



Mau Mau descendants push for recognition and compensation at Thika conference
A renewed push for historical justice and compensation for Mau Mau descendants gained momentum after a landmark conference in Thika brought together dozens of representatives from all 47 counties. **Page 8**



Exodus in Murang'a: 18 former MCAs join Safina in major political realignment
A major political shift is unfolding in the Mt. Kenya region after 18 former Members of County Assembly (MCAs) officially defected to the Safina Party, dealing a fresh blow to the waning influence of the Jubilee Party. **Page 16**

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Wednesday, May 13, 2026 No. 01546 KSh 60 (TSh 1,700 : USh 2,700 : RFr 900)

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Scandal Gachagua alleged that KSh7.3 billion from the Fuel Levy Fund was diverted to compensate French firms over a cancelled toll road agreement

Gachagua draws Ruto, Macron in highway payout scandal

Democracy for Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua yesterday launched a scathing attack on President William Ruto, accusing him of undermining democracy, fueling regional conflicts, enabling international crime syndicates and presiding over widespread corruption and human rights violations.

In a strongly-worded press statement addressed to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres and French President Emmanuel Macron, Gachagua claimed Kenya risks descending into instability ahead of the 2027 General Election due to what he termed as "state-sponsored goonism," voter suppression and political intolerance allegedly orchestrated by President Ruto's administration.

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A collage of President Wilian Ruto (R) and his former deputy Rigathi Gachagua

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Africa, France push for equal partnerships at Nairobi Summit

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

Some of the moments as captured in pictures

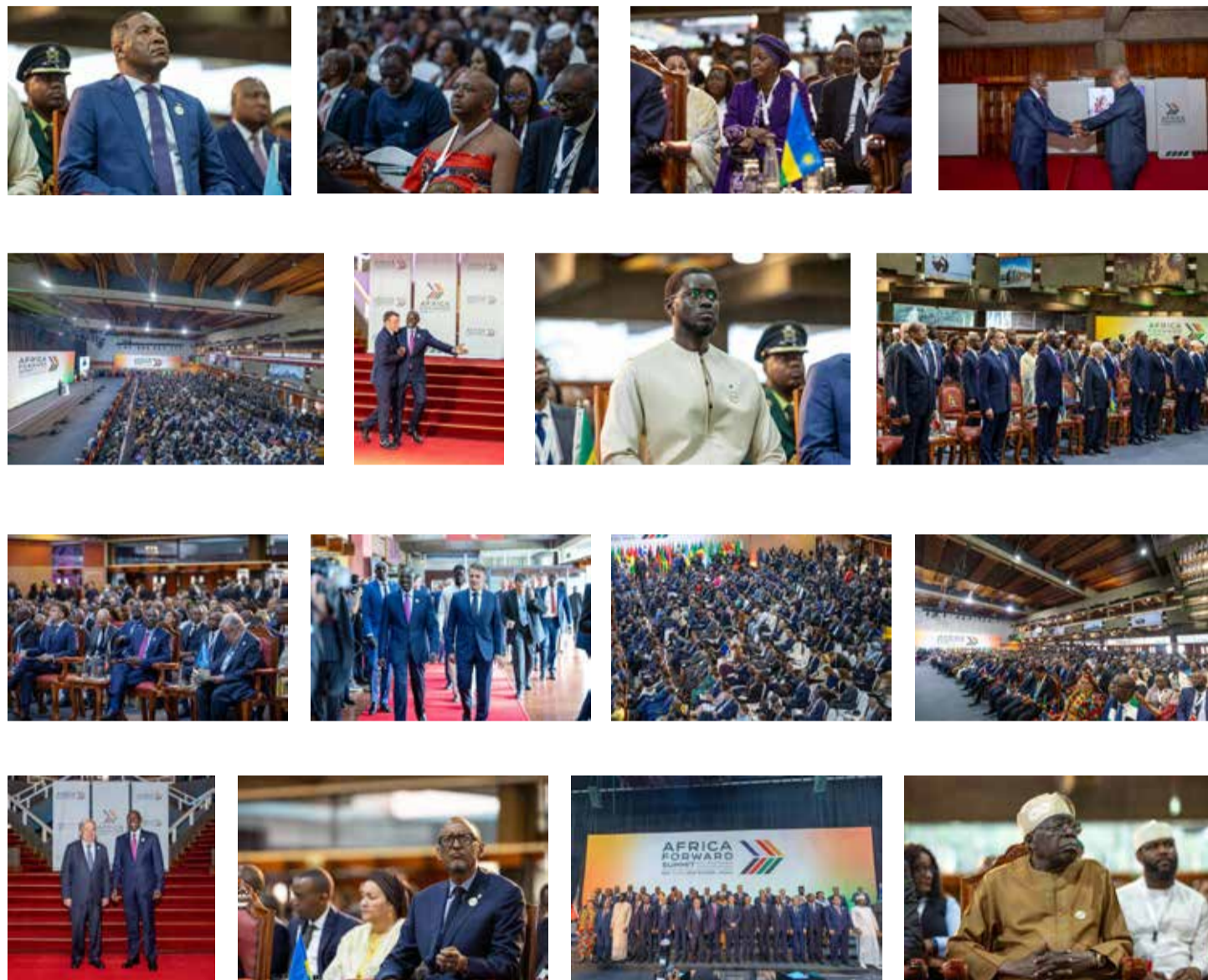
President William Ruto has called for a new era of cooperation between Africa and France anchored on mutual respect, sovereign equity and shared prosperity, saying the continent is ready to unlock its vast economic potential through strategic partnerships and home-grown solutions.

Speaking during the opening of the Africa Forward Summit at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre in Nairobi, President Ruto said Africa's transformation would depend on bold reforms, domestic resource mobilisation and investments that support long-term development.

The summit was co-chaired by President Emmanuel Macron of France and brought together heads of state, government officials, diplomats and development partners from across Africa and beyond.

President Ruto said Africa and France must build "forward-looking partnerships" that promote shared progress while supporting the continent's economic transformation agenda. "We are clear on what we must achieve to unlock Africa's vast potential and drive transformation," President Ruto said.

He identified key priorities including domestic mobilisation of resources, reform of the international financial architecture, expansion of transport and logistics infrastructure, and improved connectivity across the continent. The President also highlighted energy transition, green industrialisation and youth empowerment through skills development,



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Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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NEWS IN BRIEF



The Modern Kikuyu Town Bus Park is now complete courtesy of Governor Kimani Wamatangi, marking a major milestone in improving transport infrastructure and creating a cleaner, safer, and more organized environment for commuters and traders.

The facility's solar streetlights will also enhance security and support business operations even during late hours. Traders in Kikuyu Town are set to benefit greatly as the new modern kiosks at the completed bus park are being allocated free of charge to existing traders, ensuring they continue operating in a dignified and conducive business environment while boosting local economic growth. The County Government of Kiambu has also constructed seven new bus parks located in Makongeni Thika, Kwa Mwaiko in Githunguri, Kiambu Town, Githiga in Githunguri, Karuri in Kiambaa, and Kwambira in Limuru.



Construction of Kamariny Stadium in Elgeyo Marakwet is progressing steadily, with the government confident the facility will be completed by October ahead of this year's Mashujaa Day celebrations. Sports Kenya Director General Timothy Kilimo said work resumed two months ago after years of delays and the 10,000-seater stadium is now on schedule. The stadium will meet CAF and international athletics standards, featuring roofed terraces, VIP areas, dressing rooms, a modern pitch and tartan track. Kilimo said the project will boost sports development and tourism in the region, which is famous for producing elite athletes. Keiyo North MP Adams Kipsanai welcomed the progress and pledged support to ensure timely completion of the project.



Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation Julius Korir chaired the wrap-up meeting for the Implementation Support Mission of the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Program and NaRSIP II with the African Development Bank. The Kenya Towns Program is 90% complete, with 32 projects commissioned. Discussions focused on speeding up land compensation and promoting sustainability through solar-powered pumping schemes to lower energy costs. NaRSIP II is helping restore the Nairobi Rivers Basin by improving wastewater management along major rivers, including Nairobi and Ngong. The project seeks to raise sewerage coverage from 48% to 60%, benefit over 400,000 residents, and treat 80,000 cubic metres of wastewater daily. Overall implementation has reached 95.6%, with agencies urged to strengthen coordination and monitoring before closure in December 2026.

Businessman and Nyeri senatorial aspirant Nick Mararo yesterday met Botswana President Duma Gideon Boko on the sidelines of the Africa Forward Summit, where they discussed leadership, youth empowerment, innovation, and the need for African nations to learn from one another in addressing challenges facing their people. Mararo said such engagements are important in strengthening ties across the continent and creating opportunities for sharing ideas that place Africa's talent, enterprise, and potential at the centre of development. He noted that collaboration among African countries is key to advancing shared prosperity and achieving the vision of a more integrated and borderless continent.



Advocate Fatma Bakari Barayan addresses journalists at Tononoka grounds in Mombasa on Monday flanked by fellow activists and community leaders. She warned that gender-based violence cases in the coastal city have surged by more than 45 per cent since 2022. She announced the launch of free legal clinics to help survivors access justice at no cost.



The Port of Lamu has scripted maritime history, receiving the MV Baltimore Express, a colossal 368-metre Hapag-Lloyd container vessel flying the Liberian flag. The Baltimore Express is now the largest vessel ever to berth at any port along the East African coast, surpassing the 335-metre MV Nagoya Express, which itself had only recently set the record when it made its inaugural call at Lamu in August 2025. The arrival of the Baltimore Express is the latest in a series of milestones that signal Lamu's accelerating emergence as a world-class maritime facility. Lamu Port Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) General Manager Captain Abdulaziz Mzee confirmed that the port has received 120 vessel calls so far this year, a figure that reflects a dramatic and sustained spike in traffic.

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Politics ODM invited interested members to submit applications for six elective positions

ODM opens race for 2027 polls as parties begin early mobilisation

BY WMW

@themkenyatimes

The Orange Democratic Movement has officially opened its doors to aspirants seeking to contest various elective seats in the 2027 General Election under the party ticket, signalling the start of what is expected to be an intense season of political realignments and early campaigns across the country.

In a notice issued by the party's National Elections Coordinating Committee (NECC), ODM invited interested members to submit applications for six elective positions, including President, Governor, Senator, County Woman Representative, Member of the National Assembly and Member of the County Assembly.

The announcement made yesterday and signed by NECC chairperson Emily Awita, stated that the exercise is being conducted pursuant to Article 61(1) of the ODM Constitution, read together with Rule 7(1) and Part VIII of the party's Elections and Nomination Rules.

Interested aspirants have been directed to apply through the party's online portal before June 30, 2026. The party also urged members to verify their membership details through its USSD verification platform as preparations for the nominations intensify.

ODM said the exercise is aimed at ensuring a credible and transparent nomination process ahead of the 2027 polls, which are already shaping up to be highly competitive following months of political manoeuvring within major political formations.

The notice comes at a delicate period for the Orange party, which has recently been grappling with internal succession debates and ideological divisions following shifts in the national political landscape.

The party has also been seeking to reorganise its grassroots structures amid renewed competition from rival parties keen on penetrating traditional ODM strongholds.

Political analysts view the early opening of applications as a strategy by ODM to avoid the nomination chaos that has in previous elections triggered defections, court battles and independent candidacies.

The move also places ODM among the earliest political parties to formally begin preparations for the 2027 General Election.

Earlier this year, the ruling United Democratic Alliance also launched an aggressive aspirant registration drive, with party officials revealing that thousands of aspirants had already expressed interest in contesting on the party ticket.

The early mobilisation by both ODM and UDA under-



scores the growing intensity surrounding the 2027 contest, even with more than a year remaining before the official campaign period.

Several other political outfits are also understood to be quietly restructuring and identifying potential candidates as leaders position themselves ahead of possible coalitions and alliances.

Within ODM, the opening of applications is expected to trigger fierce competition in counties where multiple aspirants have already declared interest in gubernatorial, parliamentary and MCA seats.

Political observers say the battle for party tickets may, in some regions, prove tougher than the general election itself, particularly in ODM

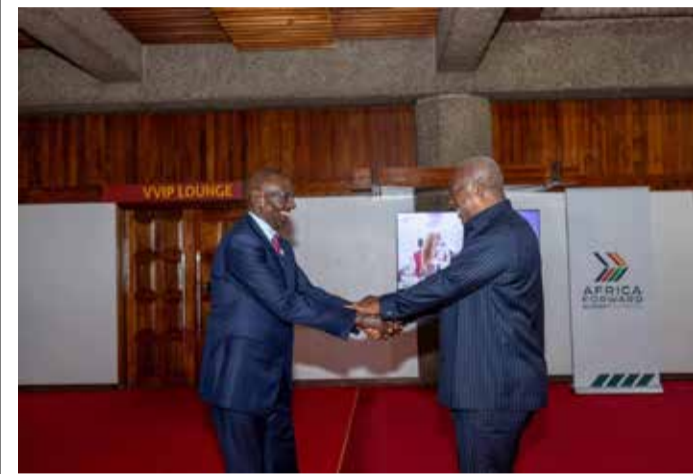
strongholds across Nyanza, Coast and parts of Western Kenya.

The party has assured aspirants that the nomination exercise will be free, fair and transparent.

"In order to guarantee a credible process, we urge our party members to continuously engage the National Elections Coordinating Committee for any clarifications," the notice stated.

The latest development effectively marks the beginning of ODM's formal roadmap to the 2027 General Election as Kenya's political class gradually shifts focus from governance to succession politics and coalition building.

Africa, France push for equal partnerships at Nairobi Summit



Contd from page 2

innovation and artificial intelligence-driven transformation as critical pillars for Africa's future growth.

He said the challenges facing the world today require stronger international cooperation and renewed commitment to multilateralism.

"The times before us demand strong cooperation, renewed multilateralism and partnerships grounded not in hierarchy, but mutual respect and shared responsibility," he said.

President Ruto further emphasised that enduring partnerships should not be based on dependency or charity, but on mutually beneficial investments and equitable engagement.

"It is in this spirit that we convened this summit in our shared conviction that enduring partnerships must not be built on dependence but on

sovereign equity, not on aid or charity but mutually beneficial investments, and not on extraction or exploitation but on win-win engagements," he added.

Among leaders who attended the summit were President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, President Alassane Ouattara, President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, President Faustin-Archange Touadéra and President Azali Assoumani.

Others included President Hakainde Hichilema, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, President Bassirou Diomaye Faye, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

Vice-presidents, ambassadors, heads of delegations and representatives of development partners also attended the high-level summit focused on strengthening Africa-Europe cooperation and advancing sustainable economic growth across the continent.

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Mau Mau The gathering focused on advancing advocacy for descendants of the liberation movement while addressing historical injustices

Mau Mau descendants push for recognition and compensation at Thika conference

BY MKT REPORTER

@themkenyatimes

A renewed push for historical justice and compensation for Mau Mau descendants gained momentum after a landmark conference in Thika brought together dozens of representatives from all 47 counties.

The five-day conference and seminar, held at the Blue Post Hotel and organized by MMV Associates CLG, attracted descendants of Mau Mau freedom fighters, civil society groups, and stakeholders in the public benefit sector.

The gathering focused on advancing advocacy for descendants of the liberation movement while addressing historical injustices and current socio-economic challenges facing affected families.

According to MMV Associates CLG Director James Njuguna Mahuria, the conference focused on key issues including registration of members under the Public Benefit Organizations Act, engagement with the Public Benefit Organizations Regulatory Authority, and possible collaboration with international organizations.

Organizers described the conference as both an administrative and strategic platform aimed at strengthening advocacy structures for Mau Mau descendants seeking recognition and reparations.

At the centre of the movement is Mahuria, who has for years championed compensation and justice for victims of colonial-era abuses and their families. His efforts build on the historic 2013 settlement between the British government and Mau Mau veterans, which compensated a limited

number of elderly survivors tortured during the Mau Mau uprising.

However, many descendants were excluded from the compensation framework, prompting renewed campaigns to widen the scope of reparations to include families affected by displacement, land loss, and generational trauma.

Through MMV Associates CLG and affiliated organizations, Mahuria has continued to advocate for expanded recognition of Mau Mau descendants, preservation of liberation struggle history, and inclusion of descendants in national empowerment programs.

The conference ended with several resolutions aimed at formalizing and strengthening the movement's operations.

Among the resolutions was a decision to engage lawyers Victor Ombongi and Joshua Kiptoo to help streamline engagement rules between the caucus and organizations such as the Mau Mau War Veterans Association and other like-minded entities.

The lawyers are expected to meet Mahuria's team in Kitale next week to guide the caucus on aligning its operations with the new Public Benefit Organizations law. Ombongi and Kiptoo were part of the team involved in drafting the legislation.

Delegates also resolved to open bank accounts in all the 47 counties to facilitate collection and management of funds for the movement's activities.

The caucus further announced plans for another major meeting scheduled for May 29 to June 1 at the Blue Post Hotel in Thika, where a

key political figure is expected to brief members on issues surrounding monetary and land compensation.

Participants expressed optimism that the renewed organization and legal alignment would strengthen their push for compensation and recognition.

Mahuria said the movement was about ensuring continuity in the struggle for justice.

"The veterans fought for independence. Now their children and grandchildren are fighting for recognition, dignity, and inclusion," he said.

The involvement of regulatory authorities and legal experts is expected to help formalize the movement within Kenya's public benefit framework, potentially opening doors for partnerships, funding, and international advocacy.

For many descendants, the campaign represents an effort



From left; Joshua Kiptoo, Victor Ombongi and James Njuguna Mahuria at Blue Post Hotel yesterday.

| Photo: Courtesy.

to secure acknowledgement of sacrifices made during the liberation struggle and ensure future generations benefit from social and economic inclusion tied to that legacy.



Some of the delegates

Corruption “The Africa Forward Summit happening in Nairobi is just a sideshow for Mr. William Ruto to hoodwink Kenyans on matters that affect them.”

Gachagua accuses Ruto of fueling regional instability, corruption in explosive attack before UN Chief, Macron

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

Democracy for Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua yesterday launched a scathing attack on President William Ruto, accusing him of undermining democracy, fueling regional conflicts, enabling international crime syndicates and presiding over widespread corruption and human rights violations.

In a strongly-worded press statement addressed to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres and French President Emmanuel Macron, Gachagua claimed Kenya risks descending into instability ahead of the 2027 General Election due to what he termed as “state-sponsored goonism,” voter suppression and political intolerance allegedly orchestrated by President Ruto’s administration.

The former Deputy President, who spoke against the backdrop of the Africa Forward Summit in Nairobi attended by several African Heads of State, claimed the gathering was being used by President Ruto to seek political legitimacy and “a breather” from mounting domestic pressure.

“We have called this press conference to speak to the people of Kenya and the world,” Gachagua said.

“The Africa Forward Summit happening in Nairobi is just a sideshow for Mr. William Ruto to hoodwink Kenyans on matters that affect them.”

Gachagua accused the President of ignoring pressing domestic concerns including insecurity, healthcare, unemployment and the rising cost of living while concentrating on international diplomacy and hosting global leaders.

Claims on human rights violations

In some of his most serious allegations yet, Gachagua accused President Ruto of presiding over systematic human rights violations, including alleged abductions, killings and suppression of dissent.

He referenced the June 2024 Gen Z protests, alleging that several young protesters were killed and others abducted during demonstrations

against the government.

“This is the man who in June 2024 butchered Gen Zs in their numbers and abducted others,” he said.

The DCP leader further claimed that Kenya had become a “haven of state-sponsored goonism,” warning that the country risks descending into chaos similar to Haiti if political tensions continue escalating ahead of the 2027 elections.

He alleged that criminal gangs operating under political protection had been used to intimidate opponents, torch businesses and suppress dissenting communities.

“Kenya risks slipping into anarchy should William Ruto attempt to rig elections he is bound to lose,” Gachagua claimed.

Explosive allegations on regional conflicts

Gachagua also accused President Ruto of interfering in conflicts across the Horn of Africa, including Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Somalia.

Without providing evidence, he alleged that the Kenyan President had links with Sudan’s Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and rebel groups operating in the region.

He claimed Kenya was increasingly being viewed with suspicion by neighboring countries due to alleged interference in regional conflicts.

The former Deputy President further alleged that the government had irregularly issued Kenyan identification documents and passports to non-Kenyans, warning that the practice posed a major global security threat.

“This has opened the world to terror groups in terrorist shells in Somalia,” he claimed.

Concerns over abductions of foreign nationals

Gachagua accused the Kenyan government of colluding with foreign governments to abduct asylum seekers and political dissidents residing in Kenya.

He cited several controversial incidents involving foreign nationals allegedly abducted or deported from Kenya, including Turkish asylum seekers, Ugandan opposition politi-



DCP leader Rigathi Gachagua presenting nomination certificate to Sammy Kamau Ngotho as Deputy party leader Cleopas Malala looks on.

cian Dr. Kizza Besigye and Tanzanian activist Maria Sarungi.

According to Gachagua, at least 50 foreign nationals have allegedly been abducted, tortured or killed in Kenya over the past four years.

“Foreigners and asylum seekers in Kenya have no peace,” he said.

Macron dragged into road compensation dispute

In another dramatic twist, Gachagua directly accused French President Emmanuel Macron of being complicit in what he described as a questionable multi-billion-shilling compensation deal arising from the cancellation of the Nairobi-Nakuru-Mau Summit Highway contract.

He alleged that approximately Sh7.3 billion from the Fuel Levy Fund had

been diverted to compensate French firms after the cancellation of the original toll road agreement signed during former President Uhuru Kenyatta’s administration.

Gachagua further claimed that the project was later handed to a Chinese contractor at a significantly higher cost despite a reduced scope of work.

“Mr. Macron, your French firms had the contract at Sh150 billion for a bigger scope. The Chinese firm takes it at Sh200 billion on a smaller scope,” he alleged.

“The difference of Sh50 billion is the share of corruption.”

He further accused the French President of benefiting from the controversial compensation arrangement and claimed this was the reason behind Macron’s visit to Kenya.

“These are the reasons Kenyans made noise at the University of Nairobi,” Gachagua claimed, referring to protests witnessed during Macron’s public engagements.

Russia-Ukraine war claims

Gachagua also raised alarm over alleged recruitment of Kenyan youths to fight in the Russia-Ukraine war.

He claimed more than 1,000 Kenyans had been lured into joining the war under false promises of civilian jobs, with at least 19 deaths reportedly recorded.

According to him, some senior government officials were aware of or involved in the recruitment networks.

“The international community must investigate this matter,” he said.

Wildlife The Tourism and Wildlife Committee, chaired by Maara MP Kareke Mbiuki said paying KSh300 million for consultancy services could not be justified.

House committee questions KSh300 million wildlife compensation consultancy fee

BY PSC
@themtkenyatimes

A House Committee has raised concerns over the spending of Ksh300 on consultancy services.

The money was part of KSh800 million allocated to the State Department for Wildlife for compensation of

the victims of wildlife attacks. The Tourism and Wildlife Committee, chaired by Maara MP Kareke Mbiuki said paying KSh300 million for consultancy services could not be justified.

“What kind of services were worth Ksh300 million?” asked Mbiuki.

The issue arose during a meeting with officials from

the State Department to discuss the budget estimates for the 2026/27 financial year.

The Committee was informed that the Ksh800 million allocation was meant for the digitalisation of the Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) victim compensation programme as a pilot project.

Members were told that Ksh300 million was paid to a

firm that developed the digital system, while the remaining amount was used to compensate victims injured by wild animals and families who lost loved ones in wildlife attacks.

Voi MP Abdi Chome demanded details of the digitalisation project to determine whether the expenditure offered value for money.

“Provide the Committee with details of the digital project to justify paying such a huge amount. How do you spend Ksh300 million to create a programme for paying out Ksh500 million? There is no value for money,” said Chome.

Ijara MP Abdi Ali said compensation for wildlife victims was a sensitive matter and questioned why funds meant for victims were diverted to consultancy services.

Lamu East MP Mohammed Ruweida said Members of Parliament were deeply concerned about compensation for victims and stressed that the allocated funds should be used carefully and transpar-



Kareke Mbiuki

ently.

“The issue of compensation for victims has always been raised on the floor of the House. The State Department should be transparent in disbursing funds to victims,” said Ruweida.

The Committee was informed that the department’s budget for the 2026/27 financial year stands at Ksh16.5 billion, up from Ksh15.1 billion in the previous financial year.

Out of the budget, Ksh13.6

billion will go to Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs), Ksh1.9 billion for compensation of human-wildlife conflict victims, Ksh546 million for recurrent expenditure, and Ksh382 million for development projects.

Outstanding pending bills currently stand at Ksh1.1 billion.

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AFS “There is capital in Africa, but Africa’s development projects remain starved of financing. The issue, therefore, is not liquidity. It is risk architecture,” Ruto

Africa must finance its own future, Ruto tells global leaders

BY Suleiman Mbatiah

@themtkenyatimes

Africa must stop relying on aid and begin financing its own transformation through investment, industrialisation and domestic capital mobilisation, President William Ruto told global leaders at the Africa Forward Summit in Nairobi yesterday as he pushed for sweeping reforms to the international financial system and a new era of African economic sovereignty.

While opening the summit at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre, Ruto said Africa was entering a decisive period shaped by geopolitical tensions, economic volatility, climate pressures, shifting trade alignments and widening global inequalities. He argued that the continent must position itself as a strategic global actor capable of shaping the future of international commerce, energy, labour and innovation.

The President said the era in which Africa’s development agenda was defined through aid dependency and unsustainable borrowing should end, replaced by a framework anchored on sovereign equality, mutually beneficial partnerships, innovation, enterprise and value creation. He maintained that Africa possessed the resources, markets and demographic strength necessary to drive its own economic transformation.

Ruto told delegates that Africa was approaching the summit from a position of strategic importance rather than marginal participation in global affairs. He cited the continent’s vast renewable energy resources, expanding consumer markets, critical minerals, fertile land and youthful population as major drivers of future global economic growth.

“Africa is not part of the global problem. Africa is part

of the global solution,” Ruto said while urging international partners to shift from extractive economic models toward investment-led cooperation designed to unlock shared prosperity and industrial growth.

The summit, co-chaired by French President Emmanuel Macron, is focusing on domestic resource mobilisation, infrastructure financing, reform of the international financial architecture, green industrialisation, energy transition, artificial intelligence and youth skills development. Ruto said these priorities were central to Africa’s long-term prosperity and global competitiveness.

The President criticised what

The President criticised what he described as structural imbalances within the global financial system, saying African countries continued to face disproportionately high borrowing costs and distorted risk perceptions that discouraged long-term investment. He argued that global credit rating systems frequently failed to reflect the economic realities and opportunities present across African economies. Ruto defended the establishment of the African Credit Rating Agency, saying it would help deliver fairer and evidence-based assessments of African economies while correcting longstanding distortions that increase the cost of capital for governments and businesses across the continent.



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Ruto defended the establishment of the African Credit Rating Agency, saying it would help deliver fairer and evidence-based assessments of African economies while correcting longstanding distortions that increase the cost of capital for governments and businesses across the continent.

He also said Africa could no longer rely exclusively on institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to finance its development ambitions. According to Ruto, Africa currently holds more than four trillion dollars in long-term domestic savings, including pension funds, insurance assets and central bank reserves that remain underutilised.

“There is capital in Africa, but Africa’s development projects remain starved of financing. The issue, therefore, is not liquidity. It is risk architecture,” he said while outlining plans for a stronger and more self-sustaining continental financial system.

The President reaffirmed Kenya’s support for the Alliance of African Multilateral Financial Institutions and highlighted the role of institutions including the African Development Bank, African Export-Import Bank, Africa Finance Corporation, Africa50 and Shelter Afrique Development Bank in supporting industrialisation, infrastructure and trade expansion.

Ruto also promoted the pro-



Africa Forward Summit in progress yesterday.

posed New African Financial Architecture and Development framework, known as NAFAD, which seeks to align African development banks, pension systems, sovereign investment platforms and private capital behind coordinated continental investment strategies. He said the framework was intended to retain more African savings within Africa and direct them into transformative sectors.

The President pointed to Kenya’s National Infrastructure Fund as an example of domestic capital mobilisation, saying it had already raised approximately one billion dollars for strategic projects. He added that Kenya had mobilised nearly four billion dollars locally over the last three and a half years to finance its Affordable Housing Programme.

Ruto said Africa’s infrastructure deficit remained one of the continent’s greatest barriers to competitiveness, industrialisation and regional integration. Citing African Development Bank estimates, he said Africa requires between 130 billion and 170 billion dollars annually for infrastructure development while facing yearly financing gaps of between 68 billion and 108 billion dollars.

He called for accelerated investment in transport corridors, ports, rail systems, roads, aviation infrastructure, logistics networks and digital connectivity to support implementation of the African

Continental Free Trade Area and strengthen intra-African trade.

“We cannot accept a future in which Africa simply exports raw green minerals while industrial value addition, advanced manufacturing, and technological innovation take place elsewhere. That model belongs to the past,” Ruto said while outlining Africa’s ambition to become a globally competitive industrial hub powered by renewable energy.

The President said Africa possessed enormous geothermal, solar, wind, hydroelectric and green hydrogen potential that could position the continent at the centre of the global energy transition. However, he stressed that the transition must also drive industrialisation, job creation, manufacturing growth and regional value chains rather than reinforce historical patterns of raw material extraction.

On youth development, Ruto described Africa’s growing youthful population as the continent’s greatest strategic advantage. He said governments must invest heavily in education, digital inclusion, entrepreneurship, research, innovation and artificial intelligence to transform demographic growth into economic power and global competitiveness.

He pointed to innovation ecosystems emerging in Nairobi, Lagos, Kigali and Cape Town, where young Africans are building fintech platforms,

technology-driven agricultural solutions, digital commerce systems and globally competitive startups. According to Ruto, access to affordable capital, quality education, infrastructure and markets remains critical to sustaining that momentum.

The President also linked Africa’s economic transformation agenda to peace and security, warning that violent extremism, terrorism, organised crime, unconstitutional changes of government and climate-related instability continued to undermine development across the continent. He said Africa currently accounts for nearly 40 per cent of active armed conflicts globally and close to half of all internal displacements worldwide.

Ruto renewed calls for reform of the United Nations Security Council, arguing that Africa’s exclusion from permanent representation despite having 54 sovereign states and nearly 1.6 billion people undermined the legitimacy of the global governance system. Kenya, he said, remained committed to the Common African Position under the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration.

“Africa is rising. Determined to shape its own destiny, and increasingly prepared to help shape the future of the world itself,” Ruto said as he closed his address by calling for partnerships grounded in dignity, fairness, resilience, inclusion and shared prosperity.

Politics “We have been on the ground, and we know that this seat belongs to Jubilee. I will work hand-in-hand with my brother to ensure we deliver a win for the people.”

Jubilee unveils Wilson Kigwa for Ol’Kalou by-election as party seeks to retain seat

BY Felix Njenga
@themkenyatimes

The Jubilee Party has officially hit the campaign trail for the upcoming Ol’ Kalou constituency by-election, unveiling Engineer Wilson Kigwa as its flagbearer in a bid to retain the seat formerly held by the late David Njuguna Kiaraho.

In a press conference held at the party’s headquarters, Secretary General Moitalel

Ole Kenta announced that the party had settled on Kigwa following a rigorous internal consultation and consensus-building process among several qualified aspirants.

The unveiling was marked by a rare show of political maturity as Kigwa’s primary competitor within the party, Beatrice Gathoni Kamau, publicly stepped down and pledged her full support to his candidacy.

“We have sat and agreed that

he flies the Jubilee flag in Ol’ Kalou,” said Ms. Kamau.

“We have been on the ground, and we know that this seat belongs to Jubilee. I will work hand-in-hand with my brother to ensure we deliver a win for the people.”

The Secretary General praised the move, noting that the “unity of purpose” displayed by the aspirants demonstrates the party’s renewed strength.

“Jubilee remains stronger



Jubilee aspirant Wilson Kigwa addressing the media as party officials look on.

and more focused than ever before. We are fully mobilized and ready to engage the people of Ol’ Kalou with a message of hope, development, and accountable leadership,” Kenta stated.

The by-election, scheduled by the IEBC for July 16, 2026, follows the death of three-term MP David Kiaraho on March 29. Party leaders emphasized that Kiaraho was a staunch Jubilee member and that the party is duty-bound to protect his legacy.

Former Nyandarua Governor Francis Kimemia, who was present at the unveiling, urged residents to reject “insults and divisive politics” in favor of the developmental agenda championed by the late MP.

“The citizens have been asking me, ‘Where is Jubilee?’ Today we are telling them our candidate is Engineer Kigwa. We want to restore the respect of Ol’ Kalou. We will enter the villages, the businesses, and the churches to talk to our people,” Kimemia said.

In a strategic move, Deputy Secretary General Zack Kinuthia issued a “call of honor” to partners within the United Opposition coalition, urging them to bypass fielding candidates and instead rally behind Jubilee.

“This seat was Jubilee’s. We are beseeching our partners in

the opposition to allow us to retain this position as a show of true unity,” Kinuthia said. “If we stand as one against the UDA candidate, we will defeat them by 6:00 a.m.”

Kinuthia also pitched Engineer Kigwa as a candidate for the youth, citing his professional background in electrical engineering and his MBA. “For the Gen Zs who want an educated leader, we have brought you ‘Mtu Work’ (a man of work). He has brought electricity and water technologies to the grassroots, and he is the right person to lead the modern agenda for Ol’ Kalou,” Kinuthia added.

Accepting the nomination, Engineer Kigwa thanked his competitors for their sacrifice and promised a peaceful, issue-driven campaign. “We agreed through negotiations that I represent the party. I am ready to work for the people of Ol’ Kalou and ensure the vision of our party is realized,” he concluded.

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Energy Cabinet Secretary Wandayi signs landmark IAEA deal, committing Kenya to integrate nuclear power into the national grid

Kenya's bold step into nuclear energy

BY James Bwire Kilonzo
@themtkenyatimes

Cabinet Secretary Opiyo Wandayi has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi, formally committing Kenya to integrate nuclear energy into its national grid.

The agreement, witnessed by NUPEA CEO Justus Wabuyabo, Principal Secretary for Energy Alex Wachira, and Principal Secretary Shaukat Abdulrazak, was more than diplomatic ceremony — it was a declaration of intent by a government determined to redefine the country's energy future.

Kenya's power debate has long centred on expanding access while balancing affordability, reliability, and sustainability. Geothermal, wind, and hydroelectric sources have driven real progress, but rising industrial demand, climatic unpredictability, and rapid urbanisation have exposed the dangers of over-reliance on any

single source. Nuclear energy, the government now argues, completes the picture.

"The future of Kenya's economy cannot be separated from the future of its energy infrastructure," Wandayi said, positioning the agreement as a strategic enabler of national development rather than merely another entry in the power grid ledger.

The IAEA's involvement lends the initiative immediate credibility. As the principal global body guiding nations through nuclear adoption, it brings technical expertise, regulatory frameworks, and safety standards — the institutional scaffolding Kenya will need as ambitions move from paper to reality. Grossi's personal attendance signalled international confidence in Kenya's readiness to pursue nuclear integration responsibly.

Central to Kenya's approach is the planned deployment of Small Modular Reactors — compact, scalable alternatives to traditional nuclear plants that suit a country still building the infrastructure for full-scale adoption. Their flexibility fits Ken-



IAEA Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi, Cabinet Secretary Opiyo Wandayi and Principal Secretary for Energy Alex Wachira

ya's modernisation agenda and offers a manageable entry point into nuclear generation.

Public questions around safety, environmental impact, and regulation

will inevitably follow, and they deserve honest, transparent answers.

But by anchoring its nuclear programme within an internationally supervised framework, Kenya has

chosen the measured path over the reckless one.

On a continent where energy insecurity continues to throttle growth, that distinction matters enormously.

The Mt. Kenya Times



Luminous soul



You're a vision, like an angelic glow,
Radiance so pure, the heavens bestow.
Features divine, even angels exclaim,
"Whoa, such beauty, no mortal can claim."

Grace in your steps, each move a parade,
Your rhythm's a song the stars serenade.
The moon takes notes when you walk by,
And galaxies bow as you light the sky.

I'm hunting for a necklace, rare and elite,
Yet nothing on these shelves dares compete.
Jewels of the earth feel common, untrue,
For only heaven crafts treasures for you.

Obsessed with your beauty, so flawless, so true,
Fresher than air, water bows too.

The rivers pause, the winds stand still,
Nature concedes to your radiant will.

When you play with your hair, the world takes a
pause,
Every strand you twist earns thunderous
applause.

Your eyes serve cocktails, intoxicating my mind,
One glance, and I'm addicted, forever confined.

Shops make jewels for the average kind,
But your glow demands what angels designed.
So I ordered one special, forged in the skies,
A necklace that mirrors the light in your eyes.

If beauty were a crown, you'd wear it with grace,
A masterpiece sculpted by time and space.
The universe whispers, the cosmos must know,
That you are the wonder, the angelic glow.

@Keith Onyango
Journalism and communication
Rongo university

Don't accuse God



Don't accuse God.
He is always trying to help you.

He encourages you
and shapes you into a better person.

Yes, I agree—
sometimes He gives us troubles,

but it is for our good.

Try to understand the deeper reason
and learn to overcome it.

Don't just pray to God—
try to understand Him.

And also try to rise above your struggles,
because they will make you
an amazing human being.

V. S. NITHIYASRI
VII-D
JOHN DEWEY MATRIC HIGHER SECONDARY
SCHOOL, CUDDALORE, TAMILNADU.

Hug trees, feel better



There are silent healers
Rooted deep in patient earth,
Breathing life into our lungs
Without asking what we're worth.

They stand through storms and summers,
Through seasons harsh and kind,
Holding stories in their rings
And a quiet peace in mind.

Lean into their ancient bark,
Let your restless heartbeat slow,
In their stillness find a rhythm
Only nature seems to know.

A gentle hug, a simple act
Yet something shifts inside,
The weight you carry softens
As worries loosen and glide.

Your breath grows deep, your thoughts grow
light,
Your pulse begins to ease,
Invisible feels of tension
Drift away with the breeze.

For trees don't rush or question,
They simply exist and give
A calm that seeps into the soul,
A softer way to live.

So when the world feels heavy,
And your spirit needs release,
Wrap your arms around a tree
And borrow back your peace.

Hug trees to feel better,
Let their quiet strength restore
In their silent, steady presence,
You'll find yourself once more.

Nandini AnandKumar
Vice -Principal
Universal Academy Senior Secondary School
Neravy
Karaikal -609604

Being silent



On a Friday dusk, I heard them say,
"Teens these days have lost their way,
their words too sharp, their manners thin,
Respect is like smoke,
fading within."

Who'll tell these people what teens feel -
Dreaming of dawn where silence can heal.
Through 11:11 wishes and falling stars,

they seek their freedom from the daily scars.
Their words are not rude
but straight and true,
A mirror of feelings
the old never knew.
And I longed to tell them what I feel -
But remembered, I too am a teen.
Being silent,
I passed my way,
But that silence
spoke more
than words could say.

Akshita Kalkal
DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL
NH-3, NIT, FARIDABAD

Young minds shine: Biology contest held at School No.16



An engaging and intellectually enriching biology competition titled "Expert of the Human Body" was successfully held among 8th-grade students at School No. 16 in the Kasbi district of the Kashkadarya region. The event aimed to strengthen students' knowledge of human biology, enhance their critical thinking skills, and promote teamwork.

Three teams participated in the competition, competing across six challenging rounds. Each stage was designed to test students' understanding of the human body, including its structure, systems, and functions, while also encouraging quick thinking and creativity. The contest was conducted in a lively and

competitive atmosphere. Participants demonstrated a high level of enthusiasm, cooperation, and determination as they worked together to achieve the best results for their teams.

At the conclusion of the event, the winners were announced and awarded certificates of appreciation along with books as tokens of recognition and encouragement.

1st Place - "The Most Knowledgeable Team" Ibn Sino Followers (Class 8-D)
2nd Place - "The Most Resourceful Team" Hippocrates Followers (Class 8-B)
3rd Place - "The Most United Team" Future Doctors (Class 8-A)

Such competitions play a significant role in broadening students' scientific outlook and inspiring them to pursue future careers in biology and medicine. Moreover, they help foster a healthy competitive spirit, improve communication skills, and encourage collaboration among young learners. The administration of School No. 16 remains committed to organizing similar educational initiatives that support the intellectual and personal development of students.

Author: Madina Mirzayeva

Beautiful face will Age and a perfect body will change but a beautiful soul will always be a beautiful soul.



Beauty begins as appearance.
Beautiful face can be deceptive.
In every age the beauty will change.
Beauty is not a permanent asset.
Self improvement and emotional maturity
ensures the beauty.
It is the beauty of inner heart.

The soul beauty is improving, while age beauty is
fade away.
Physical beauty captures the eyes.
Soul beauty commands respects and love.
Soul beauty increases through everyday process.

N. SELVARANI.
B. T. ASST.
GHS-SAKKARAKKOTTAI.
RAMANATHAPURAM.
TAMIL NADU. INDIA.

Kenya - France Outside the polished conference and official communique, many ordinary Kenyans watched the celebrations with cautious eyes rather than excitement

Kenya, France and the skepticism in the cooperation



BY Fredrick Chelimo
@themkenyaintimes



Africa Forward Summit at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre in Nairobi

When President Emmanuel Macron stood besides H.E President William Ruto in Nairobi to unveil a series of cooperation agreements between France and Kenya, the moment was presented as a diplomatic triumph. Government officials described the agreements as transformative, strategic, and forward-looking. Kenya, the public was told, was deepening relations with one of Europe's most influential economies in ways that would unlock investment, jobs, infrastructure, technology and global prestige. It is not the first and definitely the last of such promises.

Yet outside the polished conference and official communique, many ordinary Kenyans watched the celebrations with cautious eyes rather than excitement. Across homes, universities, matatus, workplaces, and online discussions, uncomfortable questions continue to surface. Are these agreements genuinely designed for the long-term benefits of citizens, or are they part of a familiar African pattern where international partnerships becoming vehicles for elite enrichment while the public carries the burden?

This concern may sound cynical to some, but Africa's modern political history has given citizens every reason to ask the difficult questions whenever large foreign deals are signed in the name of development.

For decades African leaders have repeatedly announced grand international partnerships promising transformation, industrialization, and prosperity. Massive infrastructure projects have been unveiled with fanfare. For-

ign loans have been justified with statistical precision as necessary for growth. Strategic partnerships have been praised as historic breakthroughs. Yet in many cases, ordinary citizens saw little improvement in their daily lives while political elites, connected businessmen, and foreign corporations accumulated enormous benefits behind closed doors.

This is one of the deepest fears now emerging around Kenya's growing partnership with France – not necessarily France itself, but the possibility that ordinary citizens may once again become spectators in agreements negotiated in their name but structured around elite interests.

Across Africa, there is a growing perception that some leaders increasingly use international cooperation agreements not only as tools of diplomacy, but also instruments of political survival, financial accumulation, and future personal security to escape misdeeds done while in power. Large foreign deals often creates opportunities for hidden commissions, preferential contracts, insider networks, and political patronage systems that are difficult for the public to scrutinize fully.

In some cases, leaders ac-

cused of corruption or governance failure later secure comfortable exits into international institutions, foreign residences, diplomatic appointments, or private business arrangements connected to the very countries and corporations they dealt with while in office. The pattern has created deeper public suspicion across the continents.

To many Africans, therefore, international agreements are no longer viewed purely through the language of development. They are increasingly examined through the lenses of power, elite networks, and hidden interests. This skepticism is particularly strong because Africa has painful historical experience with external powers aligning themselves closely with ruling elites while broader population remained marginalized. During both colonial, and post-colonial periods, foreign influences often survived not because entirely nations supported it, but because strategic relationships were cultivated with small political and economic classes capable of protecting outside interests internally.

This is why many Kenyans are beginning to ask whether some of the current Kenya-France agreements truly

reflect national priorities or whether they primarily serve political and elite economic interests disguised as international corporation. The concern becomes even sharper when viewed alongside reported provision touching on military and diplomatic immunities for French personnel operating in Kenya without similar arrangement for Kenyans in France. To many citizens, such arrangements if they actually exist, create disturbing impression that powerful foreign actors may enjoy protections and privileges beyond the reach of ordinary Kenyan law while Kenyans themselves would never receive similar treatments in France.

For continents like Africa with a long memory of colonial subjugation, symbolism matters deeply. Agreements perceived to place foreigners above local accountability immediately triggers emotional and political discomfort.

Supporters of Kenya-France partnership argue, with some justification, that military and diplomatic immunities are standard features of international cooperation. They also point out at the potential benefits of French investments in renewable energy, infrastructure, digital innovation,

education, and security cooperation. Indeed, Kenya might urgently require investment, industrial growth, technological advancements and stronger international partnerships to compete in an increasingly complex economy. This should however take place in an environment of mutual respect and fidelity to human dignity and not in an environment where we remain subordinates to other nationals in our own land.

Few serious observers would argue that Kenya should isolate itself from global powers. That would neither be practical nor economically wise. The issue is not whether Kenya should cooperate internationally. The issue is the nature, transparency and the balance of that cooperation. Modern neo-colonialism does not operate through direct conquest or colonial flags. It often functions quietly through debt dependency, strategic concessions, elite capture, policy influence, and unequal economic relationships where locals political classes benefit personally while the wider population remain excluded. The concept of what is in it for use the elites rather than for us as a nation. This is why the ordinary Kenyan perspective matters profoundly.

Unemployed graduate, a struggling farmer, a boda-boda rider or a small trader in any part of Kenya does not judge international agreements by diplomatic language, through practical realities. This include whether these deals will create jobs, industries will grow, sovereignty will be protected, corruption will reduce or expand, law will apply equally, or these agreements will simply be another elite conversation taking place above the heads of ordinary citizens.

These are legitimate democratic questions, not anti-development sentiments. The deeper anxiety across Africa today is not merely fear of influence. It is fear of alliances between foreign interests and domestic elites that gradually weaken public accountability while concentrating wealth and power among a small connected class.

This fear explains why anti-establishment and anti-foreign sentiments have grown

rapidly in parts of Africa, especially among younger population who increasingly feel, even with their knowledge, remain excluded from the promises of globalization and economic liberalization. In this context Kenya must approach all major partnerships with sober realism rather than emotional celebration

Foreign governments are not charities. They pursue national best national interest of their respective nations. Corporations pursue profits. Political leaders pursue influence and self-interests. That is reality of global politics. The responsibility therefore falls upon Kenyan institutions, parliament, civil society, the media, and citizens themselves to ensure that cooperation agreements are transparent, balanced, and genuinely aligned with long-term national interests rather than short-term political or personal calculations.

If Kenya negotiates strategically, protects public interests, strengthens accountability, and ensure citizens receive visible economic benefits, then partnerships such as the one with France could contribute meaningfully to development and modernization. But if secrecy, elite capture, and unequal arrangements dominate the processes, then public suspicions will continue growing – not because Kenyans reject international cooperation, but because Africa's history has taught its people to look carefully behind the handshake.

Mr. Fredrick Kipchumba Chelimo PWD

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Politics The leaders declared that their political future now lies with businessman-turned-politician Jimi Wanjigi and his growing economic-centered political movement under Safina

Exodus in Murang'a: 18 former MCAs join Safina in major political realignment



Safina party leader and presidential candidate Jimi Wanjigi with former MCAs who joined his party |

Photo: Courtesy.

BY WMW

@themtkenyatimes

A major political shift is unfolding in the Mt. Kenya region after 18 former Members of County Assembly (MCAs) officially defected to the Safina Party, dealing a fresh blow to the waning influence of the Jubilee Party in Murang'a County.

The group, largely composed of seasoned grassroots politicians, announced their move during a ceremony led by former Murang'a County Assembly Majority Leader Wambui Njoki.

Out of the 18 defectors, 17 previously belonged to Jubilee while one came from Maendeleo Chap Chap, underscoring what analysts are already describing as a strategic collapse of former ruling party structures in parts of Mt. Kenya.

The leaders declared that their political future now lies with businessman-turned-politician Jimi Wanjigi and his growing economic-centered political movement under Safina.

From old politics to new politics

Speaking during the event, the former MCAs said they were abandoning what they

termed as "politics of deceit" in favor of issue-based leadership focused on policy and economic transformation.

"We are moving from the old to the new," one of the leaders declared, capturing the dominant mood at the gathering.

The defectors argued that Jubilee no longer offers a viable political platform ahead of the 2027 General Election, citing weakening grassroots structures, diminished public confidence, and lack of a clear ideological direction.

Instead, they expressed confidence in Wanjigi's economic agenda, particularly his calls for debt restructuring, economic empowerment, and social equity under what he has branded "The Fist Agenda."

According to the leaders, the decision to join Safina was informed by growing economic frustrations among ordinary wananchi, including the rising cost of living, unemployment, and stalled regional development.

Wambui Njoki signals high-level shift

The defection of Wambui Njoki is expected to carry significant political weight in Murang'a politics due to her previous influence as Majority Leader in the County Assembly.

Her move is likely to ener-

gize Safina's grassroots mobilization efforts in the county and may encourage more former Jubilee leaders to reconsider their political future ahead of 2027.

Njoki said the region requires leaders willing to prioritize policy discussions and practical economic solutions over traditional political rhetoric and personality cults.

Political observers note that Murang'a has increasingly become a battleground for emerging political formations seeking to loosen the grip of established parties in the Mt. Kenya voting bloc.

Safina eyes Mt. Kenya foothold

Welcoming the leaders into Safina, Wanjigi described the defections as a "homecoming" for leaders committed to rebuilding the country's economy.

He said the arrival of experienced legislators demonstrated that Safina was evolving from a fringe political outfit into a serious national contender ahead of the next election cycle.

"This is a new dawn," Wanjigi said, adding that the entry of seasoned grassroots politicians signaled growing public confidence in the party's vision.

Wanjigi who hosted the team



Safina party leader Jimi Wanjigi welcoming the former MCAs.

in his office further identified Murang'a as a strategic pillar in his broader national political ambitions, citing the county's expanding economic and administrative importance, especially around fast-growing urban centers such as Kenol.

Trouble for Jubilee remnants

The latest defections are expected to deepen concerns within Jubilee circles over the party's shrinking influence in its former strongholds.

Once the dominant political machine in the Mt. Kenya region, Jubilee has struggled to

maintain cohesion following internal divisions and shifting political loyalties after the 2022 elections.

The movement of nearly an entire bloc of former MCAs to Safina is likely to intensify competition for grassroots support as parties begin positioning themselves early for the 2027 race.

Analysts say the shift also reflects a broader transition in regional politics, where economic messaging and governance issues are increasingly resonating more strongly than traditional ethnic alliances.

With all 18 leaders declaring their intention to contest MCA seats again under the Safina ticket in 2027, the party appears determined to transform Murang'a into one of its strongest political launchpads in the Mt. Kenya region.

For now, the defections mark not just a change of party affiliation, but a deeper signal that the political landscape in central Kenya may be entering a new and unpredictable chapter.




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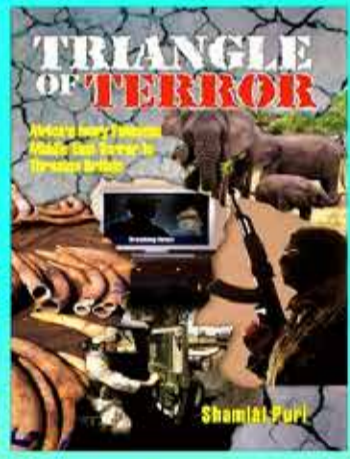
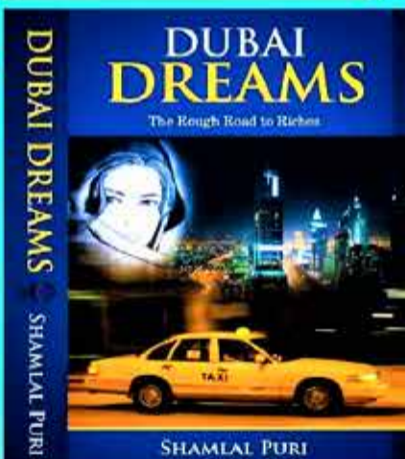
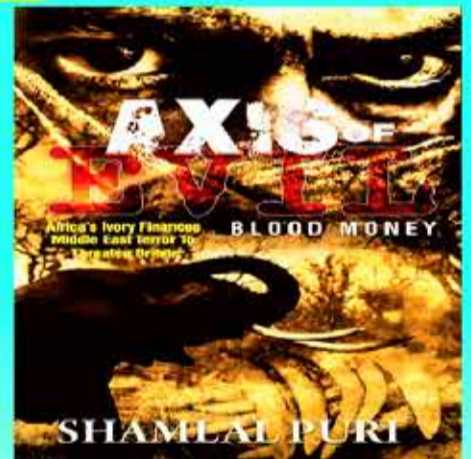
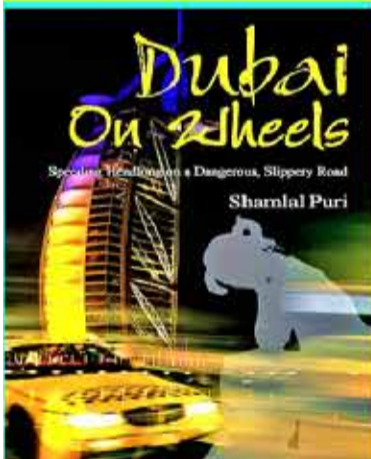
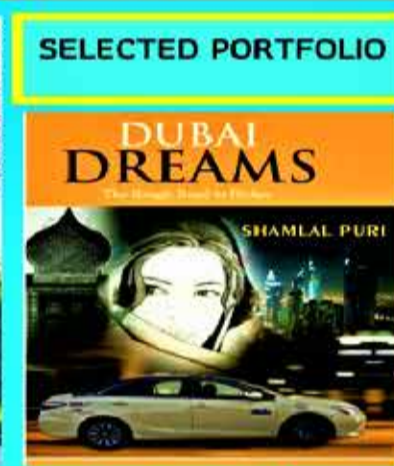
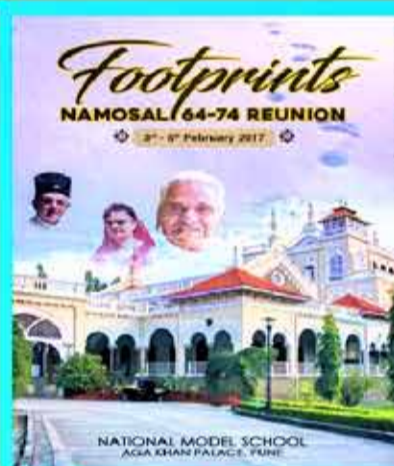
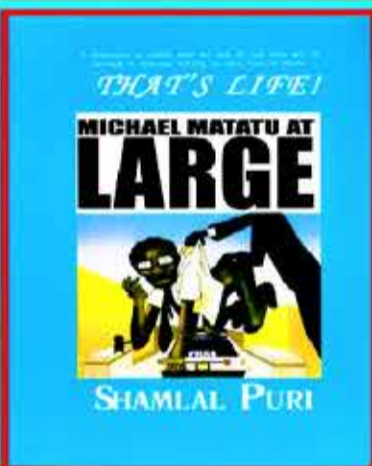
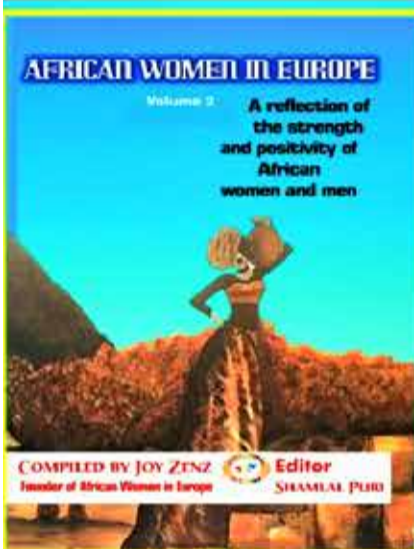
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Paycheck A job was never meant to be a cage with a monthly ration of survival. It was meant to be a place where your passion bleeds into the world

You were not born to pay bills

Why choosing passion over paycheck may be the last revolution worth starting



By: Mukama Phillip Kahigiriza
mukphix@gmail.com

We have buried more dreams in job application forms than in graveyards, and we call it being responsible. We have taught our children to write CVs before we taught them to write poems, and we call it preparing them for the real world. We have turned eight to five into a life sentence with lunch breaks — trading the wild electricity of our talents for a salary slip and medical cover — and then wondered why our souls feel like rented rooms: furnished, functional, and empty.

A job was never meant to be a cage with a monthly ration of survival. It was meant to be a place where your passion bleeds into the world and leaves it warmer than you found it.

Ask the boy who sketches faces on the back of his maths book why he chose accounting, and he will tell you his father said artists die poor. Ask the girl who hears symphonies in traffic noise why she became a receptionist, and she will whisper that music does not pay rent. We are a generation of amputated gifts, walking around with severed callings tucked under the sleeves of uniforms we never wanted, quietly applauding those who dared while we swallowed our own thunder.

The Biblical case for this is older than employment itself. Adam was placed in Eden to work it and keep it before sin, before salaries, before bills — Genesis 2:15. Work was worship before it was a contract. Bezalel was filled with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability, and knowledge in all kinds of crafts, to build the Tabernacle — Exodus 31:3. Your talent is a divine commission, not a side hustle. Paul wrote plainly in Colossians 3:23: “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.” To reduce your calling to a paycheck is to serve mammon and call it stewardship.

Jesus never asked Peter to become a better fisherman. He said, follow



me, and I will make you fishers of men — Matthew 4:19. Heaven interrupts careers to activate callings. The Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25 was never about money. It was about buried purpose. The servant who hid his talent out of fear was called wicked — not because he failed to invest, but because he refused to multiply what God had trusted him with. How many of us will stand before God with resumes full of pro-

motions and a talent still wrapped in the napkin of it does not pay?

The psychological truth is equally sobering. Depression is not always chemical. Sometimes it is the human spirit on hunger strike, because you keep feeding it money instead of meaning. Burnout is not caused by working too hard. It is caused by working too empty. You can medicate the anxiety. You cannot prescribe nuriose.

Economically, the oldest lie sold to us was follow the money. The world does not reward the safest hands. It rewards the most obsessed. The wealthiest people alive did not chase salaries — they chased a problem that kept them awake at night until the money had no choice but to find them. Poverty is not the absence of a job. It is eighty thousand hours spent building someone else’s dream while

yours quietly rots in a notebook.

Politically, a population that works only for pay is easy to govern. Tired people do not revolt. Numb people do not imagine new countries. If the system can keep you exhausted and mildly grateful for your wage, it never has to fear that you will build something that makes it obsolete. Your passion is dangerous to broken systems, because a person who has tasted purpose can no longer be bought.

So what actually happens when you choose passion? You will be broke first, misunderstood second, and lonely third. Your relatives will hold intervention meetings disguised as family dinners. Your friends will send you job links just in case. You will doubt yourself, you will struggle, you will want to quit every Tuesday. But then one day you will wake up and notice you have stopped watching the clock — because you found something that made time irrelevant. You will stop living for Friday because you have stopped dying on Monday.

This is not a motivational poster. It is a war cry.

If your work would not make a child in your village point and say I want to be like them, then you are employed but not yet alive. If you retired today, would the world be different because you showed up — or just your bank account?

The cemetery is full of job titles. It is starving for legacies.

Resign from the life you settled for. Apply for the life you were called to. The world will adjust to your salary. It will never recover from your absence.

Go and bleed talent until the world has no choice but to watch.



Zimbabwe's lithium dilemma: Balancing growth and sustainability



Polite Kambamura, Minister of Mines

BY Norman Mwale

@themkenyatimes

In a bold move, Zimbabwe has banned the export of raw minerals, including lithium, sparking debate about the country's economic future. As the government seeks to capture a greater share of the value chain, questions arise about the impact on investor confidence, local communities, and the environment.

Zimbabwe's ban on raw mineral exports is likely to have far-reaching implications for the country's economy and the global lithium market. Domestically, the move could lead to increased investment in processing infrastructure, creating employment opportunities and stimulating economic growth. The government's goal of capturing a greater share of the value chain is ambitious, but it will require significant investment

in infrastructure, technology, and human capital.

"We came up with 11 conditions for the lithium producers, and government can now give them export quotas," Minister of Mines Polite Kambamura said, emphasizing the need for cooperation from the mining industry. "They can no longer export freely what they think they can export, in terms of volume, tonnage, export consignments, and so forth".

However, the ban appears to contrast with Vice President Constantino Chiwenga's recent call for policy consistency and economic reforms to attract investment. The move may undermine investor confidence, creating uncertainty and potentially deterring long-term investment. While the ban may achieve short-term gains, it raises concerns about the government's commitment to stability and predictability.

The impact on local com-

munities, particularly those reliant on artisanal mining or small-scale lithium production, is uncertain. The government must ensure that these communities are protected and benefit from the ban. Infrastructure challenges also loom large, with Zimbabwe facing significant gaps in energy, water, and transportation networks. Addressing these challenges will be crucial to supporting large-scale lithium processing.

Environmental concerns are another critical consideration, as lithium processing can have significant environmental implications. The government must implement robust regulations and enforcement mechanisms to mitigate these risks. Alternative markets, such as the European Union or the United States, could provide Zimbabwe with options to reduce its reliance on China and minimise trade dispute risks.

The ban's alignment with

Zimbabwe's broader economic development strategy, including its Vision 2030 goals, is unclear. Policy coherence will be essential to ensuring that the ban supports the country's long-term economic objectives. Investor sentiment is also a concern, with some expressing reservations about the ban's impact on Zimbabwe's attractiveness as an investment destination, while others see opportunities for growth.

Regionally, the ban may affect trade dynamics within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). Zimbabwe's partners will be watching

closely to see how the country navigates this new policy landscape.

The impact on the global lithium market could be significant, given Zimbabwe's position as a major lithium producer. The ban may lead to a surge in lithium prices, as buyers scramble to secure alternative sources of supply. This could benefit other lithium-producing countries, such as Australia and Chile, which may see increased demand for their lithium exports.

China, a major buyer of Zimbabwe's lithium, may retaliate with tariffs or other trade barriers, potentially harming Zimbabwe's economy. The government's decision to impose the ban without con-

sulting industry stakeholders has also been criticised, highlighting the need for more transparent and inclusive policy-making.

In the long term, Zimbabwe's ban could accelerate the global shift towards more sustainable and responsible lithium production practices. As demand for lithium continues to grow, driven by the electric vehicle and renewable energy sectors, companies may be forced to invest in more environmentally friendly and socially responsible production methods.

As Zimbabwe navigates this new policy landscape, it will be crucial to strike a balance between promoting economic development and protecting the environment and local communities. The government's commitment to transparency and accountability will be key to ensuring that the benefits of the ban are shared equitably and that the country's natural resources are managed sustainably.

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DR Congo In Beni territory in North Kivu Province and Mambasa territory in Ituri Province, two frequent targets of ADF violence, fatal attacks have recently been reported

Security crisis deepens in Eastern DR Congo amid renewed ADF attacks

BY Xinhua News Agency

@themtkenyatimes

A new wave of attacks attributed to the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), an armed group affiliated with the Islamic State Central Africa Province, has laid bare a deeper security crisis in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Four years after the DRC and Uganda launched a joint military campaign against the rebels, frontlines have multiplied, civilians' confidence has dimmed, and unrest persists.

Widening wave of attacks

In Beni territory in North Kivu Province and Mambasa territory in Ituri Province, two frequent targets of ADF violence, fatal attacks have recently been reported despite the presence of the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) and the Uganda Peoples' Defense Forces.

In a report published in January, the Congo Research Group, an independent research project, and Ebuteli, a Congolese research institute, reported a "strategic and territorial re-composition" of the ADF in eastern DRC, marked by the group's expansion beyond its historic strongholds around Beni. Meanwhile, in Makumo of Ituri's Mambasa territory, devastation was visible on Monday morning after an overnight attack blamed on the rebels triggered panic among residents. "There is crying everywhere. Families are still searching for missing relatives. Nine bodies have already been recovered, but searches are continuing in the forest," Serge Mapamboli, a Mambasa resident, told Xinhua.

A few days earlier, at least 30 civilians were killed in less than 48 hours in attacks targeting several villages between North Kivu and Ituri, with several others still missing, according to local sources reached by Xinhua. Since the beginning of the year, ADF-linked attacks have intensified in parts of Ituri and North Kivu, notably around Mambasa, Irumu and Beni territories, targeting isolated villages, roads, shops and households. "We sleep in the bush almost every night because nobody feels safe here anymore," said Suzanne Kasoki, a mother in-



Photo taken on Monday shows the debris of a torched house in the village of Makumo in Ituri province, eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). | Photo: Str/Xinhua.

terviewed near Biakato, a locality in Mambasa. "Even the fields have been abandoned. People are afraid of being killed while farming." A trader in Makumo said he lost his belongings in a recent attack. "The rebels burned down my storage depot and several shops in the town center. Today, we no longer know how to survive," he said.

No turning point yet

In November 2021, the cross-border Operation Shujaa was launched with the backing of DRC President Felix Tshisekedi and his Ugandan counterpart Yoweri Museveni to pursue the ADF, a Ugandan rebel group operating in eastern DRC.

According to the Economist Intelligence Unit, the research and analysis division of The Economist Group, Uganda further reinforced its military presence in eastern DRC in February 2025 by sending around 1,000 additional troops under Oper-

ation Shujaa, bringing the Ugandan deployment to about 5,000 personnel. Kayanja Muhanga, then the main Ugandan frontline commander of Operation Shujaa, told Xinhua in 2021 that Congolese and Ugandan forces intended to destroy the ADF "once and for all." He said the two armies would pursue "the enemy everywhere through its hiding places in areas that have been under threat for decades" to restore "lasting peace and commercial activities" in eastern DRC. More than four years later, the ADF still retains significant operational capacity. The group, linked to the Islamic State Central Africa Province, continues to attack civilians and, at times, military positions in North Kivu and Ituri. That assessment echoes findings by the Congo Research Group and Ebuteli, which said that Operation Shujaa has weakened some ADF positions without neutralizing the group's core leadership, prompting parts of the movement to redeploy beyond their

traditional strongholds. The Institute for Security Studies also said in 2025 that the Congolese army's focus on the crisis triggered by the March 23 Movement (M23) rebellion weakened security capacity elsewhere and created gaps that the ADF exploited to expand operations in eastern DRC. The situation is further complicated by overlapping conflicts across eastern DRC. In North Kivu and South Kivu, fighting involving the M23 has disrupted provincial security arrangements, while in Ituri, other armed groups remain active.

Multiple fronts eroding trust

In Ituri, violence is not confined to the ADF. Other local armed groups, including the Cooperative for the Development of the Congo, have also destabilized the province.

Authorities have also accused the Convention for the Popular Revolution, a movement associated with former warlord Thomas Lubanga,

the first person ever convicted by the International Criminal Court, of involvement in some recent violence. The multiplication of armed fronts has complicated military operations and deepened a sense of abandonment among civilians, as the FARDC faces the ADF threat, communal violence in Ituri, and the M23 crisis in North Kivu simultaneously. Ituri military governor Johnny Luboya has reiterated that the army is pursuing operations against armed groups active in the province, while some residents accuse Kinshasa of paying more attention to the M23 crisis than to the persistent ADF threat. For many residents of Beni and Ituri, the lack of decisive results after years of military operations has fueled growing doubt and fear. "Before, attacks were limited to certain areas. Today, nobody knows where the ADF may strike tomorrow," said Papy Mumbere, a teacher displaced from Mambasa.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nairobi's housing boom: Growth, concrete, and growing concerns

Before dawn breaks, Nairobi's skyline is already alive with cranes. In Kilimani, Kileleshwa, and Westlands, concrete towers are rising fast — and so are the questions about what kind of city is being built.

Over the past decade, Nairobi has turned to high-rises as its answer to a deepening housing crisis. Developers see profit. Planners see progress. But residents see something else: clogged roads, strained drainage, dwindling green spaces, and buildings that sometimes fall down.

This year, a multi-storey structure under construction in South C collapsed, reigniting fears about construction standards. Engineers and county officials have since flagged compliance failures linked to corruption and lax oversight. It was not an isolated incident — it was a symptom.

In established residential neighbourhoods, communities are pushing back against over-



development. Tall towers are rising on plots served by roads designed for bungalows, without adequate parking or public utilities. Meanwhile, environmental experts warn that the city's green cover is shrinking and its drainage systems are buckling under increased runoff — explaining Nairobi's worsening floods.

Adding insult to injury, the construction frenzy has done little to solve affordability. Rents keep rising. Most new units target wealthy buyers and

foreign investors, leaving students, young professionals, and low-income families further behind.

Nairobi County and NEMA have promised stricter enforcement. That pledge must be matched with action.

A city is more than its skyline. Nairobi's leaders must choose: build faster, or build better. Right now, only one of those answers will stand.

By Gael Agira, Rongo University

A unified vision: AMWIK and CNCS unite to elevate women in media

Kenya's Catholic sisters have long built hospitals, run schools, and sheltered the most vulnerable — in near-total silence. A new initiative is determined to change that.

The Association of Media Women in Kenya (AMWIK) met this week with the Communications Network for Catholic Sisters (CNCS) in a strategic dialogue aimed at amplifying religious women's voices in the media landscape. AMWIK Head of Programs Lilian Museka sat down with CNCS Director Sister Michelle Njeri to map a shared path forward.

Launched in June 2024 through a partnership between the Association of Sisterhoods of Kenya (AOSK) and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, CNCS has rapidly become a platform for grassroots storytelling. Its mandate is straightforward but radical: train sisters to tell their own stories, on their own terms.



"CNCS is about reclaiming our narrative," Sister Njeri said. "The stories of the most vulnerable in our society deserve to be told by those who walk beside them every day."

The network's priorities are clear — building digital and journalism skills among sisters, shifting from silent service to vocal advocacy, and forging bridges between religious communicators and mainstream media houses.

Museka affirmed that AMWIK's mission to advance

women's visibility in media dovetails directly with what CNCS is building. Both organisations left the meeting aligned: Kenya's media must reflect the full breadth of female leadership.

The sisters have always done the work. Now, they will also write the story.

By Faith Kemuma, Communication student, Rongo University

Forgotten millions behind Kenya's pension crisis

In Keroka, the day starts early and ends late. Boda boda riders, vegetable vendors, and casual labourers pour everything into surviving today — with little left to think about tomorrow.

That short-term reality is quietly building a long-term catastrophe. Across Kenya's informal economy, millions of workers are ageing toward poverty with no pension, no safety net, and no plan. Not because they lack discipline, but because the system was never designed with them in mind.

Financial literacy remains dangerously low among informal workers. Many have never heard of NSSF beyond the name, let alone flexible pension alternatives. For a mama mboga earning a daily margin of two hundred shillings, a retirement scheme feels like a luxury — abstract, distant, and irrelevant.

Yet the tools exist. Mo-



bile-based pension platforms and flexible micro-savings plans now allow low-income earners to contribute as little as fifty shillings a day. SACCOs in towns like Keroka are piloting retirement products tailored to irregular incomes. The infrastructure is there. Awareness is not.

Financial experts warn that without urgent intervention, Kenya faces a generational crisis: a vast, ageing informal workforce with no retirement income, falling back on fami-

lies already stretched thin or on a state ill-equipped to support them.

Young informal workers especially must be reached now, before habits solidify and options narrow.

Kenya cannot afford to keep treating pension access as a formal-sector privilege. The millions working in the dust and noise of its open-air markets deserve a dignified old age too.

By Truphena Ombasa

Kenyans flock to Kenyatta University for Saudi truck driving trials

Thousands of Kenyan drivers descended on Kenyatta University at dawn, clutching licences and certificates, hoping a steering wheel would be their ticket out of unemployment.

The recruitment drive, held under Kenya's government-backed labour export programme, sought qualified truck drivers for positions in Saudi Arabia. Applicants travelled from across the country, drawn by the promise of monthly salaries, accommodation, and medical cover — stability that Kenya's volatile transport sector rarely offers.

The mood was tense but determined. Candidates underwent document verification, medical checks, and practical driving assessments designed to meet Saudi employers' standards. For many, this was far more than a job interview. It was a calculated gamble on a better life — school fees paid, families fed, debt cleared.



Saudi Arabia's appetite for qualified drivers has created a powerful pull on Kenya's job market. The massive turnout also signals something else: growing public confidence in government-organised recruitment over private brokers, whose track record has too often ended in exploitation.

That caveat matters. Labour experts are right to urge caution. Gulf migration carries real risks — opaque contracts, poor working conditions, and limited legal recourse. Every

applicant who boards a flight deserves to do so with full knowledge of what awaits them, not just hope.

The scenes at Kenyatta University were a mirror held up to Kenya's economy: skilled, willing workers with nowhere adequate to go at home.

Until that changes, the queues will keep forming — and growing longer.

By Austine Owino, Laikipia University

SPORTS NEWS

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Sports >> *After years of fragmentation and false starts, Kenya's motorsport community finally has a single, recognised governing body — and the implications reach far beyond the racetrack

New dawn as Motorsports Kenya is registered as the national federation for the sport

By Martin Weche

Motorsports Kenya has been officially registered as the country's national federation for motorsport, ending a protracted period of administrative disarray that had long undermined the sport's development and its athletes' prospects on the continental and global stage.

The registration, confirmed by the Sports Registrar under Kenya's Sports Act, grants Motorsports Kenya the legal authority to govern, regulate, and develop all forms of motorsport within the country. It also positions the federation to seek affiliation with the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), the Paris-based world governing body for motorsport, and the Confederation of African Motorsport (CAM) — affiliations that will be essential if Kenyan drivers, navigators, and rally teams are to compete under a recognised national banner at sanctioned international events.

The development has been welcomed across Kenya's motorsport fraternity, a community that has endured years of competing factions, disputed mandates, and governance disputes that left the sport in a bureaucratic limbo damaging to athletes and sponsors alike. Without a formally recognised federation, Kenyan competitors faced mounting difficulties obtaining FIA licences, securing international race entries, and attracting the calibre of corporate backing that a structured national body can command.

Kenya's motorsport history is not without pedigree. The East African Safari Rally, once regarded as the most gruelling rally on the world calendar, carved Kenya's name into the consciousness of global motorsport from the 1950s onwards. Drivers such as Shekhar Mehta, who won the Safari Rally five times,



Motorsports Kenya Federation Interim General Secretary Eric Bengi receives the Certificate of Registration from Sports Registrar Rose Wasike in Nairobi yesterday. Photo/Handout

and the legendary Joginder Singh became icons of a golden era when Kenya's roads were the most feared on the planet. That heritage has never been forgotten, but for decades it has been poorly served by the absence of stable, unified governance.

The registration of Motorsports Kenya is, in that context, more than administrative housekeeping — it is the foundation upon which a revival can be credibly built. "This is a new dawn for motorsport in Kenya," a federation official said following confirmation of the registration. "We now have the structures in place to grow the sport from the grassroots all the way to the international stage, and to ensure that every competitor in this country has a governing body that truly represents them."

The practical implications are significant. A formally registered and internationally affiliated federation can negotiate directly with the FIA on matters ranging from event sanctioning to safety standards and driver licensing. It opens the door to FIA devel-

opment grants and technical support programmes designed specifically for emerging motorsport nations — resources that Kenya has been largely unable to access during the years of governance uncertainty. It also provides a credible platform for reviving discussions around restoring a world rally championship round to Kenyan soil, a prospect that has surfaced periodically but never advanced without the institutional foundations to support it.

The World Rally Championship's Safari Rally Kenya, reintroduced to the WRC calendar in 2021 after a two-decade absence, demonstrated that the appetite for elite motorsport in Kenya remains fierce. Tens of thousands of spectators lined the stages around Naivasha, and the event drew global television audiences. The WRC's presence has injected energy and visibility into Kenyan motorsport, but it has also exposed the contrast between the world-class event and the fragmented domestic structure surrounding it. A uni-

fied national federation capable of working in concert with WRC Africa and Rally Safari organisers is the missing piece that the sport has needed.

At the domestic level, Motorsports Kenya will be expected to standardise regulations across rally, circuit racing, karting, and off-road disciplines, create a unified licensing and marshalling framework, and develop a national calendar that builds competitive pathways for young drivers and navigators. Kenya has raw talent in abundance; what it has lacked is the organised infrastructure to identify, develop, and promote it.

The road from registration to genuine reform is rarely smooth, and the federation's leadership will face the considerable challenge of uniting a community that has, at times, been bitterly divided. Trust will need to be earned as much as mandated.

But for a sport that has waited long enough, the starting grid is finally set.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Kenya's sprint king enters his Diamond League opener on the back of a 9.95-second clocking, eyeing sub-10 against the world's best

Omanyala to face Simbine and Tebogo at Shanghai Diamond League



Ferdinand Omanyala

By Martin Weche
Ferdinand Omanyala will race Akani Simbine, Letsile Tebogo, Christian Coleman, Kenny Bednarek, and Trayvon Bromell in the men's 100 metres at the Shanghai Diamond League on Saturday, in what promises to be the most competitive sprint field assembled so far this season.

The Kenyan, 30, arrives in China carrying momentum that few could have anticipated at the start of his campaign. After an indoor warm-up tour, Omanyala opened outdoors at the Cape Miller Continental Tour in Stellenbosch, winning in 10.19 seconds before stepping up dramatically at the Addis Ababa Grand Prix, where he clocked 9.98 — his first sub-10 performance in over a year. He followed that with 9.96 at the Kip Keino Classic in Nairobi, the race that announced, loudly, that he had rediscovered his finest form on home soil.

His most recent outing in Botswana told a more nuanced story. Omanyala finished third in 9.95 seconds at the Botswana Golden Grand Prix, behind Canada's Jerome Blake, who set a

personal best of 9.93, and compatriot Andre De Grasse in 9.95. It was a defeat, but not a damaging one — the margins were razor-thin, and the times confirmed that Omanyala is running with genuine pace, not just promise.

Shanghai raises the stakes considerably. South Africa's Simbine, one of the most consistent sub-10 runners in the world, will be looking to reassert his continental authority. Botswana's Tebogo, the Olympic 200m champion and a precocious talent capable of anything on any given day, adds youth and unpredictability to the mix. South Africa's Gift Leotlela, the national champion, completes an African contingent that makes this as much a continental battle as a global one.

The American challenge is formidable. Coleman, a former world champion with a start so explosive it remains unmatched at the elite level, is the man most likely to dictate the race from the blocks. Bednarek, the Olympic silver medallist, brings devastating top-end speed, while Bromell — a former world indoor

champion whose career has been as turbulent as it has been talented — is always capable of a startling performance when healthy. China's Xie Zhenye rounds out a field that reads like a Diamond League final, not an opener.

For Omanyala, the occasion carries weight beyond the result. "It's always a great privilege to be in the middle of such a fast lined-up race," he told Citizen Digital this week, his tone measured but clearly relishing what awaits him. On his physical condition, he was equally direct: "I feel very good. Nine point something will always be the goal as I line up." When pressed on the statement he hopes to make in his Diamond League debut this season, the Commonwealth Games champion offered three words: "Go under 10."

That ambition is not misplaced. The trajectory of his season — from 10.19 in February to 9.95 in May — suggests an athlete peaking with intention rather than stumbling into form. World Athletics data shows Omanyala's personal best of 9.77 seconds, set in 2022, remains the

African record, a reminder of the ceiling this man can reach when everything aligns.

The context beyond Shanghai also sharpens the significance of Saturday's race. The Commonwealth Games and the inaugural World Athletics Ultimate Championship in Budapest are both scheduled for later this year, two marquee events that will define careers and reshape sprint hierarchies. Omanyala will need performances like Shanghai to establish his credentials on the start lists that matter most.

Kenya has long been synonymous with distance running greatness — Kipchoge, Chebet, Obiri — names that echo far beyond athletics tracks. Omanyala has spent the better part of four years making the case that sprint glory belongs in that conversation too. Saturday, in Shanghai, he gets another chance to prove it against the men who would argue otherwise.

The gun fires. The argument begins.

SPORTS NEWS



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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Kimber Leigh — A creative soul inspiring through storytelling and authenticity



By: Anila Bukhari
@themkenyatimes

Kimber Leigh is a creative personality, digital storyteller, and inspiring online presence known for her artistic expression, emotional authenticity, and meaningful connection with audiences around the world. Through her work across social media and creative platforms, she has built a growing identity centered on imagination, compassion, and human connection. Her journey reflects the modern evolution of independent creators who use digital spaces not only for visibility, but also for inspiration and community building.

With a naturally artistic spirit, Kimber Leigh developed a passion for creativity from an early stage in her life. She found comfort and purpose in self-expression, storytelling, and visual creativity, which later became the foundation of her online presence. Rather than limiting herself to one artistic path, she embraced multiple forms of expression, allowing her personality and ideas to evolve freely. This openness became one of the qualities that made her work relatable and emotionally engaging.

As social media transformed the creative industry, Kimber Leigh recognized the opportunity to share her voice with a wider audience. Through platforms such as Instagram and Facebook, she gradually built a supportive online community where creativity and authenticity could coexist. Her content reflects warmth, honesty, and emotional depth, helping followers connect with her on a personal level. Many people admire her ability to create meaningful conversations in a digital environment that often feels disconnected or superficial.

Kimber Leigh's online identity is shaped by sincerity rather than perfection. She believes that creativity becomes most powerful when it re-

flects genuine emotions and lived experiences. This philosophy has allowed her to stand out among modern creators, as audiences increasingly seek authentic voices rather than heavily curated personas. Through thoughtful storytelling and relatable content, she has created a digital space where people feel inspired, understood, and emotionally connected.

One of the most symbolic aspects of her creative identity is The Lighthouse Café, a concept associated with warmth, imagination, and emotional comfort. Much like a lighthouse guiding people through darkness, the idea represents Kimber's desire to offer inspiration and hope through creativity and conversation. The project reflects her artistic vision of creating safe and welcoming spaces where people can share experiences, emotions, and ideas freely. It highlights her belief that creativity can serve as both healing and connection.

In addition to her artistic pursuits, Kimber Leigh demonstrates the qualities of a modern independent creator and entrepreneur. She represents a new generation of women who are shaping their own opportunities through digital platforms and personal branding. By embracing originality and emotional intelligence, she has shown that success is not defined only by fame or numbers, but by the ability to create meaningful impact and genuine human connection.

Her journey has also inspired many young creators who are searching for confidence in their own voices. Kimber encourages people to embrace individuality and express themselves fearlessly, regardless of social expectations or limitations. Her presence reminds audiences that vulnerability can be a strength rather than a weakness, and that authenticity often leaves a deeper impression than perfection. Through her work, she inspires others to pursue creativity with courage and honesty.

Kimber Leigh's influence extends beyond visual content and online interaction. She understands the emotional power of storytelling and



Kimber Leigh

uses it as a way to bring comfort and encouragement to others. Whether through thoughtful captions, artistic projects, or conversations with followers, she consistently promotes positivity, empathy, and emotional awareness. This human-centered approach has helped her develop a loyal audience that values not only her creativity, but also her sincerity.

As digital culture continues to evolve, creators like Kimber Leigh represent an important shift toward more meaningful online experiences. Modern audiences increasingly value creators who share depth, honesty, and inspiration, and Kimber embodies those qualities naturally. Her work reflects the idea that social media can be more than entertain-

ment — it can also become a platform for emotional connection, support, and personal growth.

Throughout her journey, Kimber has remained committed to exploring new creative ideas while staying true to herself. Her ability to balance artistic ambition with emotional authenticity continues to shape her growing influence. She understands that creativity is not only about producing content, but also about creating feelings, memories, and experiences that resonate with others.

Looking toward the future, Kimber Leigh continues to evolve as a storyteller, creator, and inspiring digital personality. Her dedication to authenticity and meaningful expression suggests a promising future filled

with artistic growth and impactful opportunities. As she expands her creative projects and strengthens her community, she remains an example of how passion and sincerity can create lasting influence in the digital age.

Ultimately, Kimber Leigh's story is one of creativity, resilience, and human connection. She represents a generation of creators who are redefining the meaning of influence by focusing on empathy, originality, and authenticity. Through her artistic vision and compassionate presence, Kimber continues to inspire audiences to embrace creativity, believe in themselves, and connect more deeply with the world around them.