were challenged in court, with civil society groups arguing that it infringed on constitutional rights. The current amendment, critics say, is a continuation of that trend.

The court has set a strict timeline for the progression of the case, with hearings expected to commence in the coming weeks. In the meantime, the suspended sections of the law will remain unenforceable. If the court ultimately rules in favor of the petitioners, it could set a powerful precedent for digital rights in Kenya and beyond. Conversely, if the law is upheld, it may embolden other governments in the region to adopt similarly restrictive measures.

The ruling has sparked a flurry of reactions on social media, with hashtags like #DigitalFreedom and #CyberLaw trending across Kenyan Twitter. Many users praised the judi-

ciary for standing up for civil liberties, while others expressed concern about the potential for online abuse in the absence of legal safeguards. "We must find a balance between protecting people from online harm and preserving our right to speak freely," tweeted one user. "This is a win for democracy. We cannot allow the state to dictate what is 'true' or 'false' online," wrote another.

As Kenya grapples with the complexities of regulating digital spaces, the suspended cyber harassment clause serves as a cautionary tale. While the need to address online abuse is undeniable, the tools used must be precise, proportionate, and respectful of constitutional rights. The High Court's decision is a reminder that in a democracy, even the most well-intentioned laws must be subject to scrutiny. As the legal battle unfolds, all eyes will be on the judiciary to determine whether Kenya's digital future will be one of freedom—or fear.

Kagwe Condemns Nyeri Governor's Remarks On Raila's Demise, Calls For Respect And Restrain

By: MoALD
 @themtkenyatimes

Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe yesterday condemned remarks made by the Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga, regarding the demise of ODM party leader Raila Odinga terming them culturally repugnant, morally indefensible and politically retrogressive.

Speaking at KICC Kenya during the launch of the 5th National Agribusiness Summit, Kagwe who is the only CS from Nyeri and a former Senator of the county, said he was personally mourning alongside millions of Kenyans, describing the Governor's comments as insensitive and disrespectful to the grieving family and the nation at large.

"As the only Cabinet Secretary from Nyeri and a former Nyeri Senator, I want to state clearly that we are mourning. We, together with the rest of Kenyans, and Nyeri people are mourning."



CS Mutahi Kagwe at KICC, Nairobi yesterday.

"If you speak ill of people who have passed on, it is culturally repugnant. When you do so, there are certain rites you must undertake to avoid curses that may befall you. Those remarks are made on one's own behalf and have nothing to do with the rest of the community."

The CS emphasized that leadership demands restraint, empathy and moral discipline, particularly during moments of national loss. He cautioned public figures against making divisive

or hurtful statements that inflame emotions and erode national unity.

"As leaders, we must always be careful about what we say. Such statements are retrogressive. It is not in anybody's interest to make remarks that can bring about division," he added. "As human beings, it is deeply insensitive to utter words that can hurt people at a time when their feelings are vulnerable and emotive."

Kagwe underscored that the Nyeri Governor's views were personal and



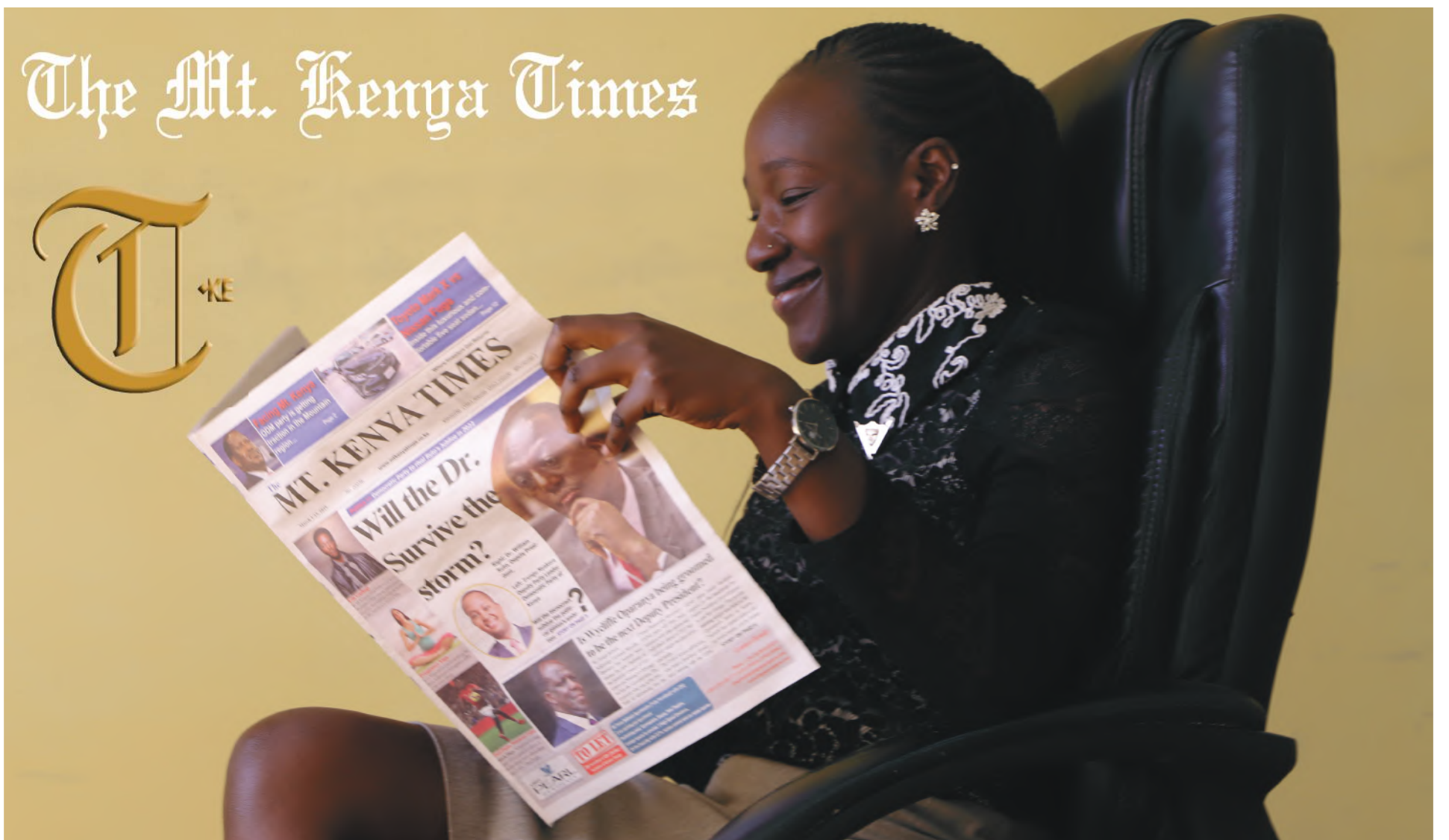
CS Mutahi Kagwe paying his last respect to the late Raila Odinga last week. Photos/Courtesy.

did not represent the people of Nyeri or the national leadership, urging Kenyans to rise above politics and show compassion.

"Morally, it is indefensible to make remarks that, within our community and within the realm of the human race, we simply do not make," he said. "We sympathize in such situations, and therefore all I can say is this, we are mourning with the rest of Kenyans, and we must never mistake such insensitive remarks as represent-

ing anyone else apart from those who made them."

The CS's strong rebuke comes amid widespread public outrage over the Governor's comments, which many Kenyans have described as disrespectful to the late Raila Odinga and his family, and contrary to the values of unity and decency expected from elected leaders.



CBE Moulding Learners Into Critical Thinkers, Problem Solvers, Says Varsity Don

By: John Kamau
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The Don, who doubles as the Director at Grasten Academy situated in Witeithie, Juja in Kiambu County, quipped that the model introduced individualized learning which allows learners to advance at their own pace, promoting a more friendlier learning environment through individual progress assessments.
- “Unlike the rote memorization in the previous models, CBE is helping students gain skills through activities like building, crafting, designing among many other activities which is preparing them for the workforce. This model is truly in tandem with the country’s national goals including the government’s Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda,” she said.
- Wanjiku averred that the new model has aided learners in identifying their strengths and focusing to nurture and develop their talents. This, she said will play a pivotal role in enhancing the country’s socio-economic stability in the near future.



Josephine Wanjiku Waweru, the Director Grasten Academy in Witeithie, Juja speaking at the institution on Tuesday.

Eight years after introduction of the Competence Based Curriculum to replace the 8-4-4 education system, the country is now breeding a generation of critical thinkers and problem solvers.

Josephine Wanjiku, an educationist and a don at Kenya Methodist University (KeMU) says that the new curriculum, now referred as Competence Based Education (CBE) has transformed the education sector and positively impacted learners across the country.

Wanjiku, in an interview, said that learners are now being molded into critical thinkers and problem solvers through hands-on training, industry attachments as well as entrepreneurship adding that introducing the new curriculum was the best decision the country made.

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promoting a more friendlier learning environment through individual progress assessments.

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Wanjiku averred that the new model has aided learners in identifying their strengths and focusing to nurture and develop their talents. This, she said will play a pivotal role in enhancing the country’s socio-economic stability in the near future.

“We have witnessed increased students’ engagement and early specialization through pathways aligned with student strengths has helped increase engagement. This has further seen a significant reduction in drop-out rates,” she averred.

She pointed out that the improved

curriculum infrastructure has facilitated subjects’ rationalization thereby making it more streamlined for the sake of learners.

Wanjiku at the same time expressed the need for all stakeholders to work closely for full implementation and success of the new model.

Bishop Paul Muhia of AIPCA Church echoed her sentiments saying that the new model is healthy for the current and future generations terming as transformational.

He argued that unlike before, learners nowadays can easily identify their strengths and focus on improving them adding that this will make them productive citizens who will immensely contribute to the society’s and country’s growth.

Bishop Muhia at the same time called on the government to make requisite interventions and address some of the bottlenecks facing the new model including ensuring teachers’ formal training on CBE implementation.

“The Government should also ensure that we have adequate facilities

to handle the practical and hands-on nature of CBE by putting up labs and studios in all institutions. There’s need to bridge the infrastructure gaps required for full realization and implementation of the new model,” Bishop Muhia said.

Parents led by Phillip Mwangi also hailed the new model noting that it has encouraged active participation of the parents as well as the community since most school programmes and projects are tailored to local contexts.

“Parents are now actively engaging their children through their education journey. Despite the hiccups like high costs of facilitating it, it’s a transformational model. Most of us parents can attest to the changes in behaviors as well as thinking of our kids,” Mwangi said.

Stakeholders Urge Government To End Stalemate With Publishers To Avoid Crisis As Pioneer CBE Class Joins Senior School Next Year

By: John Kamau
@themkenyatimes

Stakeholders in the education sector have called on the government to end stalemate with publishers to avoid a crisis ahead of Grade 10 rollout next year.

The Kenya Publishers Association (KPA) has been demanding KSh11.4 billion from the government accrued from the supply of books for grade 9 learners and the rationalization of lower primary books.

The pioneer Competency Based Education (CBE) learners set to join senior school in January 2026 will require about 7 million copies of text books and literary works.

The publishers warn that unless the payment is made, there could be a major crisis and delay in providing text books for Grade 10 students, who are the first cohort of the new Competency Based Education (CBE) system to enter senior school in January next year.

KPA chairperson, Kiarie Kamau recently said that the publishers are ready to supply textbooks for at least 35 learning areas for Grade 10.

The textbooks have been scheduled for delivery between October and December 2025, ensuring that learners will have access to the materials at the start of the new academic year.

The payment delay has left the publishing industry severely cash-strained and caused ripple effect throughout the book value chain including affecting printers and distributors.

The sentiments have been echoed by stakeholders who maintain that the delay in payment could affect the smooth delivery of learning materials, potentially disrupting teaching and learning in schools across the country.

The stakeholders who spoke at Grasten Academy school in Witeithie, Juja sub county in Kiambu County on Tuesday averred that learners and parents are at crossroads as clock ticks towards 2026.

Led by the institution's Director Josephine Wanjiru Waweru, they maintained that learning will be put in jeopardy if the matter is not addressed swiftly by the relevant authorities.

"The curriculum is at a critical stage and it's imperative that all players play their part to ensure smooth learning and transition of grade 9 learners to grade 10. We are pleading with the government to settle the dues owed to publishers to facilitate publishing of adequate teaching and



AIPCA Bishop Paul Muhia speaking at Grasten Academy in Witeithie Juja, Kiambu County.

learning materials," Wanjiru said.

She quipped that the State through the mandated authorities should provide adequate resources to publishers as well as address other challenges in the publishing industry including the 16 percent VAT which has affected publishers' business.

"The Government should prioritize ensuring that there are no hiccups when learners move to grade 10. Again they should recognize that publishing is also a business and ensure that issues affecting publishers are promptly addressed," the Director said.

AIPCA Bishop Paul Muhia echoed the sentiments saying that payment of the dues owed to the publishers

will go a long way in ensuring that learning materials are of high quality and affordable.

He also urged the government through the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) to streamline the curriculum to avoid the confusion of changing books the last minute.

"We witnessed last year books being changed the last minute and it was a huge blow especially to parents who had to dig deeper into their pockets to purchase new books for their kids. We should avoid this confusing by ensuring that the books printed won't be changed so as not to burden parents," Bishop Muhia said.

Parents led by Lilian Njeri and Mary Wacera pleaded with the government to facilitate a smooth transition of learners to grade 10 by ensuring availability of all resources including adequate books, facilities as well as teachers.

"The issue with publishers is critical and we are worried about the fate of our children's education," Njeri said.

Njeri added, "The delays in paying the debts threatens the timely delivery of learning materials and could leave students without textbooks at the start of the new academic year. The government should pay up to avoid disruptions in the education sector".



Parents with their kids at Grasten Academy in Witeithie, Juja..

Worth Noting:

- The publishers warn that unless the payment is made, there could be a major crisis and delay in providing text books for Grade 10 students, who are the first cohort of the new Competency Based Education (CBE) system to enter senior school in January next year.
- KPA chairperson, Kiarie Kamau recently said that the publishers are ready to supply textbooks for at least 35 learning areas for Grade 10.
- The textbooks have been scheduled for delivery between October and December 2025, ensuring that learners will have access to the materials at the start of the new academic year.
- The payment delay has left the publishing industry severely cash-strained and caused ripple effect throughout the book value chain including affecting printers and distributors.

Kiambu National Polytechnic Holds 5th International Research Conference On Sustainable Development

By: Felix Njenga
@themtkenyatimes

The Kiambu National Polytechnic (KINAP) hosted its 5th International Research Conference, a landmark two-day event that brought together 12 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions presenting research papers geared toward strengthening Kenya's industrial resilience and sustainability.

Themed "TVET: The Engine of Adaptable and Resilient Industrialization for Sustainable Development in Kenya," the conference attracted scholars, policymakers, industry leaders, and practitioners to deliberate on strategies that position TVET as a driving force for Kenya's sustainable economic growth.

Dr. Dina Changamu from the State Department of TVET, who graced the event, highlighted the government's efforts to integrate greening and sustainability in vocational institutions.

"We are integrating greening and sustainability practices into the curriculum. We are also greening our campuses, our communities, and research initiatives. This approach will help mitigate the challenges of climate change and prepare our trainees and trainers to embrace sustainability beyond tree planting," she said.

Dr. Changamu emphasized that such conferences are critical for sharing ongoing research and disseminating findings that inform policy and innovation in the TVET sector.

KINAP Chief Principal Sammy Waititu hailed the conference's theme as timely, noting that TVET remains "a cornerstone of inclusive and sustainable growth," equipping youth with essential skills to power Kenya's industrial transformation. He added that research-based strategies are key to aligning institutional goals with Kenya Vision 2030 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Deputy Principal for Planning, Administration, and Finance Dr. Jane Gitau expressed optimism that the research presented will attract funding to transform innovative ideas into viable enterprises, thus creating employment and fostering industrial competitiveness.

The conference featured critical sub-themes such as Modularization of CBET for Flexible and Lifelong Learning Pathways, Digital Transformation in TVET, and Greening for Environmental Sustainability.

Among the notable research presentations were; Modularized CBET for Adaptable Development – by Isaac Nyakundi Mokaya, exploring how modularized Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) can enhance employability and labor market



Dr. Dina Changamu from department of TVETs awards Dr. Jane Gitau KINAP Deputy Principal with a certificate for presenting research papers on sustainable waste management during the 5th international research conference held at the institution.

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responsiveness, despite challenges like limited infrastructure and weak industry linkages.

Harnessing AI in TVET; by Brian Gekonge, examining how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can personalize learning and enhance training simulations, while calling for a comprehensive national AI strategy to overcome technological and ethical barriers.

Sustainable Waste Management at KINAP; by Dr. Jane Gitau and Timothy Warari, revealing challenges in waste segregation and disposal. The study recommends strengthened

waste management systems, recycling initiatives, and training to position polytechnics as models of environmental stewardship.

Deputy Principal for Academic and Quality Assurance Mr. Isaac Nyakundi Mokaya reaffirmed KINAP's commitment to quality assurance, emphasizing the institution's focus on producing "competent, resilient, and adaptable graduates ready to contribute meaningfully to national development."

Head of Research and Innovations Mr. Peter Kirui lauded the level of

engagement and quality of papers presented, expressing confidence that the conference outcomes will "stimulate robust discussions and innovative policy recommendations" to advance TVET excellence in Kenya.

Selected papers from the conference will be published in a journal, ensuring the dissemination of new knowledge and cementing KINAP's role as a hub for research-driven sustainable development in the TVET sector.



KINAP trainees showcase different types of innovations they have produced during the 5th international research conference.

14 POEMS

This Day I Was Born



The day I was born
With great hurdles and struggles.

My parents were happily drawn.
To hold this daughter in their arms.
I was respectfully and comfortably brought up
as crown.
Amidst the kindness and loyalty thrown.
Her mind enriched with service and writings.
Bonded to bring a calm milestone.
That brings among Family and Friends a
peaceful tone.
Proudly I have a lovable partner and children as
gemstone.
That makes me blessed throughout my life
zone.

Susi Jean R
Trivandrum
Kerala

When A Boy And A Girl Smiles And Chats



When a boy and a girl smiles and chats
Their innocent smile, sparks a different view,
Their casual talk, is interpreted differently
A world sees in a different view
Balance it in a delicate manner

This is A special bond.

It is a connection so pure and true,
But unwanted sparks, may also ignite, worry not
Laughter echoes, a joyous sound,
This relation weaves, a genuine Friendship

As long as it stays, within bounds
It's a beautiful bond,
It is a gift
It doesn't see caste, creed, colour, or disparity,
It is a connection of hearts,
It lays in perfect harmony.

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

Perceptions



The announcement of the holiday makes
students and parents feel different.

The same bell sound makes different emotions
In the morning and evening in school.

The horn of the school van makes students
and parents feel different.

Exams at school make the students and
parents feel different hardships.

Entering the school makes the students and
the teachers feel different.

Rain after entering into the school makes the
students and teachers feel different .

But giving awards to students makes
Everyone feels happy with a joyful mood.
_Rajesh Kanna B N

I am Rajesh Kanna B N
B T Asst,
From Government Model High School, Tirur.
Tiruvallur District.
Tamil Nadu. India.

My Hero Is My Father



Father... This word embodies so much
responsibility. Those who have parents in this
world are the happiest people. If a person's
parents are his life, he will live without any
worries. A father is a great person who works
hard for the development of his child and works
tirelessly for his child's future.

A father is the support of life and the pillar
of the family. A son or daughter who grows
up under the care of a father can be an
example to everyone. I am not trying to belittle
people without fathers or say that they are
uneducated. Some people who lose their fathers
early may be a thousand times better than those
who do not appreciate their fathers.

The father is the foundation of the family, the
spiritual support and the guide of the child's life.
Appreciating, respecting and showing love to him
is necessary not only for humanity, but also for
the stability of society. In today's world, adapting
the role of the father in life to new conditions
and enriching father-child relationships will serve
to raise the morale of the future generation.
I found it permissible to write about my father
in this article. My father is the eternal light of
my life. Their place in life is incomparable and

beyond description. Some say that a girl is more
intimate and friendly with her mother. But I am
close not only with my mother, but also with my
father, just as close as I was with my mother. I
don't know if it's because I'm the youngest of
the girls in the family, but it seems to me that
my father loves me more than my sisters. It
may seem like it to me, but for parents, all their
children are equally dear and valuable. My first
love is my father. I promised myself not to betray
him until my father agreed, and if I did, I would
be ungrateful to my parents. Until I reached this
age, I had never heard my parents say: "Don't
worry, daughter, I will get this next time." I often
heard them say: "Daughter, study, study, work
on yourself. We will create all the conditions
for you." Their words give me a lot of joy and
motivation. The mere presence of my parents
gives me a lot of happiness.

Valuing and treating fathers with respect has
been a tradition of the Uzbek people since
ancient times. There are even a number of
thoughts and works about the times when
mothers acted as mediators between fathers
and children. However, in today's developed era, a
sense of freedom has begun to emerge between
fathers and children. It is important not to forget
the limits of this freedom. Everything within its
limits is a light upon light.

In conclusion, I would like to say that it is
important to appreciate your parents before it is
too late. But, unfortunately, most young people
realize this very late.

Omondurdiyeva Marjona was born on December
9, 2007 in the Khorezm region of the Republic of
Uzbekistan. She first studied at an ordinary rural
school, and then studied at a city school for 5
years, graduating with honors. She is currently a
first-year student at the Faculty of Philology and
Arts of Urgench State University in the Khorezm
region. To this day, she is interested in reading
books and writing essays independently.

Bliss of The Light Fest



Times admiring the gleaming, radiant light,
Bringing jubilation and contentment, celestial
and bright!
Crackers bursting, echoing chaos throughout
the night,
Smiles and luminous diyas scattered across the
sight,
Children, teens, and adults, all transcendent
with delight.

Gulab Jamuns, Rasagullas, amid this ethereal
glow,
A Festival aesthetic, before aesthetics we even
know!
Culture and harmony, combined in one splendid
show,
Lotus-like mirth that forever continues to
grow,
Everlasting excitement, like rivers that flow.

Crackers here and there, thrills in the glowing
fire,
From children to grandparents, hearts awaken
with desire!
Happiness spreading like wildfire, moments that

inspire,
Everyone sharing kindness, kindling dreams that
never expire,
The whole nation united, singing like an ethereal
choir.

A festival loved by all, it doesn't bring joy, it is
joy,
With tradition, culture, kindness, euphoria, and
unity to employ.
Amidst it all, safety first, then freedom to
enjoy,
Some courageous, some cautious, children
playing with a toy,
A celebration so vibrant, bidding it 'bye' is hard
to deploy.

Light escaping like sunlight through fog in the
dark,
A wonder for heart and mind, it ignites a spark.
Everyone waiting, excited, for the grand
journey to embark,
This day, colorfully and splendidly marked on the
calendar as a hallmark,
With beauty and safety, let the fireworks soar
in a brilliant arc!

-K.A.Santhoshi
8th std
Government Model Girls Higher Secondary
School, Komarapalayam,
Namakkal district, 638183.

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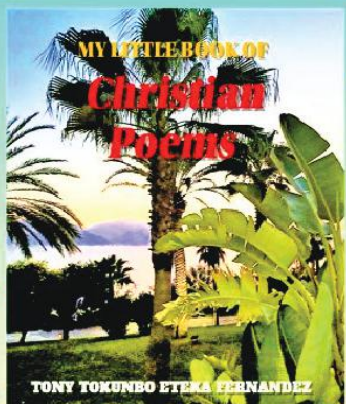
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AGRIBUSINESS

Farmers In Murang'a County Are Experiencing Losses Due To The Recent Depressed Rains

By: KNA

[@themtkenyetimes](#)



A farmer irrigating her crops.

Worth Noting:

- Thus, farmers are now hoping that the rains will resume in the coming weeks to allow them to replant. However, some worry that delayed rains may not support crops to maturity before the end of the season.
- However, reduced harvests may not only threaten food security but also increase food prices, further straining household budgets.
- Julius Maina, a small-scale farmer from Maragua, says he had planted maize and beans two weeks ago, when the first rains fell.
- "The crops germinated and sprouted well, but after a few days the rains disappeared and the young plants dried up, the soil has died up completely and the young crops have withered," he said.

The October-December rains have failed to sustain germinating crops, causing a loss of early planters and posing a threat to the region's food security.

The Kenya Meteorological Department predicted drought in Central Kenya, urging farmers to grow drought-tolerant crops, but many had already planted by the time the rains subsided just two weeks later.

Thus, farmers are now hoping that the rains will resume in the coming weeks to allow them to replant. However, some worry that delayed rains may not support crops to maturity before the end of the season.

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"The crops germinated and sprouted

well, but after a few days the rains disappeared and the young plants dried up, the soil has died up completely and the young crops have withered," he said.

"We however are hopeful that the rains will return even though it's a huge loss because I will have to purchase more seeds to re-plant" Now I have to buy new seeds if the rains return," Maina lamented.

Another farmer, Sarah Njeri from Kiharu, invested in tomatoes and capsicum, hoping to take advantage of the early showers. She says the dry spell has frustrated her efforts.

"Tomatoes require consistent watering, and I solely rely on rainfall. I had spent over Sh30,000 on seedlings, fertilizer, and labour, but nearly everything is drying up," said Njeri, adding that irrigation is too costly for smallholders.

In Kimorori, David Mwangi, a horticultural farmer, says he planted 500 Rudolph Hass avocado and passion

fruit seedlings during Mazingira day as part of a reforestation and agribusiness initiative.

"I invested heavily in seedlings and manure, but almost all are drying up despite my attempts to water them. The sun has been too harsh," Mwangi said.

Unfortunately, the situation has left many farmers uncertain about replanting, as they weigh the risk of further losses if the rains remain erratic.

Murang'a County Director of Meteorology, Peter Karanja, had confirmed that the region is experiencing below-average rainfall, noting that such conditions could worsen food insecurity if the pattern persists.

Farmers are advised to consult agricultural extension officers for suitable crop varieties, water conservation techniques, and consider short-season crops like sorghum, millet, and green grams.

Meanwhile, agricultural experts

warn that the depressed rains could lead to a decline in crop yields, particularly maize, beans, and vegetables, which are the county's staple foods.

"Many families depend on small farms for daily food supply. When crops fail, people not only lose income but also face nutritional challenges," said Michael Mwaniki, a local agricultural officer.

Normally, the short rains between October and December are crucial for most farmers in Murang'a and other central counties, sustaining maize, beans, and horticultural crops, before the long rains begin in March.



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The Servant Statesman: How Harison Ochieng Yogo Redefined Public Service and Rose to National Heroism



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themkenyatimes

Every year on October 20th, Kenya pauses to celebrate its heroes on Mashujaa Day, a national holiday that honors men and women who contributed to the country's struggle for independence and those who have made outstanding contributions to the nation since. The day celebrates modern day heroes' individuals who have served with distinction in public service, education, sports, the arts, and human rights with the aim of promoting patriotism, remembering Kenya's history of struggle and resilience, and inspiring current and future generations to serve the nation selflessly.

According to the National Heroes Act, a hero or heroine is defined as any person who has made a positive contribution to the country or to humanity whose contribution deserves recognition and celebration, with the National Heroes Council responsible for identifying, verifying, and recommending individuals for recognition. The Act classifies heroes into several broad areas including liberation and freedom fighters, defenders of the nation, public service and leadership, science and innovation, arts and culture, human rights and peace, and community service.

On October 20th, 2025, 180 persons were conferred and feted as heroines and heroes, and among them stood a name that has become synonymous with transformative public service Harison Ochieng Yogo, the Huduma Centre Manager in Mombasa, recognized in the category of statesmanship. In a certification signed by His Excellency Dr. William Samoei Ruto, Yogo was duly recognized for his remarkable work in statesmanship and conferred with the status of National Hero, a recognition that represents not just personal achievement but a testament to what public service can become when infused with purpose, innovation, and genuine care for citizens.

The recognition of Harison Yogo as a national hero comes at a pivotal moment when public trust in government institutions requires constant nurturing and renewal. The Huduma Centre, through its official social media channels, congratulated him warmly, acknowledging his outstanding service to the people of Kenya; a recognition that resonates far beyond the walls of any government office. Yogo's journey from a dedicated civil servant to a nationally recognized hero offers a blueprint for reimagining government's relationship with its people, demonstrating that excellence in service is not an act but a culture.

His work has touched thousands of lives across Mombasa County, where he has led strategic innovations that brought government services close-



Harison Ochieng Yogo

to masses. The recognition under statesmanship speaks to his exceptional contributions in advancing good governance, citizen satisfaction, and national unity through visionary leadership. His story proves that true leadership is born out of purpose, not position, and that every act of service, no matter how small, contributes to building the Kenya we all dream of.

In his acceptance speech, his words carried the weight of genuine humility and a profound understanding of collective achievement. "It is with deep humility and heartfelt gratitude that I stand before you today to accept this great honor," he began, immediately redirecting attention from himself to the larger community of public servants. He emphasized that being recognized as a national hero is not a personal achievement but a collective celebration of every public servant, partner, and citizen who believes that excellence in service is not an act but a culture.

His conviction that true leadership is born out of purpose, not position, has been the guiding principle of his career. He dedicated the recognition especially to his Huduma Mombasa staff, whose tireless commitment, professionalism, and teamwork have made the transformation possible.



Harison Ochieng Yogo certificate

Their unwavering effort and innovation, particularly through the Huduma Mashinani Initiative, have brought government services closer to the people and ensured that no Kenyan is left behind.

The year 2025 has indeed been extraordinary for Yogo, marked by a succession of recognitions that validate years of dedicated service and innovative thinking. In conversation with him following his hero status conferment, he shared that while receiving such recognition had been his

dream and desire, he did not expect it would come to pass so soon, though he believed it was always in the offing, coming at God's appointed time.

Earlier in the year, Huduma Centre Mombasa was recognized as the best performing Huduma Centre in Kenya, a milestone that reflected the

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The Servant Statesman: How Harison Ochieng Yogo Redefined Public Service and Rose to National Heroism

Contd from page 18

culture of excellence he had cultivated. Between June and July 2025, he was selected as one of the few Young African Leaders to attend the prestigious Mandela Washington Fellowship Program for Young African Leadership, where he studied leadership in public management at Wayne State University. "I feel honored, motivated, and inspired," he shared, reflecting on these achievements. "I still look forward to many more celebrations and gains before the year ends and years to come this is to say, God Above All."

When asked about what lies ahead after achieving this honor, Yogo's response revealed a leader whose hunger for impact remains undiminished by accolades. "I would like to sustain the gains made so far, keep the public service spirit, and continue impacting public service, empowering public service, and redefining and transforming public service," he explained with characteristic determination.

His words echoed the famous call of John F. Kennedy, as he declared, "I will not ask what my country will do for me, but I will be part of the people who will ask what we can do for our country Kenya." This philosophy of service before self has been the cornerstone of his approach to leadership. For Yogo, the recognition is not a destination but a launching pad for even greater contributions to Kenya's development. His vision extends beyond his current role, encompassing a broader transformation of how government serves its people. The journey ahead, as he acknowledged in his acceptance speech, demands even greater collaboration, creativity, and courage to reimagine how government connects with its people.

For young Kenyans aspiring to make meaningful contributions in public service and statesmanship, Yogo offers wisdom drawn from both historical leaders and personal experience. Invoking John F. Kennedy's immortal words "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country" and Mahatma Gandhi's insight that "the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others," he challenges the youth to be at the forefront of national transformation. "Let us as young people be counted as part of the people making meaningful contributions," he urges. "Tujitume sana, let us not wait to be shown the

way, but let us create and make that way." His message is both empowering and practical, acknowledging that young people possess the energy and time to make impactful engagement. This call to action reflects his own journey a path not of waiting for opportunities but of creating them, not of following established patterns but of forging new ones that better serve the nation's needs.

The Huduma Centre model, designed to restore public trust in government services, has been Yogo's laboratory for innovation and transformation. When asked about the most critical element necessary to maintain and deepen that trust, especially in the context of technological change and evolving citizen needs, his answer was unequivocal: customer service excellence. "This is treating citizens with dignity and offering services that are very responsive to their needs, making citizens feel valued and heard," he explained.

He emphasized the need to onboard strategic innovations that provide real-time feedback and tracking, making services more efficient and effective. If given the opportunity to implement one major policy or structural change across all Huduma Centres, Yogo would establish at least one Huduma Centre in all counties with all government and county services fully deployed for end-to-end services a true one-stop shop making all government services accessible comprehensively. Additionally, he advocates for a public service motivation policy that would continuously and intentionally appreciate the efforts of public servants who go above and beyond in service delivery.

Yogo's understanding of statesmanship in the context of his role as Centre Manager at Huduma Centre Mombasa is both profound and practical. For him, statesmanship means exercising visionary leadership, patriotism, integrity, and service beyond self in advancing the ideals of good governance, citizen satisfaction, and national unity. It involves demonstrating courage and commitment to transforming public service delivery through inclusive, ethical, and innovative leadership.

His embodiment of these qualities is most evident in strategic innovations like the Huduma Mashinani Initiative, which brought government services closer to marginalized citizens across Mombasa County, ensuring over 30,000 residents accessed essential services free of charge. Through this initiative, he fostered good governance and participatory democracy by enhancing citizens' trust and engagement with government institutions. His partnerships

with international institutions such as Wayne State University under the Mandela Washington Fellowship have advanced Kenya's image globally, reinforcing diplomacy, collaboration, and shared learning for better governance. His practice of statesmanship lies in leading with integrity, inspiring teams toward national transformation, and ensuring every citizen experiences the dignity of efficient and compassionate public service.

The measurable impact of Yogo's leadership on ordinary citizens speaks volumes about his effectiveness as a public servant. He takes particular pride in ensuring that Huduma Centre Mombasa operates and serves Kenyans with utmost excellence and dignity; service turnaround time has been shortened, customers are served with courtesy and respect, and citizens can access services closer to their homes.

These are not abstract achievements but tangible improvements in people's daily lives, touching on their fundamental needs and dignity. Sustainability of this impact, he notes, heavily relies on strong partnerships and collaboration with his staff who are the main drivers of this transformation. It also calls for more partnerships with other stakeholders like county governments, leaders, and various ministries, state departments, and counties. His recognition that sustainable change requires collective effort and institutional support demonstrates his maturity as a leader, understanding that individual brilliance must be channeled through systems and teams to create lasting impact.

Perhaps the most revealing insight into Yogo's philosophy of service comes from his definition of outstanding service and a pivotal moment that crystallized his sense of purpose. "Outstanding service is that which connects service with purpose," he explains thoughtfully. "For example, a customer who comes seeking a police clearance certificate; the service is certificate of clearance, but the purpose is seeking for a job to put food on the table, pay rent, pay school fees."

This profound understanding that every citizen walking into any government office for a service has an essence beyond the transaction itself has shaped his entire approach to leadership. He recounts a transformative moment in November 2023 when he organized a Rewards and Recognition event for his staff, where a temporary employee, not permanent and pensionable, won the Employee of the Year award. The gentleman's former colleagues



Harison Ochieng Yogo



Harison Ochieng Yogo trophy

expressed amazement that genuine effort and hard work could lead to such recognition, changing their perception of public service. When the awardee called home to share the news, his children were encouraged to do better, humbling Yogo with the realization that a simple gesture of recognizing staff had rippled out to impact families and reshape beliefs about the value of public service.

Harison Yogo's recognition as a national hero in the category of statesmanship represents more than one man's success; it is a powerful affirmation that public service, when executed with excellence, integrity, and genuine concern for citizens, can transform lives and restore faith in government. His journey from Centre Manager and being thrust into a national hero is not marked by grand political gestures or headline-grabbing announcements, but by the steady accumulation of small acts of service, each performed with the understanding that behind every document, every transaction, and every citizen seeking assistance, there lies

a deeper purpose worth honoring.

As he pledged in his acceptance speech, he commits to continue serving with renewed energy, creativity, and compassion, building a public service that truly reflects the heart and spirit of Kenya. His story reminds us that service is the highest form of leadership, that by uplifting others we uplift our nation, and that heroes are not always found on battlefields or in political offices; sometimes they are found at service counters, ensuring that no Kenyan is left behind. In recognizing Harison Yogo, Kenya has not only honored a dedicated public servant but has also illuminated a path forward for all who believe that government can and should be a force for genuine good in people's lives, proving that there is always an eye seeing our efforts and above all, an eye in heaven that sees and rewards faithful service to humanity.

The writer is a legal and social commentator.

What To Know About Japan's First Female PM, Sanae Takaichi's Ascent To Power

By: Xinhua
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Born in 1961 in Nara Prefecture, Takaichi was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1993 and has since held a series of senior posts, including minister of internal affairs and communications, minister for economic security, and vice minister of economy, trade and industry.
- A close ally of the late Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Takaichi is widely regarded as a staunch successor to his political agenda.
- The 64-year-old identifies as a hardline conservative and advocates for the restoration of traditional Japanese values and nationalist pride, emphasizing constitutional amendments, strengthening security and maintaining the imperial family's male-only succession. Takaichi had previously contested the LDP leadership three times.

Sanae Takaichi, leader of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), was officially elected the 104th prime minister of Japan on Tuesday after winning in both houses of parliament, a day after her party agreed to form a coalition with the right-wing Japan Innovation Party (JIP). With the JIP's support, Takaichi secured the prime minister's seat, becoming the first woman in the nation to hold the office. What is Takaichi's background? How did she perform in the parliamentary vote? What are the challenges facing the newly formed coalition?

Takaichi's Profile

Born in 1961 in Nara Prefecture, Takaichi was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1993 and has since held a series of senior posts, including minister of internal affairs and communications, minister for economic security, and vice minister of economy, trade and industry. A close ally of the late Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Takaichi is widely regarded as a staunch successor to his political agenda. The 64-year-old identifies as a hardline conservative and advocates for the restoration of traditional Japanese values and nationalist pride, emphasizing constitutional amendments, strengthening security and maintaining the imperial family's male-only succession. Takaichi had previously contested the LDP leadership three times. After unsuccessful bids in 2021 and 2024, she claimed the presidency this October by defeating Shinjiro Koizumi in the final round of voting. Shortly after, however, she faced her first challenge as leader when the LDP lost its long-time junior coalition partner Komeito. Komeito chief Tetsuo Saito announced the decision to terminate his party's 26-year partnership with the LDP, citing the ruling party's "insufficient" response to a high-profile political funds scandal. Takaichi was elected LDP president on Oct. 4. The prime ministerial designation vote was originally scheduled for Oct. 15 but was postponed to Oct. 21 as uncertainty following Komeito's departure cast doubt on whether Takaichi could secure enough parliamentary support in the race.

Victory In Both Houses

According to Japanese law, the election of a new prime minister is held in separate votes in both houses of the Diet, Japan's parliament. In each chamber, if no nominee wins a majority in the first round, a runoff will be held between the top two vote-getters. The choice in the lower house will prevail in the event of a split decision. To consolidate her votes amid political flux, Takaichi held negotiations with several opposition parties, including the Democratic Party for the People and the JIP. With the LDP's new coalition partner JIP ultimately deciding to back her, she was able to effectively lock in her victory on Tuesday's voting. In the 465-member House of Representatives, Takaichi secured 237 ballots in the first round, defeating head of the opposition Constitutional Democratic Party Yoshihiko Noda with 149 votes and other rival candidates.

However, no candidate secured a majority in the first round of the vote in the 248-member House of Councillors. Takaichi led with 123 votes, followed by Noda with 44. As a result, an unprecedented runoff for the upper chamber, the first in 13 years, was triggered between Takaichi and Noda, with Takaichi ultimately winning the race. In the new cabinet line-up, Takaichi offered major posts to her four rivals in October's LDP leadership race, signaling her intention to build party unity and ensure policy stability. Shinjiro Koizumi will take the post of defense minister, while Toshimitsu Motegi will return as foreign minister. The two others are Yoshimasa Hayashi, who will be tapped as internal affairs and communications minister, and Takayuki Kobayashi, already appointed as the LDP's policy chief. Among other key government positions is Chief Cabinet Secretary Minoru Kihara, a former defense minister.

Rocky New Alliance

The leaderships of the LDP and the JIP met Monday evening in Tokyo to formally sign the coalition agreement. Unlike the long-standing partnership model between the LDP and Komeito, the new coalition will take a relatively loose form, with the JIP



PM Sanae Takaichi

expected not to take cabinet posts for the time being. According to media reports, Takaichi had offered "several ministerial posts" to the JIP, a move that would deepen her commitment to the coalition, but the party declined the offer on the grounds of "lack of governance experience," apparently reflecting JIP's cautious stance. This move is widely seen as a "disengagement strategy" by the JIP. It is believed that the JIP intends to maintain a certain distance from the LDP in order to be able to withdraw at any time when there are policy differences or changes in public opinion. If it joined the cabinet, it would share responsibility for the budget bills and major policies, while remaining outside the cabinet would allow it to draw a clear line when necessary and avoid taking on political risks.

Meanwhile, the JIP's performance in both last year's lower house and this year's upper house elections fell short of expectations, jeopardizing

its position as the "third-largest party" after the LDP and the Constitutional Democratic Party. Moreover, a series of recent departures from the party by lawmakers have weakened its internal cohesion. The Asahi Shimbun reported that LDP top leaders are concerned that a lack of stability within the JIP could affect the sustainability of their cooperation. Regarding policy implementation, the Nikkei pointed out that the LDP-JIP alliance still falls short of a majority in both houses in the Diet, posing great uncertainty for policy implementation. This is particularly true given JIP's inclusion of reducing the number of Diet seats as a "nonnegotiable condition" for the alliance. Despite the LDP agreeing to parliamentary seat cuts, there is strong resistance within both the ruling and opposition parties. If this key proposition proves difficult to realize, "the prerequisite for the alliance may have already been undermined from the outset."

COP30 Brazil Should Listen To Women And Youth Voices

By: Ainembabazi Shallon

[@themkenyatimes](#)



Worth Noting:

- Across the continent, droughts have become longer and harsher, floods more frequent and destructive, and food insecurity more severe leaving more of women forego some meals for their children and husbands.
- Women especially the marginalised in rural communities are walking longer distances for water, firewood, struggling to grow crops in degraded soils, and facing heightened risks of poverty, exposing girl children to sexual violence such as rape and defilement and gender-based violence as livelihoods disappear.
- At the same time, African youth who hold the promise of a green future are grappling with unemployment, limited access to technology, and exclusion from climate decision-making spaces where their energy and creativity are most needed because they are drivers change.



Every year, the world's leaders, climate activists, academics, researchers and civil society gather for the Conference of Parties (COP) negotiations. These meetings such as last year's COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, and the upcoming COP30 in Brazil are meant to strengthen global commitments to tackle the escalating impacts of climate crisis. The agenda often focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, scaling up climate finance, and building resilience for communities hardest hit by climate change.

Yet, while the negotiations take centre stage, the people who bear the greatest burden of this crisis are women and youth who still often remain on the margins of these conversations and not given chance to participate and be heard. In Africa, they make up the largest share of the population and play essential roles in sustaining livelihoods through farming, water collection, caregiving, and innovation. But they are also the most affected by the climate shocks caused by fossil fuel dependency, deforestation, and extreme weather events such as floods, drought and

heatwaves to mention but a few.

Across the continent, droughts have become longer and harsher, floods more frequent and destructive, and food insecurity more severe leaving more of women forego some meals for their children and husbands. Women especially the marginalised in rural communities are walking longer distances for water, firewood, struggling to grow crops in degraded soils, and facing heightened risks of poverty, exposing girl children to sexual violence such as rape and defilement and gender-based violence as livelihoods disappear. At the same time, African youth who hold the promise of a green future are grappling with unemployment, limited access to technology, and exclusion from climate decision-making spaces where their energy and creativity are most needed because they are drivers change.

Additionally, women and young people are leading bold, innovative climate actions. They are championing clean energy solutions, developing climate-smart agricultural practices, and restoring degraded ecosystems. Youth are building re-

newable energy startups and using digital platforms to raise climate awareness and call for actions. These are the real climate champions of Africa quietly driving solutions that world leaders discuss in global halls.

However, their efforts are often invisible to the policymakers who negotiate on their behalf. Africa's voice at global climate conferences still tends to reflect government positions rather than community realities. The exclusion of women and youth from decision-making not only undermines climate justice but also weakens the effectiveness of global climate actions.

As the world turns its eyes to COP30 in Brazil, it is time for global leaders to listen not just to each other, but to those living at the frontlines of climate change. Women and youth must not be token participants they must be recognized and supported as equal partners whose experiences, innovations, and leadership are essential for achieving sustainable solutions.

Climate finance must also be restructured to reach local initiatives

that are already transforming lives in communities. Investments should prioritize community-based adaptation, women-led enterprises, and youth-driven innovation. Only that is when climate action can move from boardrooms to the real world, where change matters most.

The solutions to the climate crisis should not come from closed-door negotiations alone they should come from the collective wisdom and lived experiences of those who nurture the land, sustain families, and innovate daily against the odds. Listening to women and youth is not charity at all it is common sense. It is the only way to build a future that is not just green, but just and equitable.

Remember women and youth are drivers of change in communities. @COP30Brazil listen to us.

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SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *Harambee Starlets forward Violet Nanjala says the team is fully prepared and motivated to deliver victory when they face Gambia in the first leg of the final round of the 2026 Africa Women's Cup of Nations

Nanjala Confident Harambee Starlets Will Deliver Against Gambia



Violet Nanjala takes her last minute penalty against Botswana. PHOTO/Timothy Olobulu

Harambee Starlets forward Violet Nanjala says the team is fully prepared and motivated to deliver victory when they face Gambia in the first leg of the final round of the 2026 Africa Women's Cup of Nations (WAFCON) qualifiers on Friday at Nyayo National Stadium.

The Starlets, who have been in intensive residential training for over three weeks, are aiming to make a strong start at home before travelling for the return leg in Senegal next week.

Nanjala, who has been a key figure in the team's recent fixtures, says confidence and teamwork are at an all-time high.

"We've been training for more than three weeks, and morale is

high. The players are giving their best, and we're ready to win on Friday. We've prepared well, and we trust the process and the plan our coaches have put in place," said Nanjala.

Nanjala also appealed to fans to turn up in large numbers and support the national women's team, saying their presence in the stands can make a big difference. "We really need the fans to come out and support us just like they do the men's team. We won't let them down. We want to win here at home and carry that momentum away," she added.

The Harambee Starlets, led by coach Beldine Odemba, are seeking a return to the continental stage for the first time since

2016, when Kenya made its debut at the WAFCON in Cameroon.

The team's training camp has focused on tactical awareness, fitness, and attacking transitions, areas Nanjala says have shown great improvement.

"We've learnt a lot and worked very hard. This is a big opportunity for many of us to play at AFCON, and we are ready for it. We'll do our part on the pitch and leave the rest to God," she said.

A win over the two legs will see the Starlets qualify for the 2026 WAFCON in Morocco, which for the first time will feature 16 teams, with the top four earning automatic qualification to the 2027 FIFA Women's World Cup

in Brazil.

Capital Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Greg Snow will be out to secure his fourth title this season, as the PGK Equator Tour heads to the scenic Diamonds Leisure Golf Club in Diani for the 6th leg of the highly competitive 2025 season

Snow Out To Capture 4th Title As PGK Equator Tour Heads To Coast For 6th Leg

Greg Snow will be out to secure his fourth title this season, as the PGK Equator Tour heads to the scenic Diamonds Leisure Golf Club in Diani for the 6th leg of the highly competitive 2025 season, scheduled to run from October 23 to 26.

The event promises to deliver yet another exciting chapter in Kenya's growing professional golf story, bringing together top local and regional talent in pursuit of prestige, ranking points, and qualification for major global events.

Snow has been in imperious form, showcasing consistency and composure across multiple venues.

Hot on his trail and winner of the 5th leg at Nakuru Golf Club earlier in the month is veteran golfer Dismas Indiza, who is tied for second place with Daniel Nduva on the Order of Merit and eager to challenge for the top spot.

Adding a youthful spark to the field are the Kibugu brothers, Mutahi and Njoroge, both of whom continue to impress on the professional circuit.

With their growing experience and strong performances, they remain strong contenders for the title as the tour heads to the coast.

Speaking ahead of the tournament, Dr. Stan, Captain of Diamonds Leisure Golf Club, expressed pride in hosting the event, noting that it marks a milestone for the club and the Coast region at large:

"Diamonds Leisure Golf Club is deeply honoured to welcome the PGK Equator Tour to our course. Hosting this prestigious event is a proud moment for us and a testament to our commitment to growing the game of golf in Kenya. We are excited to see top professionals competing on our greens and to share this experience with our members and the wider golfing community."

The PGK Chairman, C. J. Wangai, emphasized the significance



Greg Snow has won 3 times.

of this leg in shaping the season's standings and preparing players for greater international opportunities:

"The Equator Tour has become a cornerstone for professional golf in Kenya, offering our players consistent competition and exposure. We expect to see exceptional golf this week as players battle for critical title and Order of Merit points. This tour is more than just a local competition—it is the road to the Magical Kenya Open 2026 and the Olympics 2028 qualifiers, giving our professionals a platform to showcase their readiness for global competition."

Beyond competition, the PGK Equator Tour continues to drive positive impact through its Tree Planting Initiative, a sustainability effort integrated into every leg of the tour.

The initiative aligns with global environmental goals and underscores the tour's commitment to environmental conservation.

Players, sponsors, and host clubs



Dismas Indiza Tee Shot.

come together to plant trees as a lasting legacy, ensuring that golf's growth in Kenya goes hand in hand with environmental protection.

The success of this event has been made possible through the unwavering support of corporate partners, who continue to champion the growth of professional golf in Kenya.

The PGK Equator Tour remains a beacon of excellence and oppor-

tunity for professional golfers in Kenya and East Africa.

As the players tee off at Diamonds Leisure Golf Club, all eyes will be on who rises to the occasion, with every stroke shaping the journey toward the Magical Kenya Open 2026—and, ultimately, the Olympic Games 2028.

Capital Sport

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Daniela Lustosa Levine , A Woman Who Inspires Change Through Fashion And Kindness



By: Anila Bukhari

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Daniela's story begins with her love for colors, fabrics, and design. From a young age, she was interested in how things are made and how they can be beautiful. She wanted to make clothes that everyone could wear, no matter their gender or age. That's why she became famous for designing unisex and children's clothes. Unisex clothes are those that can be worn by anyone, no matter if they are a boy or a girl. Daniela believed that clothes should bring people together, not divide them.

- Besides being a fashion designer, Daniela is also an economist. She studied how money and markets work. She wanted to understand how to help businesses grow and how to make sure that fashion and economy can work together in a good way.

Daniela Lustosa Levine is a special woman who uses her talents to make the world a better place. She is a Brazilian-American, which means she was born in Brazil and also has American roots. Daniela is very creative and works in many fields. She is an economist, a businesswoman, and a fashion designer. She cares a lot about helping people and taking care of the environment. Her life shows us how being kind, creative, and responsible can change lives and communities.

Daniela's story begins with her love for colors, fabrics, and design. From a young age, she was interested in how things are made and how they can be beautiful. She wanted to make clothes that everyone could wear, no matter their gender or age. That's why she became famous for designing unisex and children's clothes. Unisex clothes are those that can be worn by anyone, no matter if they are a boy or a girl. Daniela believed that clothes should bring people together, not divide them.

Besides being a fashion designer, Daniela is also an economist. She studied how money and markets work. She wanted to understand how to help businesses grow and how to make sure that fashion and economy can work together in a good way. She believes that fashion can be more than just pretty clothes. It can also be a way to help the planet and the people on it. That's why she always encourages the use of sustainable fabrics. These are fabrics made from materials that do not harm the environment. She thinks that fashion should be responsible and caring for nature.

One of Daniela's favorite

things to do is make bridal gowns. These are wedding dresses that are very special. Her bridal dresses are known for their beauty and quality. She uses fine embroidery, shiny pearls, and soft lace in her designs. But what makes her bridal gowns even more special is that she uses sustainable fabrics. She wants brides to look beautiful and feel good about their choices. Her dresses show that fashion can be elegant, luxurious, and kind to the Earth.

Daniela's work is not just about making clothes. She is also a leader and a role model. She wants other people to believe in their dreams and to work hard to make a difference. She refuses to be put into a box or labeled as just a fashion designer or economist. Instead, she sees herself as someone who can do many things and help many people. She believes that a free mind and a kind heart are the most important tools to create positive change.

Today, Daniela is the CEO of Brasilia International Fashion Week. This is a big event where new designers and talented people in fashion can show their work. She started this event to help young designers from Central America and other places to share their ideas. Daniela wants to give everyone a chance to succeed and be heard. She believes that when people come together through fashion, they can learn from each other and grow stronger.

More than just a designer and leader, Daniela is also an author. She writes books and articles about how fashion can be sustainable and how we can build a better future. She talks about the circular economy, which is a way of making products



Daniela Lustosa Levine

that reduces waste. Instead of throwing things away, we reuse and recycle. Daniela wants everyone to know that we can create a world where growth and caring for the planet go hand in hand.

Throughout her life, Daniela has faced many challenges. But she never gave up. She always believed that kindness, creativity, and responsibility are the keys to success. She hopes her work inspires others to be brave, kind, and responsible too. She wants young people and other women to see that they

can do anything they dream of, as long as they work hard and stay true to their values.

In summary, Daniela Lustosa Levine is a woman who uses her talents to make a difference. She designs beautiful clothes that are good for the environment. She helps new designers grow and gives them a chance to succeed. She writes about important ideas like sustainability and kindness. She shows us that fashion is not just about looking good, but also about doing good.

Her story teaches us that we should be creative, caring, and responsible. We all have the power to make the world a better place, just like Daniela. Whether through fashion, writing, or leading others, she reminds us that kindness and imagination can change lives. Daniela Lustosa Levine is a true inspiration for everyone who wants to dream big and help others along the way.