



Goons Raid Irungu Nyakera's Kisumu hotel
Fairways Hotel Kisumu was yesterday attacked by a gang of more than 100 goons who vandalised property and tied up security guards in the latest escalation of a dispute between the facility's operator and the building's owner, the Lake Basin Development Authority. **Page 10**



Outspan Global University Granted Interim Authority To Begin Operations
Outspan Global University (OGU) has officially received a Letter of Interim Authority from the Commission for University Education (CUE) **Page 18**

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Voice of the People

The Mt. Kenya Times

Daily ePAPER

Authoritarianism According to Muturi, the alleged campaign has been carried out through Felix Koskei, the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service

Muturi Alleges Ruto Plot To Take Over Nairobi Hospital



70 Years

The hospital operates as an entity limited by guarantee under the Companies Act and has long been regarded as one of the country's leading private healthcare institutions.



A political storm is brewing around one of Kenya's most prominent private medical institutions after Justin Bedan Muturi, leader of the Democratic Party of Kenya, accused President William Ruto and senior government officials of orchestrating a plan to take control of The Nairobi Hospital. In a press statement, Muturi claimed that the hospital, which has served Kenyans for nearly seven decades and is approaching its 70th anniversary, has been under sustained pressure from state actors over the past year.

Page 9

Justin Bedan Muturi

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Gachagua Pledges Free And Fair DCP Nominations To Kirinyaga Aspirants

BY MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua yesterday reassured aspirants from Kirinyaga County that the Democracy for Citizens Party (DCP) will hold free and fair nominations for all elective positions, ranging from Governor, Senator, Woman Representative, Members of Parliament, to County Assembly seats.

Gachagua met over 130 aspirants at the Wamunyoro residence, where he emphasized the importance of inclusive participation and adherence to party processes.

He urged aspirants to intensify recruitment of party members, noting that the upcoming nominations will rely on the party's members register. "The strength of our party lies in the engagement and dedication of its members," Gachagua said, highlighting that active grassroots mobilization will be key to a transparent nomination process.

Gachagua also encouraged aspirants to campaign diligently, warning that those who betray the Kenyan people or support perceived political adversaries, including President William Ruto, must be voted out. Analysts say the DCP is positioning itself to challenge dominant parties in central Kenya ahead of the 2027 general elections, with Kirinyaga seen as a critical battleground.

The DP's message underscores the party's commitment to internal democracy and accountability, signaling a focus on disciplined candidate selection and active voter engagement in preparation for the general elections.

This strategy aims to strengthen DCP's foothold in counties traditionally dominated by larger parties, while consolidating grassroots support ahead of the polls.

The meeting was attended by former, current and aspiring politicians seeking various seats.



Editor's Desk





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.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Government spokesperson Isaac Mwaura has clarified that ongoing activities at Karura Forest involve renovating an existing tree nursery rather than clearing new forest land. In a statement, he said the three-acre site is part of the Tree Biotechnology Programme Trust nursery that had not been maintained for some time. The renovation aims to support the government's 15 Billion Tree Campaign by producing two million seedlings. Mwaura noted that limited seedling supply has been one of the key challenges in achieving the national tree-planting target. He emphasized that no additional land is being taken from the forest and urged the public to ignore misinformation and sensational reports suggesting otherwise.



Outgoing National Security Advisor Amb. Monica Juma (front row, red blouse) and Acting Director-General of the Foreign Service Academy Amb. Patrick Wamoto (4th from left) join newly posted foreign service officers for a photo during the opening of a three-week pre-departure training programme at the Foreign Service Academy (FSA) in Nairobi on 10th March 2026. The programme prepares officers from the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs and other government agencies for diplomatic assignments abroad.



Former Chief Justice David Maraga has urged young people in Murang'a to register as voters in preparation for the 2027 general elections. Speaking in Murang'a town during the Ukutiba Caravan "Meet the People" tour, Maraga said the next election will be one of the most important in Kenya's history and will significantly shape the country's future. He noted that the caravan has already visited 19 counties encouraging citizens to take part in the voter registration process. Maraga emphasized that youth participation in elections is crucial in promoting accountability and fighting corruption. According to him, registering and voting responsibly is a civic duty that can help ensure transparent leadership, protect public resources, and give citizens a stronger voice in determining the direction of the country.



Aden Duale has warned health facilities contracted under the Social Health Authority not to deny patients treatment due to system downtime, saying such actions violate Kenyans' constitutional right to healthcare. He directed facilities to continue offering services during technical disruptions, warning that those turning away patients risk suspension or termination of their contracts. The CS issued the directive while meeting a delegation from Kenya Union of Post Primary Education Teachers at Afya House in Nairobi after more than 413,577 teachers transitioned to SHA. To improve service delivery, 425 senior officers have been appointed within SHA, with 367 deployed to counties. A 24-hour focal person will address urgent issues under the Mwalimu Medical Cover, alongside 47 county joint committees overseeing implementation.

Turkana Deputy Governor Dr. John Erus has urged increased long-term development financing and stronger private sector involvement to support sustainable refugee integration and strengthen host communities. Speaking during a meeting with the World Bank's Fragility, Conflict and Violence Mission, he noted that Turkana hosts over 300,000 refugees in Kakuma Refugee Camp and Kalobeyei Settlement, making displacement a long-term development issue rather than a short-term humanitarian concern. Dr. Erus reaffirmed support for the Refugees Act 2021 and the Shirika Plan but emphasized the need to strengthen county government systems. He also called for more investments in livelihoods, markets, and financial inclusion to reduce dependency and boost local economic opportunities.



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Energy The regulations promote efficient and sustainable consumption of energy to cater for growing demand.

Regulator Pushes For Greater Adoption Of Energy Efficiency Measures To Drive Sustainable, Cost-Effective Manufacturing

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyaintimes

The Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) has called on industries to adopt energy efficiency measures to reduce their operational costs while increasing production. Through adoption of existing energy efficiency frameworks, these companies can maintain or even increase their production levels, while consuming less energy per unit of production and hence reducing their energy cost.

The Energy and Petroleum Statistics report for the period June - December 2025 shows that the industrial category consumed 2,924.48GWh, an increase of 4.18% from 2,807.10GWh in a similar period in 2024. This category accounted for 49.25% of the country's total consumption. The Energy (Energy Management) Regulations, 2025, have therefore been put in place to set clear expectations for energy management across commercial, industrial and institutional facilities that consume more than 180,000 kWh of electrical and thermal energy annually. The regulations promote efficient and sustainable consumption of energy to cater for growing demand.



In his remarks at a meeting attended by chief executives and leaders from the industry and manufacturing sectors, the Principal Secretary in the State Department of Energy, Alex Wachira urged industries to invest in energy efficiency measures. "By so doing, industries will free up power, thereby creating what is referred to as virtual power plants". This, he said will lead to huge power savings to the country, and that power will be distributed to more factories, homes and commercial centres without having to invest in new power plants

Speaking during the meeting, the EPRA Director General Daniel Kiptoo Bargoria, said: "Among other things, the Regulations require that facilities conduct comprehensive energy audits once every four years, implement the recommendations and realise at least 50% of the projected savings, appoint a licensed energy manager and establish an internal energy management committee. These measures establish strong corporate governance practices that strengthen competitiveness, resilience and ESG performance."

In addition to the Energy Management regulations, the Authority has also put in place the Energy (Appliances' Energy Performance and Labelling) Regulations aimed to have electric appliances manufactured or imported into the country meet Kenya's Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS). These regulations are geared towards improving the energy efficiency of appliances such as refrigerators, air conditioners, lighting appliances and motors.

StarTimes Premieres Two Engaging Telenovelas To Drive Subscriber Growth



Myke Mwai Head of PR Content Syndication StarTimes

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyaintimes

StarTimes Media is leveraging premium content to strengthen its market position and boost subscriber growth in Kenya.

The company announced on Tuesday the launch of two new telenovelas premiering this March on Novela E Plus: It's Okay to Not Be Okay and the highly anticipated Season 3 of Gangs of Manila.

Speaking on the developments, Myke Mwai, Head of PR and Content Syndication, said the launches reflect StarTimes' focus on delivering compelling storytelling to attract, engage, and retain viewers.

It's Okay to Not Be Okay, premiering on 16th March at 9:40 PM, follows a devoted caregiver navigating personal challenges while caring for his mother, who suffers from Alzheimer's.

In contrast, Gangs of Manila, premiering on 28th March at 8:50 PM, offers high-octane drama that plunges viewers into Manila's dangerous criminal underworld.

Mwai said the move to en-

rich bouquets with interactive series highlights the company's content-driven growth approach.

"Investing in premium content is central to StarTimes' vision of delivering unparalleled entertainment while expanding our subscriber base, these shows are not only powerful narratives but also strategic tools to engage audiences, build loyalty, and reinforce our competitive position in the pay-tv market," Mwai said

He added that StarTimes has significantly invested in content promotion and marketing to maximize viewership, increase retention, and attract new subscribers across Kenya and the broader East African region.

He said StarTimes' strategy demonstrates a growing understanding of content as a business driver while positioning the company as a leader in the East African pay-tv market.

"By prioritizing diverse, high-quality storytelling and pairing it with aggressive promotion, the company is able to enhance brand value, expand market share, and reinforce viewer trust," he added.

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WORLD RECORD

Truphena Muthoni To Attempt New World Record By Hugging 1,172 Trees In 1 Hour In Brazil



Kenyan climate activist Truphena Muthoni hugs a tree in Nyeri County in December 2025. | Photo: COURTESY

BY Brian Kimani

[@themkenyaintimes](#)

Kenyan climate activist Truphena Muthoni is set to attempt another world record by hugging 1,172 trees within one hour in Brazil.

The planned feat was announced by Embakasi West MP Mark Mwenje in Parliament on Wednesday, March 11, as he introduced Muthoni to the House.

According to the lawmaker, the environmental activist will travel to Brazil on March 22, 2026, where she will also engage with indigenous communities as part of her climate advocacy efforts.

Mwenje noted that in order to achieve the record, Muthoni will have to hug each tree in approximately two to three seconds.

"Truphena will be travelling to Brazil on March 22, 2026, to engage with indigenous communities and is trying to set another record by hugging 1,172 trees within one hour, which will take her about two to three seconds per tree,"

Mwenje stated.

The legislator also highlighted Muthoni's role as an ambassador for the government's 15-billion tree planting campaign.

"More importantly, she's the ambassador for the government, appointed by His Excellency President William Ruto, for planting 15 billion trees by 2032," he added.

Muthoni first gained national attention after hugging a tree for 72 hours in Nyeri County.

The Guinness World Records later ratified the feat, confirming that she had surpassed the previous record of 48 hours, a benchmark she had set earlier in 2025.

Since then, Muthoni has gained recognition for her environmental advocacy, particularly her efforts to promote reforestation and the preservation of indigenous tree species.

The current Guinness World Book of Records for most trees hugged in one hour is 1,123 and was achieved by Abubakar Tahiru (Ghana), in Auburn, Alabama, USA, on 25 March 2024.



Elect Leaders With Integrity, Mwangi Box Advises

BY Charles Kinyua

[@themkenyaintimes](#)

The recent flush floods in the city that led to the deaths of close to 50 Kenyans was largely a result of poor planning due leadership without integrity.

Speaking during an interview on Inooro TV with host Kamau Kangethe, Nyeri county government Chief Officer in charge of Solid Waste Management George Mwangi Box challenged Kenyans to elect leaders with proven leadership skills and not those that prop up like mushrooms months to elections.

"When we elect people who have no trace of integration with those they aspire to lead will always lead to upside-down priorities," observed Box.

He said that our drainage systems are shoddily done even as he advised wananchi to make waste management everyone's responsibility as reckless disposal affects all of us.

Governments at both levels should set aside funds for citizens sensitisation as clog-

ging of our drainage systems negatively affects all of us and costs the government immense resources righting the recklessness.

The county chief officer who has declared his interest in representing Nyeri Town constituency urged the electorate to only elect leaders who have been tested and proven worth of leadership over time but not johnnie-come-latelies who come with enticing goodies and later disappearing to wherever they had come from.

"Citizens should be wary of aspirants who appear around this time with donations to

“

“When we elect people who have no trace of integration with those they aspire to lead will always lead to upside-down priorities,” observed Box.

churches, bursaries and hand-outs yet they are not even sure of the sources of the funds,” advised Box.

Citizens, he advised should demand for services that add value to their everyday lives but not short term gains that end up multiplying their miseries.

Disposal of solid waste has been a major challenge to the county government as sub-counties object to waste from other sub-counties being disposed off in their areas.

The best way of dealing with waste management is making it an individual responsibility for by separating organic and inorganic waste at source as well as utilising disposal bins effectively”, opined Mwangi who has service the Nyeri county government since inception.

He started as the personal assistant to the first deputy governor Samwel Wamathaa and later as a subcounty administrator who is the equivalent of a DO in the provincial administration.

He was later promoted to a chief officer where he has served in three departments.

Tyranny Muturi claimed that the hospital has been under sustained pressure from state actors over the past year.

Muturi Alleges Ruto Plot To Take Over Nairobi Hospital

BY MKT REPORTER

@themkenyatimes

A political storm is brewing around one of Kenya's most prominent private medical institutions after Justin Bedan Muturi, leader of the Democratic Party of Kenya, accused President William Ruto and senior government officials of orchestrating a plan to take control of The Nairobi Hospital.

In a press statement, Muturi claimed that the hospital, which has served Kenyans for nearly seven decades and is approaching its 70th anniversary, has been under sustained pressure from state actors over the past year.

The hospital operates as an entity limited by guarantee under the Companies Act and has long been regarded as one of the country's leading private healthcare institutions.

According to Muturi, the alleged campaign has been carried out through Felix Koskei, the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service, who he claims has overseen a series of intimidation tactics directed at the hospital's Board of Management. Muturi said the pressure has been exerted either directly or through the board chairman, Dr Barkley Mogere Onyambu, a consultant gynecologist and elder in the Seventh-day Adventist Church based in Karen.

Muturi alleged that the conflict intensified around March 25, 2025, when the board was forced into a controversial restructuring that saw seven members co-opted and seven others removed.

He claimed the changes followed sustained pressure and political interference.

The dispute later drew in several state agencies after Dorcus Oduor of the Office of the Attorney General of Kenya allegedly directed an inquiry into the affairs of the hospital despite it being a private institution. The inquiry reportedly involved multiple agencies including the Directorate of Criminal Investigations, the Kenya Revenue Authority, the Financial Reporting Centre, the Registrar of Companies, and the Assets Recovery Agency.

Muturi further alleged that several hospital directors were summoned

to the headquarters of the Directorate of Criminal Investigations, where investigators reportedly issued summonses that introduced police officers as inspectors under the Companies Act. The investigation team was said to have been led by SP Peace Maithya and Chief Inspector Martin Munene. Muturi claimed that the process included raids on the homes of some directors in what he described as attempts to pressure them into resigning.

The directors responded by seeking legal protection and obtained anticipatory bail orders from the courts, which remain in force. At the same time, a planned Annual General Meeting of the Kenya Hospital Association was halted by the courts pending determination of an ongoing legal dispute.

Muturi said that because several directors had ceased holding office for various reasons, the board later co-opted additional members to serve temporarily until the AGM could be held. Among those reportedly brought in were Moses Ondaba, a director at State House; Sylvester Kasuku, an adviser to the president and former director-general of the



According to Muturi, the alleged campaign has been carried out through Felix Koskei, the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service, who he claims has overseen a series of intimidation tactics directed at the hospital's Board of Management. Muturi said the pressure has been exerted either directly or through the board chairman, Dr Barkley Mogere Onyambu, a consultant gynecologist and elder in the Seventh-day Adventist Church based in Karen.



President William Ruto

LAPSSSET Corridor Development Authority; as well as Philip Kisia, Chris Oanda, and Lekek Chebii.

The controversy escalated again on March 7, 2026, when Muturi alleged that the board chairman received an intimidating phone call from two officials working in the Office of the Head of Public Service — Dr Linda Musumba and Collins Kiprono. According to Muturi, the officials instructed the chairman to facilitate the resignation of three directors to create vacancies for three individuals allegedly proposed by the state.

The three individuals named in the alleged request were Mohammed Warsame, a judge of the Court of Appeal of Kenya; industrialist Narendra Raval, founder of the Devki Group; and businessman Jackson Chebet Kiplimo, associated with

Stabex International Ltd.

Muturi claimed that during a subsequent summons to Harambee House on March 9, the chairman was warned that failure to create the vacancies could result in directors being arrested and arraigned in court on allegations of money-laundering offences. He said the directors rejected the demand, insisting that they would wait for the courts to determine the legality of the delayed AGM.

Muturi further alleged that the Assets Recovery Agency had written to the National Transport and Safety Authority seeking restrictions on vehicles belonging to several hospital directors and managers. He questioned whether such actions were justified, asking whether professionals should be penalized for

owning vehicles even when acquired through legitimate loans.

In his statement, Muturi warned that the alleged events raised serious questions about the protection of private institutions in Kenya. He argued that if a private hospital could face such pressure, other independent organizations could be vulnerable to similar interference.

He concluded by reminding the government that respect for the rule of law must apply equally to everyone and that political power is temporary and should be exercised for the broader good of the country rather than used to suppress independent institutions or minority interests.

Goons Fairways Hotel Kisumu was yesterday attacked by a gang of more than 100 goons who vandalised property and tied up security guards

Goons Raid Irungu Nyakera's Kisumu hotel

BY William Muchiri
@themkenyatimes

Fairways Hotel Kisumu was yesterday attacked by a gang of more than 100 goons who vandalised property and tied up security guards in the latest escalation of a dispute between the facility's operator and the building's owner, the Lake Basin Development Authority.

The Hotel operator, Irungu Nyakera who is also a former Principal Secretary for the State Department of Transport, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development claimed that the attackers stormed the



Irungu Nyakera addressing the media in Kisumu yesterday.

premises at about 5am, gaining access through the neighbouring LBDA compound before forcing their way into

the hotel. Speaking during a media briefing at the facility in Kisumu, Nyakera said the group

overpowered guards, vandalised the restaurant and bar and stole equipment from the reception area.

"I heard noises coming from downstairs and when I came down, I found the place had been completely vandalised. Tables had been turned upside down, bottles smashed on the floor and the reception equipment, including computers and printers, taken away," he said.

According to Nyakera, one security guard had been tied up and locked in a room by the attackers, who allegedly used dozens of motorcycles to ferry reinforcements into the hotel after gaining entry.

"Some jumped over the fence from the mall side, took the keys from the security and opened the gate for the others. There were more than 100 of them, arriving on about 30 to 40 motorbikes," he said.

Nyakera said he fired shots in the air to scare away the intruders after they attempted to return to the compound a second time.



Fairways Hotel Kisumu

He further claimed police officers arrived several hours later despite being alerted immediately after the attack.

The incident comes weeks after a standoff between Nyakera and the LBDA over alleged rent arrears for the property, which he has operated since 2019.

The Authority had earlier at-

tempted to evict him from the premises citing unpaid rent, but Nyakera moved to the Business Premises and Rent Tribunal, which allowed him to regain access to the hotel pending determination of the dispute.

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PUBLIC NOTICE 4 MARCH 2026

Public notice is herebygiven by the Board of **MMV ASSOCIATES CLG** of the Annual General Meeting at Kakamega Golf Club on **27/03/2026**

Agenda:

1. Annual General Meeting
2. Elections of Wards, sub counties and counties leadership
3. Compensations

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Yours Faithfully

James Njuguna Mahuria
DIRECTOR MMV ASSOCIATES CLG



WRC Kenyan rally drivers Jasmeet and Ravi Chana have received renewed backing from energy and lubricants companies Rubis Energy Kenya and Castrol

Kenyan Rally Team Chana Brothers Receive Backing From Rubis And Castrol Ahead Of Safari Rally

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

Kenyan rally drivers Jasmeet and Ravi Chana have received renewed backing from energy and lubricants companies Rubis Energy Kenya and Castrol ahead of this year's World Rally Championship (WRC) Safari Rally, one of the toughest events on the global motorsport calendar. The brothers,

who compete under the CRS Racing Team, met fans, media and partners during a series of engagements in Nairobi as preparations for the rally gathered momentum. The activities began with a corporate cocktail in Nairobi, bringing together stakeholders from the motorsport and business community to celebrate Kenya's rally heritage and the role local drivers continue to play in the global

championship. Speaking during the event, Olivier Sabrié, Chief Executive Officer for East Africa and Group Managing Director of Rubis Energy Kenya, said the company's support reflects its commitment to Kenyan talent competing at the highest level. "Safari Rally is more than a race. It is part of Kenya's sporting identity and one of the most demanding events in global motorsport. Supporting



Kenyan rally drivers Jasmeet and Ravi Chana | Photo: Courtesy

drivers like Jasmeet and Ravi allows us to celebrate Kenyan excellence while staying connected to the communities we serve," he said. The engagement continued with a public rally car viewing and meet-and-greet at the Rubis Sigona service station, where motor-

ists and rally fans had an opportunity to see the CRS Racing rally car and interact with the drivers ahead of the rally. The Chana brothers, who are champions of the 2023 Kenya National Rally Championship, are among the Kenyan crews looking to make an impression in the Safari Rally, which is widely regarded as one of the most physically demanding events in the WRC due to its rugged terrain and unpredictable weather conditions. Ayhan Koksak, Vice President – Castrol Middle East, Turkey & Africa, said motorsport continues to play an important role in advancing performance and innovation in the automotive industry. "Safari Rally holds a special place in global motorsport because of the challenge it presents to drivers, teams and machines. We are proud to partner with Rubis Energy Kenya in supporting talented Kenyan drivers like Jasmeet and Ravi as they compete on this iconic stage," he said. Safari Rally Kenya remains one of the most anticipated events on the country's sporting calendar, attracting thousands of fans to Naivasha each year and drawing international attention to Kenya's motorsport scene. As the countdown to the rally continues, the Chana brothers say they are focused on preparation and determined to deliver a strong performance on home soil.





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Speaking during the event, Olivier Sabrié, Chief Executive Officer for East Africa and Group Managing Director of Rubis Energy Kenya, said the company's support reflects its commitment to Kenyan talent competing at the highest level. "Safari Rally is more than a race. It is part of Kenya's sporting identity and one of the most demanding events in global motorsport. Supporting drivers like Jasmeet and Ravi allows us to celebrate Kenyan excellence while staying connected to the communities we serve," he said.



KRA

KRA Deploys Body Worn Cameras At JKIA To Boost Border Security And Transparency

“Through sustained surveillance and intelligence-led operations, KRA has curtailed smuggling of restricted goods, counterfeit products, and narcotics, protecting revenue, local industries, and citizen safety,” Wattanga said.

BY KNA
@themtkenyatimes

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has launched body-worn cameras for customs and law enforcement officers at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) to en-

hance border security, accountability, and transparency.

KRA Commissioner General Humphrey Wattanga highlighted the role of technology in modernizing customs operations and combating illicit trade.

“Through sustained surveillance and intelligence-led operations, KRA has curtailed smuggling of restricted goods, counterfeit products, and narcotics, protecting revenue, local industries, and citizen safety,” he said.

The body-worn cameras will document officer interactions, improve situational awareness, and provide secure evidence for inspections, enforcement, and dispute resolution.

They will be deployed across land, sea, and air borders, as well as during cargo verification, patrols, and multi-agency operations at ports, transit sheds, and bonded facilities.

“These devices reinforce professionalism, accountability, and officer safety, while enhancing efficiency in high-pressure environments such as airports and land borders,” Wattanga explained.

The initiative complements KRA’s broader digital transformation, including non-intrusive inspection equipment, integrated customs management systems, and data-driven risk analysis, ensuring both secure borders and seamless trade facilitation.

“Modern technology is central to our operations. It helps us protect society, safeguard revenue, and support legitimate trade simultaneously,” he said, reaffirming KRA’s commitment to secure, efficient, and transparent border management.



KRA Commissioner General Humphrey Wattanga

The Mt. Kenya Times



The Woman



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People say it cannot be with Women!
She is the one made-up of all possible secrets
, holding secrets, saving secrets, remains a
secret...

How come 'She' is exploring
(experiencing)

Each role she takes !!!

She is so busy trying to get what she likes ;
That she forgets to like what she gets....

A women is not a tea bag ;
Don't dip her often in hot things ,
With every shatters in her step,
She empowered, unstoppable,
She takes her place at last.
Her strength is limitless, by her heart
Just to know how strong her will is !
Learn to respect and live with her in peace
Where there is a women ,
There's a magic always .

A man can do all things ; What he can do ,
But , A woman can do a man ,
And even things that he cannot do !
If you educate a man ,
He educate himself well .
If you educate a woman ,
She will surely educate a generation !
She rises, a phoenix from the flame,
Unbroken, unshaken,
she claims her name.

(SAVAAL SATHIYA)

Sathiya V

B. T assistant,
GHS Themmavur ,
Kunrandar Kovil Block,
Pudukkottai district .

Courage ✨



Courage is the strength to stand,
Even when life feels out of hand.
Through every fear, through every fall
The brave at heart can conquer all.
Be bold in heart, be firm and true,
No dream is ever far from you.

Step ahead, don't turn away
Courage lights the darkest way.
Fear may knock upon your door,
Courage tells you: fight once more.
Rise again, don't ever hide
Brave souls walk with fearless pride.
With courage strong and hope so bright,
You can turn the wrong to right.
Keep your faith and you will see
Brave is who you're meant to be.

By M.R.Hanshiga
VII-C

John Dewey Matric Higher secondary school
Panruti,
Cuddalore district, Tamil Nadu .

Silence Is The Best Answer To Someone Who Doesn't Value Your Words



Expectations lead so many complications
We should be very conscious.
Talking one word won't be enough
Talking two words is too much.

It's better to understand the need of

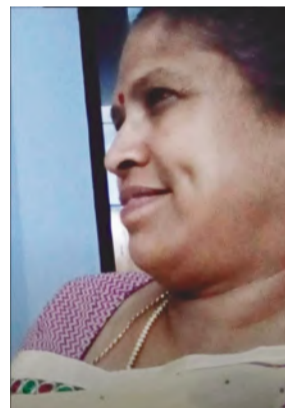
Closing our mouths rather than opening it.
Silence is the powerful tool
To gain the others trust.

Where should we open, should open up.
Where to keep silent, should be silent.

Rajesh Kanna B N

RAJESH KANNA.B N
M.Sc.,M.A.,M.A., B.Ed., PGD G&C, CELT.,
BT Asst
GMHSCHOOL,
TIRUR.
TIRUVALLUR DISTRICT.
Tamil Nadu. India
Creative Writers.

True Love Is Felt, Not Seen



Parent's/Teacher's love express the care
Verbal for the children's welfare
But flows with restrictions
As it's not felt but seen.
And self love is one's satisfaction

Also easily seen by desired acquisition.
But the true love is felt
When the two hearts melt
It's not seen
And felt deep within
Increases dopamine
As both chant 'your mine'
It's the conservative pleasure
With memories held as treasure
It's felt as respiration
Energizing oxidation
True love not only defines divinity
Stays beautiful unto eternity.

G.Sarala.
Creative Writers.

When Pencils Fell Silent -- The War



War on schools !
War on schools !

A slamming door or a moving chair is mistaken as
fight !

The war that gifted the children psychological
fright !

War on schools
War on schools

The massive casualties of the
Closest allies brutalities !!
"Sea of parents " outside the cordoned off areas'
silent match !
Are now on their beloved kids' funeral arch !
Oh you the world ink the peace treaties
To forgive and reconcile!
To make humane a high profile !

Thank you.

Poem by
Barathipriya K
BT ASST (English)
MMS MARKET MIDDLE SCHOOL WALAJAPET .
Ranipet district

Shattered Horizon



Like the shattered raindrops,
Desires shattered like the pieces of falling glass.

This world seems dark and screams,

Every shard reflects our dreams.
Our self confidence is the glue that binds the
broken,
A person's strength lies in their own confidence
awoken.

A. UMMU HABIBAH,
VII STANDARD,
CHENNAI MIDDLE SCHOOL,
CHETTIARAGARAM,
CHENNAI - 600 077,
TAMILNADU,
INDIA.

Agribusiness The commitment followed a high-level meeting convened on Tuesday by the Tea Board of Kenya Chairman Ndungu Gathinji

Kenya's Tea Leaders Unite To Protect Industry From Mounting Global And Local Pressures

Participants highlighted a range of pressures threatening the stability and competitiveness of the industry, including geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, rising labour and energy costs, tax burdens, climate change, global market volatility and continued reliance on a limited number of export markets.

BY MKT REPORTER
@themkenyatimes

Leaders across Kenya's tea industry have pledged closer collaboration with government and stakeholders to safeguard the future of the country's most valuable agricultural export amid mounting global and domestic challenges.

The commitment followed a high-level meeting convened

on Tuesday by the Tea Board of Kenya Chairman Ndungu Gathinji, bringing together chairpersons of key tea industry associations and companies to review the sector's 2025 outlook and identify strategic priorities for 2026.

Participants highlighted a range of pressures threatening the stability and competitiveness of the industry, including geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, rising labour and energy costs, tax burdens, climate change, global market

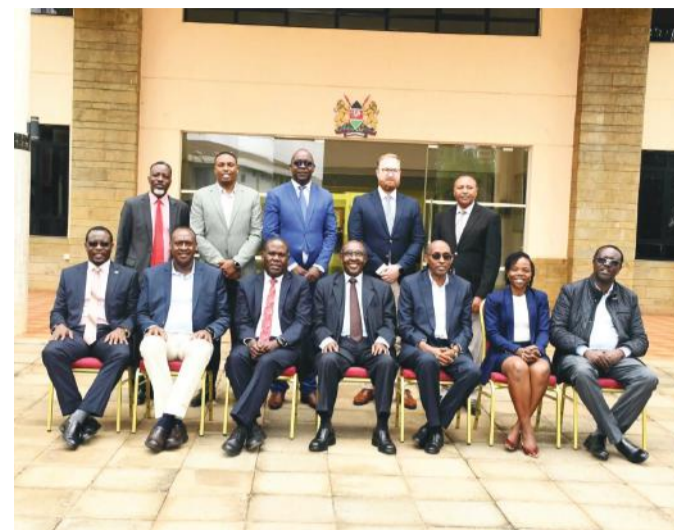
volatility and continued reliance on a limited number of export markets.

Industry leaders also raised concerns over the high cost of certification and the persistently low levels of domestic tea consumption, which leaves producers heavily dependent on international markets.

Among those attending the meeting were Willy K. Mutai, Chief Executive Officer of the Tea Board of Kenya; Hussein Abdi, Chairman of the East

African Tea Trade Association; Silas Njibwakale of the Kenya Tea Growers Association; Enos Njeru of KTDA Holdings Limited; Collins Cheruiyot of the Independent Tea Producers Association of Kenya; and Alfred Soi of Kipchichim Group, among other sector representatives.

During the discussions, stakeholders emphasised the urgent need for coordinated interventions to strengthen resilience within the tea value chain.



Tea stakeholders in a group photo after the meeting on Tuesday | Photo: Courtesy.

Key strategies proposed included diversifying export markets to reduce dependence on traditional buyers, implementing cost-reduction measures to address escalating production expenses, and accelerating the adoption of climate-smart farming practices to mitigate the impact of changing weather patterns.


Leaders also underscored the importance of promoting local tea consumption as part of efforts to stabilise demand and support producers during periods of international market fluctuations.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to work

closely with government agencies and private sector partners to implement practical solutions aimed at protecting livelihoods and sustaining growth in the sector.

Kenya remains the world's leading exporter of black tea, with the crop supporting millions of farmers and workers across the country.

Industry leaders expressed optimism that through unity, innovation and coordinated action, the sector will continue to thrive and maintain its global reputation for producing high-quality tea.



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10 point agenda At a fiery “Linda Mwananchi” press briefing yesterday, Suba South MP Caroli Omondi tore into the report, branding it “fraudulent”

UDA–ODM Report Sparks Fierce Backlash From Opposition Leaders

BY MKT REPORTER

@themkenyatimes

The unveiling of a joint 10 point agenda by the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) and the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) has triggered a political firestorm, exposing deep fractures within ODM and raising questions about the credibility of Kenya’s reform process. What was intended as a roadmap for national unity has instead become a lightning rod for dissent, with senior opposition figures dismissing the document as hollow, opportunistic, and a betrayal of Raila Odinga’s legacy.

At a charged “Linda Mwananchi” press briefing, Suba South MP Caroli Omondi led the assault, branding the report “fraudulent” and accusing its authors of deliberately ignoring the country’s most pressing issue—the soaring cost of living. “The question they ought to have answered is whether you feel better off today than three years ago. Does your shilling buy you more today or less? We don’t want to be told inflation has dropped from here to here,” Omondi declared, his voice rising as he accused the government of selling Kenyans a mirage.

Omondi also cast doubt on the credibility of the proposed KSh2 billion compensation package for victims of anti government protests. “Who knows how they arrived at that figure? Who knows the total number of victims? What about justice and accountability for rogue police officers who killed innocent protesters?” he asked, warning that the report betrayed the spirit of Raila Odinga’s struggle. “There must be a people’s report, not what you saw yesterday—a conspiracy of some sort,” he added.

Nairobi Senator Edwin Sifuna, ODM’s Secretary Gen-



Suba South MP Caroli Omondi

eral, offered a contrasting view, insisting the so called “People’s Report” was compiled through genuine public engagement. “We reviewed records, surveys, phone calls, emails, and parliamentary proceedings. This is not a conspiracy—it is the people’s voice,” Sifuna said. He argued that the document reflected grassroots concerns and was a step toward accountability. Yet his defense underscored the widening gulf between ODM factions, with one camp embracing cooperation with President William Ruto’s administration and another warning of betrayal.

Embakasi East MP Babu Owino was uncompromising in his criticism, accusing party colleagues of “mortgaging Raila’s struggle for crumbs of power.” He thundered: “ODM was built on defiance against injustice. To reduce Baba’s vision to a bargaining chip with UDA is betrayal of the highest order. We cannot allow Raila’s name to be used to rubber stamp political fraud.” Owino’s remarks resonated with younger ODM supporters who see the pact as a dilution of the party’s radical tradition.

Siaya Governor James Orenge, a veteran of Kenya’s pro democracy struggles, struck a more measured tone but warned of grave consequences if ODM abandoned its founding principles. “We

must ask ourselves whether this agenda inspires confidence in the people. If IEBC is reconstituted but still lacks credibility, then we are back to square one,” Orenge said. He cautioned that blind cooperation with government risked undermining the opposition’s role as a watchdog.

The controversy has laid bare ODM’s internal fractures. One camp, led by Oburu Oginga, Gladys Wanga, Opiyo Wandayi, John Mbadi, and Junet Mohamed, argues Raila’s “last standing instruction” was to work within government for stability and regional development. They have already begun exploring a pre election pact with UDA for 2027, citing the need to secure appointments and regional projects. But dissenters like Omondi, Sifuna, Owino, and Orenge insist the agenda is a political smokescreen that dilutes Odinga’s lifelong struggle for accountability and justice.

Political analysts note that President Ruto stands to gain significantly if ODM consolidates behind him, potentially offsetting waning support in Mt Kenya with a solid bloc from Nyanza and the Coast. Yet the backlash underscores the risks of alienating ODM’s grassroots base, many of whom remain deeply skeptical of government overtures. “Ruto’s strategy is clear—by

pocketing ODM, he hopes to replace his declining Mt Kenya support with a new coalition. But the resistance within

ODM shows this will not be easy,” said one analyst.

The debate also touches on broader questions of Kenya’s democratic trajectory. The reconstitution of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), touted as a reform milestone, has been met with suspicion. “They bragged that IEBC has been reconstituted, but has IEBC inspired confidence in the people? When there are questions on how the selection process was done, when there is suspicion of a close connection between those in IEBC and people holding high offices in government,” Omondi asked pointedly.

For many, the controversy is

about more than party politics—it is about the integrity of Kenya’s democratic institutions. The promise of compensation for protest victims, the credibility of electoral reforms, and the fight against economic hardship are issues that cut across partisan lines. Yet the perception that these concerns are being manipulated for political gain has fueled anger.

The stakes are high. ODM, once the beating heart of Kenya’s opposition, now faces an existential dilemma: loyalty to Raila’s legacy or proximity to power. The decision will shape not only the party’s future but also Kenya’s political landscape ahead of the 2027 elections.

As the dust settles, one truth is clear: Raila Odinga’s legacy has become the battleground for Kenya’s political future. Whether ODM chooses principle or expediency will define the nation’s democratic soul.




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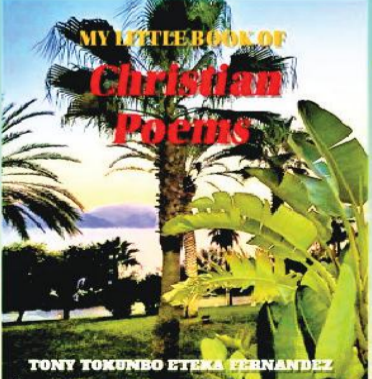
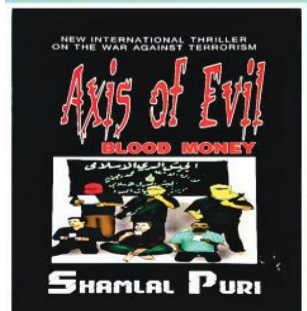
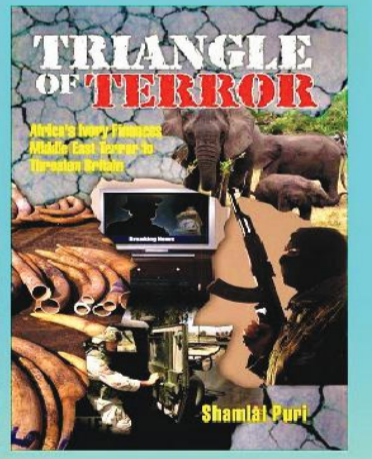
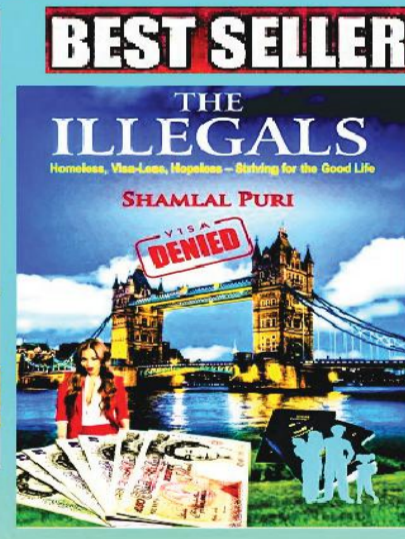
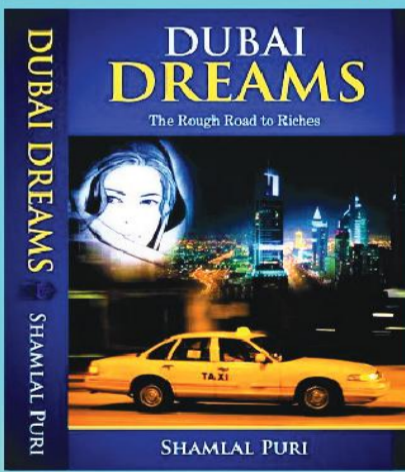
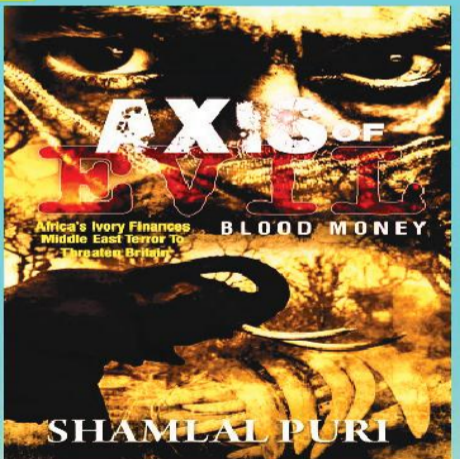
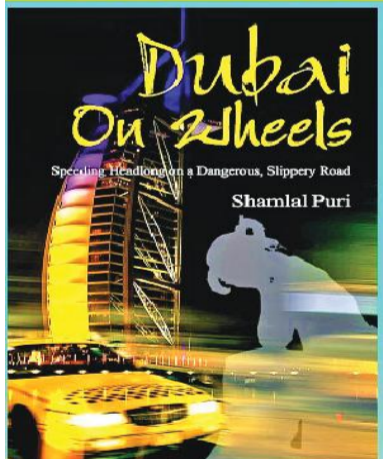
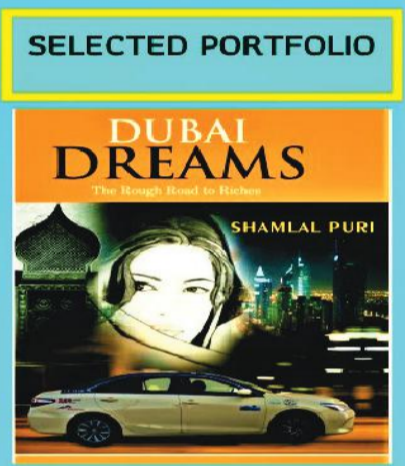
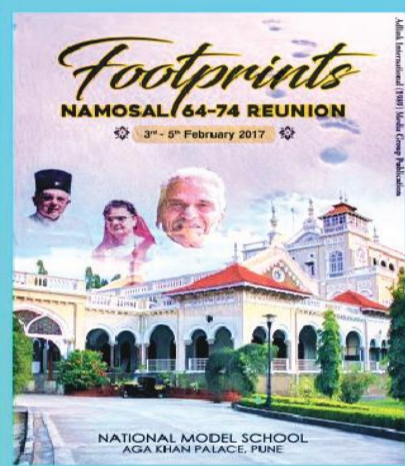
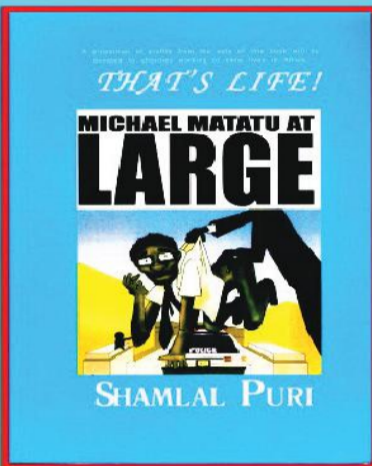
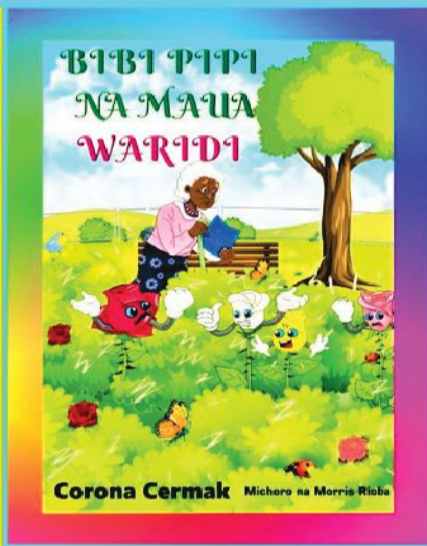
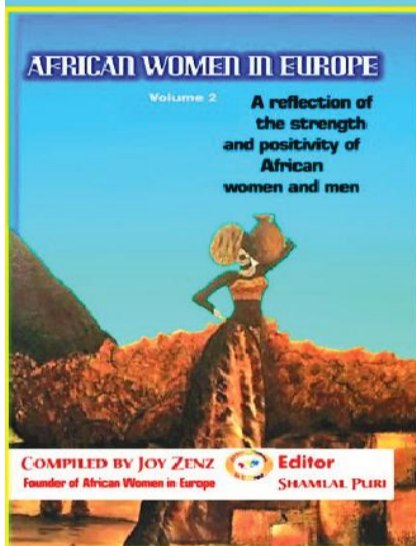
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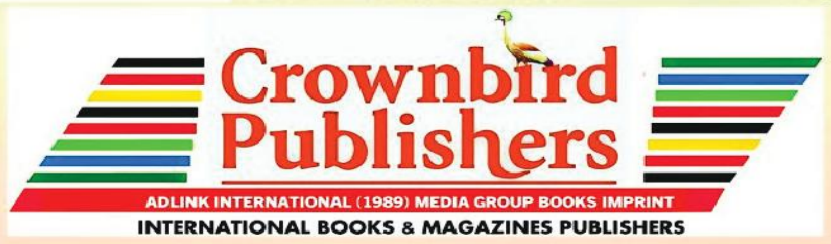
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Education With the approval, Outspan Global University becomes the 84th university in Kenya, signaling continued expansion of the country's higher education sector.

Outspan Global University Granted Interim Authority To Begin Operations

BY WMW

@themkenyatimes

Outspan Global University (OGU) has officially received a Letter of Interim Authority from the Commission for University Education (CUE), clearing the way for the institution to begin offering university-level education in Kenya.

The milestone was marked during a ceremony held at the university's main campus on the outskirts of Nyeri town, where Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe presided over the event.

The Letter of Interim Authority represents formal recognition by Kenya's university regulator that the institution has met the foundational requirements necessary to operate as a university.

With the approval, Outspan Global University becomes the 84th university in Kenya, signaling continued expansion of the country's higher education sector.

Speaking during the event, officials said the recognition affirms the institution's vision to build a university focused on addressing evolving healthcare needs while producing professionals equipped to serve both local and global communities.

The university is built on more than two decades of healthcare delivery and training through the well-known Outspan Hospital. Its founders say the existing hospital infrastructure will enable the institution to combine academic training with practical clinical experience.

"This recognition marks a significant milestone in our journey to establish a university that integrates academic excellence with hands-on healthcare training," officials from the institution said.

The university plans to begin offering degree programmes in Bachelor of Science in Clinical Medicine and Community Health, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

The programmes are designed to strengthen the country's health workforce while responding to ris-



From left: Outspan Global University founder Dr Macharia Kiruhi, CS Mutahi Kagwe and Commission of University Education CEO Mike Kuria. Kagwe represented CS Education Julius Migos at the event. Photo: Courtesy

infrastructure, experienced faculty and strong industry partnerships to deliver training that is both relevant and responsive to modern health challenges.

CUE Chief Executive Officer Mike Kuria said the Letter of Interim Authority is an important step in the process of establishing a fully accredited university, noting that institutions must continue to meet regulatory requirements as they grow their academic programmes and governance structures.

Under Kenya's higher education regulatory framework, universities operate under interim authority while they build academic capacity, infrastructure and governance systems required for full accreditation.

The ceremony attracted leaders from the county and national government as well as stakeholders in the education and healthcare sectors. Among those present were Deputy Governor David Kinaniri Waroo, who represented Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga, alongside university leadership and members of the institution's governing bodies.

ing demand for skilled healthcare professionals.

Officials say the institution will leverage an ecosystem of healthcare

Other dignitaries included Chancellor Marion Mutugi, founder Macharia Kiruhi, Vice Chancellor Paul Mungai Mbugua, University Council Chair Mathu Ndung'u, Chair of the Board of Trustees Gachahi Gitahi and Chair of the Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund Mary Wambui.

Leaders attending the ceremony said the new university is expected to contribute significantly to the training of healthcare professionals and to the broader socio-economic development of the region.

The institution also aims to position itself as a centre of excellence in healthcare education, research and innovation, focusing on developing professionals who are not only technically skilled but also compassionate and globally competitive.

With the interim authority now secured, Outspan Global University will begin the next phase of its development, including student admissions, programme implementation and expansion of its academic and research activities.

Education stakeholders say the establishment of the institution reflects growing investment in specialised training institutions that align higher education with industry needs, particularly in critical sectors such as healthcare.

University officials expressed optimism that the institution will play a key role in shaping the next generation of healthcare professionals capable of responding to emerging medical challenges both within Kenya and beyond.

“This recognition marks a significant milestone in our journey to establish a university that integrates academic excellence with hands-on healthcare training,” officials from the institution said.

The university plans to begin offering degree programmes in Bachelor of Science in Clinical Medicine and Community Health, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.



The Outspan Global University stakeholders and guests after the Letter of Interim Authority was handed over yesterday.

NSE The UK government committed USD 24 million (KES 3.14 billion) to the listing through investments from both the Private Infrastructure Development Group

Africa Logistics Properties Announces Strategic Investors In Historic Industrial REIT Listing On The Nairobi Securities Exchange

BY MKT REPORTER

@themkenyaintimes

Africa Logistics Properties Holdings Limited (ALPH) has announced the participation of two key international investors in its landmark ALP Industrial Real Estate Investment Trust (ALP REIT). The announcement came during a dedicated bell ringing ceremony to mark the official listing of the ALP REIT at the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) this morning.

The UK government committed USD 24 million (KES 3.14 billion) to the listing through investments from both the Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) and the MOBILIST programme.

As strategic cornerstone investors, PIDG has committed a total investment of USD 15 million, with MOBILIST investing USD 9 million, marking a significant milestone in the advancement of Kenya's institutional-grade industrial real estate sector.

The ALP REIT, approved by the Capital Markets Authority (CMA), is the first industrial REIT in East Africa and the first USD-denominated security to list and trade on the NSE. ALPH raised USD 29.55 million in the REIT, with the total listing valued at USD 39.95 million. This excludes USD 5 million of the overall PIDG commitment which will be invested as the REIT scales. These anchor investments supported ALPH in attracting a wide range of investors from the private sector, including local and regional institutional investors.

"This milestone underscores Kenya's growing capital markets maturity and the increasing attractiveness of industrial real estate as a sustainable investment class. The participation of PIDG and MOBILIST demonstrates strong international confidence in Kenya.



From left: Frank Mwiti, Chief Executive Officer, Nairobi Securities Exchange; David Wainaina, Head of Trading, Data and Analytics, Nairobi Securities Exchange; Kiprono Kittony, Chairman, Nairobi Securities Exchange; Ugas Sheikh-Mohamed, Chairman, Capital Markets Authority; Peter Irungu, Trader, Dyer & Blair Investment Bank Ltd (seated); Raghav Gandhi, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Logistics Properties; H.E. Diana Dalton, Deputy High Commissioner to Kenya, British High Commission Kenya; and Stephen Odua, Director of Industries, State Department for Investment Promotion, Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry, during the live trade of ALP REIT units on the main segment market of the Nairobi Securities Exchange in Nairobi yesterday.

Their support will accelerate industrial development, driving economic growth, job creation and sustainable infrastructure," said Raghav Gandhi, Chief Executive Officer of ALPH.

PIDG, a pioneer in mobilising private investment for sustainable infrastructure across Africa and Asia, is investing through its project development solution InfraCo.

Claire Jarratt, PIDG Head of Investment Management for InfraCo said: "Having anchored the establishment of REITs for affordable housing in Nairobi, PIDG is familiar with the REIT structure, and we know that it works to mobilise vital new sources of capital for economic development. We are delighted to expand this expertise into Kenya's industrial real estate sector by supporting ALPH to develop its ALP REIT. Today's listing marks a further milestone for the instrument in the East African market and is an endorsement of ALPH's strong governance and the sustainability of the business."

Ross Ferguson, Programme Lead for MOBILIST within the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office

(FCDO), said: "MOBILIST is proving that underwriting and anchoring first-of-their-kind public listings can unlock entirely new pathways for investment in frontier markets. In Kenya, creating listed products that domestic pension funds can invest in is essential to reducing their over-reliance on government debt and directing long-term capital to the businesses that drive growth. By demonstrating credible exit routes for development finance institutions through local listings, the UK is helping build deeper, more liquid markets that attract both domestic and interna-



The UK government committed USD 24 million (KES 3.14 billion) to the listing through investments from both the Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) and the MOBILIST programme.

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tional investors. This is how we turn public markets into a scalable engine for sustainable development."

"The debut of the dollar-denominated Industrial I-REIT is a historic milestone for our market," noted NSE Chief Executive Officer Frank Mwiti. "By bringing this asset class to the NSE, we are providing investors with a seamless gateway to Africa's industrial logistics sector, combining the stability of hard currency with the growth potential of regional infrastructure."

Since 2016, ALPH has developed two flagship industrial parks in Kenya: ALP North in Tatu City (50,000 sqm) and ALP West in Tilisi (20,000 sqm), providing modern, scalable industrial infrastructure to meet the growing demands of Kenya's logistics and manufacturing sectors. The facilities include large-format warehouses with advanced loading infrastructure, all built to IFC EDGE Advanced green building standards.

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War Iran's strikes on U.S. military bases across the Middle East partially destroyed key equipment and infrastructure in several regional countries

What To Know About Damage To U.S. Military Bases In Middle East

Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, the largest U.S. military command center in the Middle East, has been hit by multiple missile and drone attacks

BY Xinhua News Agency

@themtkenyatimes

Iran's strikes on U.S. military bases across the Middle East partially destroyed key equipment and infrastructure in several regional countries, with notably heavier damage reported in Kuwait. Most of the attacks were intercepted by host-nation air defenses, and the bases remain operational. Here is a quick overview of the reported damage to U.S. military bases in key regional countries:

Kuwait

Satellite imagery from Planet Labs confirms infrastructure damage at the U.S. Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait following Iranian strikes since Feb. 28, including to over a dozen structures, aircraft shelters, and areas near runways. At least six satellite communication radomes at Camp Arifjan, a key U.S. logistical hub in Kuwait, were destroyed, likely impacting U.S. Central Command networks, according to reports. The site, along with Camp Buehring, sustained damage from missile strikes, featuring multiple craters and burnt areas near facilities.- An Iranian drone strike on a U.S. makeshift command center near Kuwait's Shuaiba Port killed six U.S. Army Reserve soldiers on March 1. The Kuwaiti Ministry of Defense said Friday that it had intercepted hundreds of drones and missiles since the start of Iranian attacks on the country. While air defenses destroyed the majority, some incidents caused casualties and damage to facilities.

Bahrain

The Bahrain National Communication Center confirmed a missile attack on the U.S. Fifth Fleet's service center in capital Manama's Juffair area around Feb. 28. Imagery indicated significant damage to radomes, warehouses, and communication ter-



minals. The Bahrain Defense Force said Tuesday that its air defenses have intercepted and destroyed 105 missiles and 176 drones launched against it by Iran.

The United Arab Emirates

Satellite imagery indicates Iran's attacks on Al Dhafra Air Base, located south of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), caused significant damage to infrastructure. A compound, satellite systems, and radar equipment were damaged, but the base remains operational, according to reports. Iran also targeted the Jebel Ali Port in Dubai on March 1, a strategic hub for U.S. navy. The extent of U.S. military losses remains unclear.- UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan said on Saturday the country is effectively "in a state of war." The UAE's Defense Ministry said Tuesday that its air defense systems have detected 262 ballistic missiles, 1,475 drones, and eight cruise missiles since the start of what it described as Iranian attacks.

Qatar



Iran's strikes on U.S. military bases across the Middle East partially destroyed key equipment and infrastructure in several regional countries, with notably heavier damage reported in Kuwait. Most of the attacks were intercepted by host-nation air defenses, and the bases remain operational. Here is a quick overview of the reported damage to U.S. military bases in key regional countries

Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, the largest U.S. military command center in the Middle East, has been hit by multiple missile and drone attacks since Feb. 28, including from Iran. While Qatari defenses intercepted many threats, at least one missile or drone impact was reported, causing explosions, though no official casualties have been confirmed. Some media reports speculated that the main facility damaged at Qatar's Al Udeid Air Base may be the AN/FPS-132 long-range ballistic missile early-warning radar, valued at about 1.1 billion U.S. dollars. This critical radar provides early detection of long-range threats for U.S. missile defense.

Jordan

Iran's Tasnim News Agency reported Saturday that an Iranian strike destroyed a 300-million-dollar AN/TPY-2 radar system, a key component of the U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system, at Jordan's Muwaffaq Salti Air Base. CNN previously reported that satellite images from March 2 confirmed the radar was destroyed in the initial days of U.S.-Israel joint

airstrikes. Munitions specialist N.R. Jenzen Jones from Jordan said the loss of even a single AN/TPY-2 radar would significantly impact combat operations, and a replacement unit would likely need to be redeployed. Jordanian authorities have not publicly responded to the THAAD radar damage. However, the Jordanian army said on Saturday that 11 missiles and drones from Iran were not intercepted.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia has reported multiple successful interceptions of missiles and drones targeting the country's Prince Sultan Air Base, where dozens of U.S. warplanes are stationed. A satellite image on March 1 showed that at a radar site near the base, a tent previously used to shelter a radar system for a nearby THAAD battery was badly charred and debris was scattered around it, according to CNN reports. Saudi Arabia on Sunday warned Iran that continued strikes on its territory or energy infrastructure could trigger retaliation and lead Riyadh to allow U.S. forces to launch operations from Saudi bases.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Consequences Of Floods Happening In Nairobi And Other Parts Of Kenya

The floods sweeping across Nairobi and other regions of Kenya have unleashed a humanitarian and economic crisis that demands urgent attention.

As of March 2026, at least 25 lives have been lost in the capital alone, with over 25,000 people displaced. The deluge has triggered a public health emergency, heightening the risk of waterborne diseases in overcrowded shelters and submerged neighborhoods.

Infrastructure has buckled under the pressure. Major roads and bridges are underwater, forcing motorists to abandon vehicles mid-journey. Small-scale traders—many operating in informal setups—have seen their stock and equipment destroyed, wiping out livelihoods and hard-earned capital.

The education and healthcare sectors are reeling. Several schools have been forced to close, while hospitals report flooding damage that compromises patient care. Power outages caused by damaged substations have plunged parts of cities into darkness, compounding



the chaos.

This is not just a weather event—it's a wake-up call. Kenya's urban planning, drainage systems, and disaster preparedness must evolve to meet the realities of climate change. The cost of inaction is already being paid in lives, livelihoods, and lost opportunity.

The floods have exposed our vulnerabilities. Now is the time to act—not just to rebuild, but to rethink how we protect our people and cities from the next storm.

By Wambua Clinton, Laikipia University

Which ODM Faction Has Raila's True Wishes?

The battle for Raila Odinga's legacy has erupted into a full-blown political tug-of-war.

Since the death of the former Prime Minister and ODM leader on October 19, 2025, the party he built has splintered into rival camps, each claiming to carry his final directives. Raila, who for over four decades embodied defiance against injustice and the pursuit of democratic ideals, left behind not just a leadership vacuum—but a contested vision for ODM's future.

One faction, led by Siaya Senator Oburu Oginga and backed by Gladys Wanga, Opiyo Wandayi, John Mbadi, and Junet Mohamed, insists Raila's "last standing instruction" was for ODM to cooperate with President Ruto's administration. They've already begun exploring a pre-election pact with UDA for 2027, citing regional development and political stability.

Critics, however, accuse them of abandoning Raila's ideals for personal gain. They argue that ODM's alignment with Ruto is a strategic move to secure government appointments and a possible deputy presidency slot—an alliance driven more by power than principle.



Tensions escalated when Junet and Wanga accused former President Uhuru Kenyatta of stoking internal divisions. Kenyatta dismissed the claims as "baseless propaganda," warning he won't stay silent if provoked. Nairobi Senator Edwin Sifuna later apologized for disrespecting the former president's role in the 2022 elections.

ODM now stands at a crossroads: loyalty to Raila's legacy or proximity to power. The question

remains—who truly speaks for Raila?

By Otieno R. Okoth, Laikipia University

Teachers: Building The Future But Lacking Appreciation

In every classroom sits the seed of a nation's future, and at the center of that growth stands the teacher. Yet, despite shaping doctors, engineers, journalists, and leaders, teachers remain among the most undervalued professionals in Kenya.

Their work is relentless but often invisible. Lesson preparation, marking assignments, and tailoring activities for diverse learners happen quietly, away from public view. Because this labor is unseen, society underestimates the time, skill, and sacrifice poured into the profession.

Recognition is another missing piece. While medicine, engineering, and business are celebrated, teaching is too often dismissed as ordinary. This perception erodes respect and diminishes the value of a career that demands intellectual rigor, emotional resilience, and deep commitment.

The conditions under which teachers operate only sharpen the injustice. Overcrowded classrooms, scarce resources, and the constant balancing act of discipline and instruction stretch them to the limit. Yet, they continue to inspire, guid-



ing students to dream beyond their circumstances and achieve goals that transform families and communities.

Many successful Kenyans readily credit their teachers for sparking ambition and nurturing talent. That acknowledgment, however, rarely translates into systemic appreciation or adequate support. Teachers remain the backbone of national development, but society has yet to match its gratitude with tangible

respect.

If Kenya is serious about building a prosperous future, it must start by valuing those who build it daily. Teachers deserve more than applause—they deserve recognition, resources, and respect. Anything less is a betrayal of the nation's tomorrow.

By Mutinda Erick, Laikipia University

Growing Concern Over Suicide Cases Among University Students

The rising tide of suicides among university students is no longer a silent tragedy—it is a national alarm bell. Recent cases have shaken campuses and communities, exposing the fragile state of mental health support in higher education.

University life is often romanticized as a season of independence and opportunity. Yet beneath the surface, many students grapple with crushing academic pressure, financial strain, family expectations, and uncertainty about their future. For some, these burdens spiral into depression, anxiety, and despair. Tragically, stigma around mental health keeps too many from seeking help until it is too late.

Reports from several universities reveal a disturbing pattern: students who seemed outwardly stable were privately battling overwhelming distress. Their deaths have sparked urgent calls for institutions to strengthen counseling services, expand peer-support networks, and train staff to recognize warning signs. Mental health must



be treated not as a peripheral service but as a core pillar of student welfare.

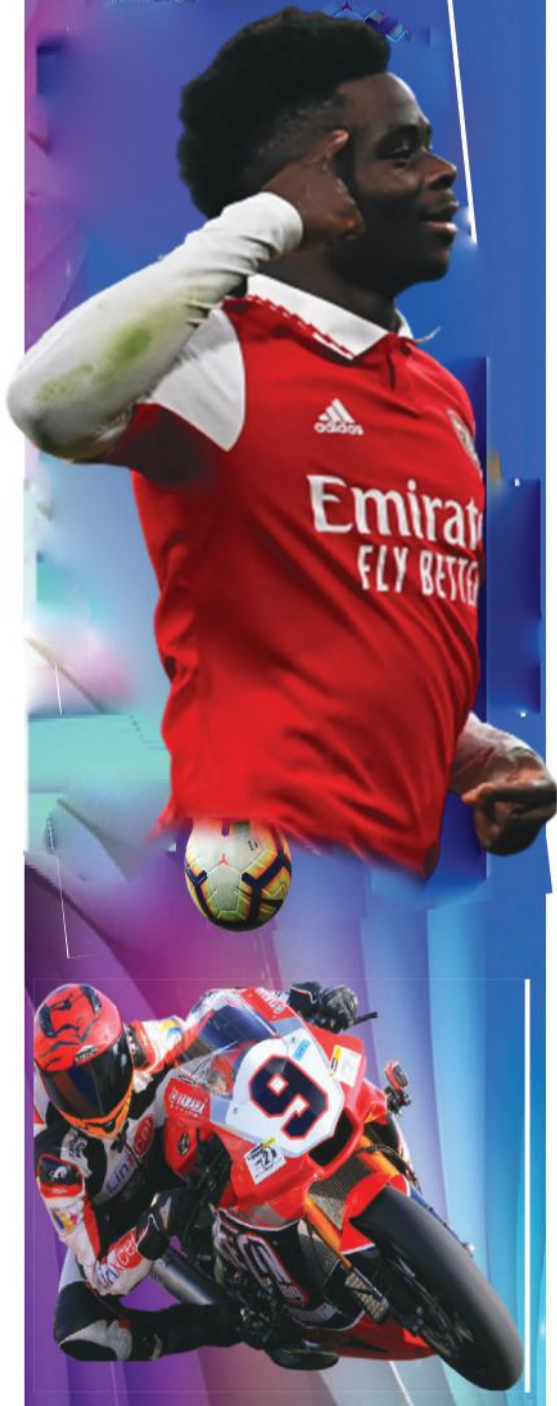
Parents and guardians also carry responsibility. Open communication, emotional support, and vigilance at home can make the difference between silence and survival. Universities, families, and policymakers must act in concert to dismantle stigma and ensure accessible, compassionate care.

The loss of young lives is not just personal grief—it is a blow to Kenya's future. If we fail to protect students' mental health, we risk losing an entire generation of talent and promise. The time for half-measures is over. Saving lives must become the priority.

By Linda Omondi, Laikipia University

SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> *Mathare Women head coach Ann Aluoch has expressed satisfaction with her team's impressive start to the second leg of the Women's National Super League (NSL) competition.

Mathare Women Coach Aluoch Basks In Team Upturn, Eyes Title



Mathare United Women's Jerrine Adhiambo passes the ball against AFC Leopards Women during their FKF WNSL match at Hope Centre Grounds in Nairobi on November 09, 2025. Mathare United Women won . Photo/Sportpicha/Citizen Digital.

Mathare Women head coach Ann Aluoch has expressed satisfaction with her team's impressive start to the second leg of the Women's National Super League (NSL) competition. [The team has enjoyed a dominant run, winning all four of its opening matches in the second round. The results have strengthened Mathare Women's grip at the top of the standings and given them a commanding 10-point lead over second-placed AFC Leopardess. [Speaking to Citizen Digital, Aluoch said the strong start has boosted confidence within the squad and reflects the team's

commitment and discipline. [The tactician noted that while the results are encouraging, the focus now is on maintaining consistency throughout the remaining matches to ensure they remain at the summit of the league standings. [It is good that we have started the second-leg positively and opened a ten-point gap above the second-place team. The pressure usually comes with maintaining the momentum and staying at the top, but we're focused," she said. [Mathare Women currently lead the table with 40 points, while AFC Leopardess trail behind

with 30 points, setting up what could still be a competitive race if the chasing pack improves their form. [With the league set to take a short break next weekend, Aluoch revealed that the team will not be resting entirely. Instead, the coach has arranged a friendly match against a Division One side as part of efforts to keep the players match-fit and sharpen their tactical approach. [According to the coach, the friendly fixture will also give her an opportunity to rotate the squad and assess players as the team continues its push to maintain its dominance in the com-

petition. [Mathare Women will be hoping the break does not interrupt their momentum as they look to extend their lead and strengthen their chances of finishing the season at the top.

Citizen Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Kenya's national sevens teams will step into a defining weekend when the HSBC SVNS Division 2 series shifts to Montevideo, Uruguay for the second leg on March 21–22.

Shujaa, Lionesses Set For Season-Defining Montevideo HSBC Test



Kenya's side Shujaa in action against Canada in 2026 HSBC SVNS 2 at Nyayo Stadium on Saturday, February 14, 2026.

Kenya's national sevens teams will step into a defining weekend when the HSBC SVNS Division 2 series shifts to Montevideo, Uruguay for the second leg on March 21–22.

With only three tournaments on the calendar, the stakes are rising quickly for both Shujaa and the Lionesses.

The Montevideo stop sits at the heart of the campaign and teams must finish inside the top four overall after the final leg in São Paulo to secure a place in the season-ending HSBC SVNS World Championship Series, where promotion back to the elite circuit is decided.

After finishing third in the opening leg in Nairobi, Shujaa travel

to South America determined to maintain their momentum.

Their campaign begins with a tough opening pool featuring the United States, Canada, and Belgium.

The side then shifts into cross-over matches on Sunday against Germany and hosts Uruguay.

Germany arrive with confidence after clinching the Nairobi title, while the United States also impressed in the opening leg.

For Shujaa, the Montevideo outing will test more than just physical readiness. Head coach Kevin Wambua has emphasized discipline and sharper decision-making after costly mental lapses denied the team a place in the Nairobi final.

For the Lionesses, the second leg carries even greater urgency.

The Kenyan women finished fifth in Nairobi and currently sit outside the critical top-four bracket. Their opening fixtures in Montevideo will pit them against China, hosts Argentina, and Spain on the opening day.

Sunday brings another stern examination with matches against South Africa and Brazil.

Argentina lead the standings after winning the Nairobi leg, leaving the Lionesses with little room for error.

With the final leg set for São Paulo, Montevideo represents the tournament's turning point. Victories over direct rivals such as Germany in the men's draw

or South Africa in the women's competition could dramatically reshape the standings.

Citizen Sport

SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Organization Of The Children's Movement Of Uzbekistan

In Uzbekistan's society, the comprehensive development of children and adolescents, the protection of their rights and interests, and the enhancement of their social activity have been elevated to one of the priority directions of state policy. In achieving these noble goals, the Organization of the Children's Movement of Uzbekistan plays an important role. This organization serves to reveal the social, spiritual, intellectual, and creative potential of chil-

By: Mubina Bekmirzayeva

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dren and to educate them in the spirit of loyalty to the Motherland, respect for national values, and aspiration for modern knowledge.

The chairman of our organization's governing board is Hasanboy Nabiyev.

The main goal of the organization is to raise children as a well-developed generation, support their interests and talents, and form initiative and leadership skills. In this process, the following tasks are considered priorities:

- * Protecting the rights and interests of children;
- * Developing social activity and civic responsibility;
- * Organizing intellectual and creative projects;
- * Identifying talented youth in sports, arts, and science;
- * Promoting national and universal values.

In today's era of globalization, children should not only be knowledgeable but also develop as individuals who can think critically and have their own viewpoints. The activities of the organization are based precisely on this principle.

The Organization of the Children's Movement of Uzbekistan operates at the republican, regional, district, and community levels. This ensures the consistent and integrated functioning of the system. In each territorial unit, leaders and advisors carry out their activities. They work directly with children, organize projects, and support their initiatives.

The organization's activities are carried out according to a clear plan. Annual and monthly plans are developed, which include spiritual and educational events, intellectual com-

petitions, meetings, trainings, and seminars. The purpose of each event, its audience, and expected outcomes are determined in advance.

In recent years, particular attention has been paid to the following areas of activity:

1. Intellectual development.
2. Media and information literacy.
3. Leadership and volunteerism.
4. National identity and spirituality.

The organization's activities are conducted in cooperation with state bodies, educational institutions, and public organizations. In particular, cooperation with UNICEF plays a special role in protecting children's rights. This partnership contributes to improving children's legal awareness, listening to their opinions, and involving them in decision-making processes.

In addition, international experience is studied through social projects, and innovative approaches are being introduced into practice.

The Organization of the Children's Movement of Uzbekistan is not only a structure that unites children, but also a platform that helps realize their dreams and ideas. Its implementation is based on systematic planning, active cooperation, and modern approaches. Most importantly, the organization views children as the owners of the future and values their opinions, initiatives, and talents.

We should not forget that the development of society lies precisely in the hands of such conscious, knowledgeable, and active young people.

As a result of the organization's activities, many talented young people are being identified, and their initiatives are being supported. The number of students achieving success in intellectual competitions and contests is steadily increasing. Most importantly, children are developing the ability to express their opinions freely and to actively participate in social life.

Monitoring and analysis play an important role in the implementation process. At the end of each project, the results are reviewed, strengths and weaknesses are identified, and future plans are improved accordingly. This systematic approach ensures the stability and effectiveness of the organization's work.

Modern Challenges and Prospects



Today, factors such as digitalization, artificial intelligence, and the global flow of information are placing new demands on children's education and development. Therefore, increasing innovative projects and developing startup and IT directions remain urgent tasks within the organization's activities. Issues such as media literacy, environmental awareness, gender equality, and inclusive education are also considered among the priority areas.

In the future, in order to further improve the organization's activities, it is necessary to expand regional initiatives, bring young leaders to the international stage, and ensure that the voices of children are heard more strongly in society.

Conclusion

The Organization of the Children's Movement of Uzbekistan is not only a structure that unites children, but also a platform that helps realize their dreams and ideas. Its activities are based on systematic planning, active cooperation, and modern approaches. Most importantly, the organization views children as the owners of the future and values their opinions, initiatives, and talents.

We should not forget that the development of society lies precisely in the hands of such conscious, knowledgeable, and active young people.

Leadership Activity and the Leaders of Andijan

Leadership activity is an important

social activity aimed at developing leadership, initiative, and responsibility among youth and children. Leaders are young individuals who serve as role models for their peers, unite them, and encourage them to actively participate in social processes within society. Their main task is to represent the opinions of children and adolescents, convey their problems and suggestions to higher levels, and implement various projects and initiatives.

Within the framework of leadership activities, various spiritual and educational events, intellectual competitions, volunteer projects, meetings, and trainings are organized. In these processes, leaders not only carry out organizational work but also help develop leadership abilities among their peers, as well as skills of teamwork and problem-solving.

In particular, the leaders of Andijan region stand out for their activity and initiative. They have been implementing many social, educational, and creative projects for children and youth at the regional level. Through various forums, meetings, campaigns, and competitions, special attention is given to increasing the social activity of young people and supporting their interests.

The events organized by the leaders of Andijan contribute to the intellectual development of children, improvement of media literacy, strengthening of leadership skills, and education in the spirit of respect for national values. Most importantly, they help increase activity among

their peers, create opportunities for young people to freely express their opinions, and contribute to ensuring that their voices are heard in society. Today, leadership activity serves as a great school for young people. Through this experience, responsible and mature individuals who will actively participate in managing society in the future are being formed. The leaders of Andijan are also working devotedly in this direction, contributing to the development and future of the younger generation.

Mubina Bekmirzayeva, 16 years old:

- Child Rescue Ambassador, Iqra Foundation, 2021 (in collaboration with ILO, UNICEF, and the Sustainable Development Goals).
- Winner of 1st place in the "Journalist Girls" project organized by the "Qizlar Ovozi" club, Namangan region.
- Recipient of national and international awards for volunteerism and leadership activities.
- Creative works published in international journals and anthologies: KENYA TIMES, Raven Cage, Turkey, France, Singapore.
- Certificates in international computer literacy and modern technologies.
- Certificates from international and national courses in family psychology, financial literacy, and journalism.
- Active as a promoter in the U-REPORT volunteer network under UNICEF.